

Buck Wood

Community Woodland

Date (from/to)	5. 7. 2011
Date of last review [UKWAS 2.1.3]	20/10/15 Additions to culture features, Buck Mill, Settlement and BMX.
Owner/tenant	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Agent/contact	Bob Thorp
Signed declaration of tenure rights and agreements to public availability of the plan [UKWAS 1.1.3/1.1.5/2.1.2]	

1 Background information

1.1 Location

Nearest town, village or feature	Thackley
Grid reference	SE175395
Total area (ha)	32.68

1.2 Description of the woodland(s) in the landscape

A mixed plantation wood set on the western side of the Aire valley, two miles south of the town of Shipley. The wood occupies a prominent position in the landscape, and is one of several connected woodlands that are a major feature of the landscape of this area

Woodland Management Plan

1.3 History of Management

There are no records of management for this wood

2 Woodland Information

2.1 Areas and features

Designated Areas	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Special areas for conservation (SACs)			
Special Protection Areas (SPAs)			
Ramsar Sites (see note on Guidance)			
National Nature Reserves (NNRs)			
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)			
Other designations (e.g. National Park (NP) / World Heritage Site)		S.A.M., earthworks, see constraints layer.	
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)			
Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)			
TPO / Conservation Area (CA)		Yes	Yes
<p>Details</p> <p>Buck Wood is designated a Bradford Wildlife Area. The southern tip of the wood is covered by part of an area T.P.O. and the northern edge abuts Esholt Conservation Area.</p> <p>An area of prehistoric earthworks was designated a S.A.M. in March 2016.</p>			
Rare and important species	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Red Data Book or BAP species		Yes	
Rare, threatened, EPS or SAP species			
<p>Details</p> <p>The following species have been identified from West Yorkshire Ecology, and Friends of Buck Wood records; song thrush, toad, small skipper butterfly, large skipper butterfly, noctule, daubentons and pippistrelle bat, badger, and bluebell</p>			
Habitats	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW)	ASNW	Yes	
Other semi-natural woodland			
Plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS)	PAWS	Yes	
Semi-natural features in PAWS			

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Woodland margins and hedges			
Veteran and other notable trees			
Breeding sites			
Habitats of notable species			
Unimproved grasslands			
Rides and open ground	Woodlands	Yes	
Valuable wildlife communities			
Feeding area			
Lowland heath			
Peatlands			
Others	Biodiversity	Yes	
<p>Details</p> <p>There are meadows inset to the wood at several points along the boundary of the site</p> <p>Designated as a UK BAP Deciduous Woodland</p>			

Water	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Watercourses	Watercourses		Yes
Lakes			
Ponds			
Wetland habitats			

Details
The Leeds Liverpool canal, designated a S.E.G.I. forms the eastern boundary of the site

Landscape	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Landscape designated areas			
Landscape features			
Rock exposures		Yes	
Historic landscapes			
Areas of the woodland prominent from roads		Yes	
Areas of the woodland prominent from settlements		Yes	

Details
Gritstone outcrops occur in several parts of the wood

Cultural features	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Public rights of way	Footpaths	Yes	
Prominent viewing points			
Existing permissive footpaths			
Proposed permissive footpaths			

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Areas managed with traditional management systems			
Details: A bridle way runs through the eastern side of the wood; additional permissive bridleway from Ainsbury Avenue. Also, BMX track.			
Archaeological Features	Map No.	In Woodland	Adjacent to woodland
Scheduled monument			
Historical feature (Inc. designed landscapes, registered parks and gardens)		Neolithic settlement, cup and ring stones, remains of buck mill	
Other		Yes	
Details Recent archaeological work by the Friends of Buck Wood has discovered possible cup and ring stones, and a possible settlement site, as yet undated. Designated a S.A.M. March 2016			

2.2 Woodland resource characteristics

Parts of the wood are broadleaf, and distributed throughout these are; ash, beech, birch, hawthorn, oak, sweet chestnut, sycamore and wych elm. There is an understorey of beech, birch, holly and rowan. Parts of the wood conform to J.N.C.C W10 AND W16 classification. There is a compartment of scots pine.

2.3 Site description

The wood is sited on a north and east sloping hillside overlooking the Aire valley, it is predominantly broadleaf, the site also includes some conifer, and there are grazing meadows within the wood. There are way leaves for electricity pylon lines, and main sewers to the adjacent sewage treatment plant. There are also ventilation shafts for a railway tunnel. Tracks suitable for vehicles reach much of the wood, however there are some parts that are vehicle inaccessible. Within the wood are the traces of a former isolation hospital, Buck Mill and in a low value corner of the wood a BMX type track has been constructed.

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2.4 Significant hazards, constraints and threats

Throughout the wood there are ditches, old walls, and sloping ground.

The recent archaeological finds, and the ongoing excavation would have to be taken into consideration in future work plans.

Buck Wood is a very popular visitor site, consequently a proportion of those visitors are unwelcome. Illegal vehicle use occurs occasionally, along with unauthorised horse riding and mountain biking. Fires, litter, fly tipping and camping also cause minor damage.

The adjacent canal and meadows are a conservation area

3 Long term vision, management objectives and strategy

3.1 Long term vision

Ideally, the long term vision would be to return the wood to being the predominantly oak/birch woodland that it shows signs of having once been. The wood already provides educational and recreational facilities, including forest schools, it is hoped to expand these activities.

3.2 Management Objectives

- 1 Manage the wood to provide a safe environment for visitors to use for recreational and educational purposes
- 2 Develop the wood's biodiversity and historical value in conjunction with the Friends group.
- 3 Control invasive weeds
- 4 Remove non native species as circumstances allow

3.3 Strategy

To achieve the above objectives trees adjacent to paths will be surveyed annually. The Trees and Woodlands Department will work with The Friends of Buck Wood to enhance biodiversity. Small amounts of suitable timber may be cut for sustainable forest products and for use within the wood for footpath and similar work, and single trees if non native may be felled to create specific habitat sites.

3.4 Woodfuel Initiative

Would you be interested in receiving information on funding opportunities for the purchase of harvesting machinery or wood fuel boilers, or for grants that support timber production from your woodlands?

No (delete as appropriate)

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4 Management prescriptions/operations

4.1 Silvicultural systems

4.1.1 Harvesting

N/A

4.1.2 Phased felling and restructuring of plantations

In the long term (years 6-10) the compartment of scots pine will be thinned by approximately 25%. In years 11-20 the remaining trees will be clear felled and the site restocked with native broadleaves.

4.1.3 Establishment, restocking and regeneration

Regeneration of native species will be the preferred method of restocking

4.2 New planting

N/A

4.3 Other operations

N/A

4.4 Protection and maintenance

4.4.1 Pest and disease management

There are small amounts of antler damage and rabbit damage, not sufficient to warrant control measures. Balsam is present in some areas

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4.4.2 Fire plan

In the event of a fire, actions for B.M.D.C. staff are;

- 1 Contact the Fire and Rescue Service
- 2 Attend with beaters if possible
- 3 Close the wood to the public

Fire and Rescue will normally attend with one pump, calling upon further resources as necessary

4.4.3 Waste disposal and pollution

If possible pollutants are carried into the wood during forestry operations they will have been identified in the operational risk assessment and suitable spill kits carried

4.4.4 Protection from unauthorised activities

A combination of ranger patrols, liaison with West Yorkshire Police, and reporting by members of the public helps keep misuse to a minimum

4.4.5 Protection of other identified services and values

N/A

4.5 Game management

N/A

4.6 Protecting and enhancing landscape, biodiversity and special features

4.6.1 Management of designated areas

N/A

4.6.2 Measures to enhance biodiversity and other special features [UKWAS 2.1.1/6.1.1]

Deadwood, both standing and fallen will be left in situ unless constituting a danger to the public. In conjunction with the Friends, individual trees may be felled or ring barked as part of habitat creation

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4.6.3 Special measures for ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) and semi-natural woodland (SNW)

The wood will be managed according to UKWAS standards

4.6.4 Special measures for plantation on ancient woodland site (PAWS)

N/A

4.6.5 Measures to mitigate impacts on landscape and neighbouring land [UKWAS 3.1.2]

N/A

4.7 Management of social and cultural values

4.7.1 Archaeology and sites of cultural interest

Before any forestry operations are carried out, the Friends will be consulted regarding archaeological finds/investigations, and any sensitive areas protected

4.7.2 Public access and impacts on local people

The wood is entirely open to public access and includes a wheelchair friendly route.

5 Consultation

Organisation/individual	Date received	Comment	Response/action
Public			Prior notification of intended works will be by signage
Friends of Buck Wood			Ongoing consultation
Bradford Planning Department			Will be consulted prior to any work in T.P.O. area.

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6 Monitoring plan summary

Objective number, issue or UKWAS Requirement	Indicator	Method of assessment	Monitoring period	Responsibility	How will information be used
All wood	Condition	Q.T.R.A risk assessment	Annually	B.M.D.C	To task work teams
Invasive weeds	Presence	Visual	Annually	B.M.D.C	To task work teams
Structural diversity	Species presence	Visual	Annually	B.M.D.C	To feedback to management plans

7 Work programmes

7.1 Outline long-term work programme (2011__ - 2031__)

(Use this table to outline medium to long term areas of work)

Cpt. Ref or Name	Activity	Year (<i>tick</i>)	
		6-10	11-20
All wood	Arboricultural/forestry work as generated by surveys	/	/
Conifer stand	Thin 25%	/	
Conifer stand	Clear fell, restock		/

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7.2 Short-term work programme (2011__ - 2016__)

(Use this table to collect basic inventory data for the woodland areas you propose to work during the next 5 years)

Cpt. Ref / Name	Area (ha)	Main Species	P. Year	Yield Class	Activity	Year				
						1	2	3	4	5
All wood	32.68				Arboricultural/forestry work as generated by surveys	/	/	/	/	/
All wood					Invasive weed control	/	/	/	/	/

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8 Costing Operations

Outline projected costs and income over plan period. Please read guidance note for further information.

9 Maps

It is recommended that you show as much information on subject based maps as possible. For example, a map showing site constraints or a concept map showing the main proposals.

List all maps here and append to plan:

Map no./Title	Description
Woodlands	Identifies Wood
PAWS	Identifies PAWS Woodland
ASNW	Identifies ASNW Woodland

10 Thinning, felling and restocking proposals

The template and guidance should be carefully followed to aid production of a good management plan, and ensure that we can pay the grant.

Most of the template will need to be completed by everyone, but the following sections are not compulsory, unless you wish to apply for woodfuel grants or Category B approval.

- You must complete **Section 10, Table A** if you want to use the plan to gain Wood Fuel WIG support or seek funding through other wood fuel initiatives.
- You must complete **Section 10, Table B** if you want to gain 10 year thinning and felling approval and / or meet the requirements of Category B.

This section **should not be completed** for any other applications.

10.1 Table A

Applicants seeking funding through a woodfuel initiative for harvesting machinery or wood fuel boilers, or wishing to apply for **EWGS Woodfuel WIG** must provide basic inventory data (WPG template 7.2) and estimate the total volume that is to be thinned and felled during the period of this plan, **by completing Table A.**

(Using inventory data from table 7.2, complete a timber volume estimate)

Cpt(s) (from table 7.2)	Main Species (BL/Con)	Total work Area (ha)	Estimated volume to be harvested during work periods (m3)		
			Yr 1 - 5	Yr 6 - 10	Yr 11 - 20
<i>Example 1a, 2, 3</i>	<i>Con</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>

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10.2 Table B

This section must be fully completed by the applicant if they wish to gain felling licence approval from the Forestry Commission. The work detailed below must match the proposals set out in the plan. For details on how to complete this table, please refer to **EWGS4 – Woodland Regeneration** for guidance and Tree Felling guidance.

4. Cpt. / Sub Cpt.	5. Area (ha)	6. % area to be worked	7. Type of felling	8. % of felled area comprising:		9. Felling licence type	10. Change in woodland type		11. Preferred claim year	13. Restock mixture		14. % Estab. by natural regen	Standard proposals	12. Notes / Details
				BL	CON		From	To		Species	%			
				<i>1a</i>	<i>2.7</i>		<i>30%</i>	<i>SF</i>		<i>-</i>	<i>100</i>			

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7.2 Short term programme monitoring

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Tree safety survey & actions					
Removal of invasive weeds					

