Woodland Management Plan

To be completed by the plan author:		
Woodland or property name	**Lilburn Estates Farming Partnership**	
Woodland Management Plan case reference		
CS WMP agreement reference *(if applicable)*	**1654859**	
The landowner agrees this plan as a statement of intent for the woodland		**Yes**
Plan author name	**Verity Williams**	

For Forestry Commission use only:				
Plan period *(dd/mm/yyyy – 10 years)*	**Approval Date:**	**2026**	**Approved until:**	**2036**
5-year review date	**2031**			

Revision no.	Date	Status (draft/final)	Reason for revision
1	20/03/2026	Draft	New WMP Period
2	09/04/2026	Draft	Small edits made to 1st draft

Template user support:

The functionality in this version of the management plan template has been downgraded to ensure compatibility with Word 2003. This document is not protected. Rows can be added and deleted or copied and pasted from tables where needed.

UK Forestry Standard management planning criteria

Approval of this plan will be considered against the following UKFS criteria.
Before submitting, review your plan against the criteria using the checklist below.

UKFS management plan criteria		Minimum approval requirements	Author check
1	**Plan objectives:** Forest management plans should state the objectives of management and set out how an appropriate balance between social, economic, and environmental objectives will be achieved.	• Management plan objectives are stated. • Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland.	Yes
2	**Forest context and important features in management strategy:** Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Management intentions communicated in ***Sect. 6*** of the management plan are in line with stated objective(s) ***Sect. 2***. Management intentions should take account of: • Relevant features and issues identified within the woodland survey (***Sect. 4***) • Any potential threats to and opportunities for the woodland, as identified under woodland protection (***Sect. 5***). • Relevant comments received from stakeholder engagement and documented in ***Sect. 7***.	Yes
3	**Identification of designations within and surrounding the site:** For designated areas, e.g. National Parks or SSSI, particular account should be taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	• Survey information (***Sect. 4***) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management. • Management intentions (***Sect. 6***) have taken account of any designations.	Yes
4	**Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity:** When planning felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made so that they meet UKFS requirements. Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context. Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be	• Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency). • Current diversity (structure, species, age structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (***Sect. 4***). • Management intentions aim to improve/ maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees).	Yes

	progressively restructured to achieve age class range.		
5	**Consultation:** Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.	• Stakeholder engagement is in line with current Forestry Commission guidance and recorded in ***Sect. 7***. The minimum requirement is for statutory consultation to take place, and this will be carried out by the Forestry Commission. • Plan authors undertake stakeholder engagement (ref Forestry Commission Ops Note 35) relevant to the context and setting of the woodland.	Yes
6	**Plan update and review:** Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	• A 5-year review period is stated on the first page of the plan. • ***Sect. 8*** is completed with one indicator of success per management objective.	Yes

Section 1: Property details

Woodland property name		Lilburn Estates	
Name	Lilburn Estates Farming Partnership	Owner	~~Tenant~~
Email		**Contact number**	
Agent name *(if applicable)*		Verity Williams	
Email		**Contact number**	
County	Northumberland	Local Authority	Northumberland County Council
Grid ref *(e.g. ST 625 785)*	NU 00060 24316 (Estate Office)	**Single Business Identifier**	
What is the total area of this woodland management plan? *(in hectares)*		1006.46 ha	
Have you included an Inventory and Plan of Operations with this woodland management plan? *Please use the most up to date version (v4). Older versions may have to be returned.*		Yes	

Have you listed the maps associated with this woodland management plan? ***Note****: Google Maps/ images of maps will not be accepted because they are copyright protected and should not be used commercially without the appropriate licencing from Google.*	Yes	
Have you sent us your GIS shapefile data? **Note**: this is not mandatory, but it can help speed up the processing time of your application. Instructions on how to submit your shapefile(s) are included on create a management plan.	Yes	
Do you intend to use the information within this woodland management plan and associated Inventory and Plan of Operations to apply for the following?	Felling licence	Yes
	Thinning licence	Yes
	Woodland regeneration grant	No
You declare there is management control of the woodland detailed within the woodland management plan?	Yes	
You agree to make the woodland management plan publicly available?	Yes	

Section 2: Vision and objectives

To develop your long-term vision, you need to express as clearly as possible the overall direction of management for the woodland(s) and how you envisage it will be in the future. This covers the duration of the plan and beyond.

2.1 Vision

Describe your long-term vision for the woodland(s). (*Suggest 300 words max*)

The long-term vision is to maintain the estate policy of enhancing species and age class diversity in the woodlands. These woodlands will produce timber and enhance the sporting, recreational and biodiversity aspects of the estate.

2.2 Management objectives

State the objectives of management demonstrating how sustainable forest management is to be achieved. Objectives are a set of specific, quantifiable statements that represent what needs to happen to achieve the long-term vision.

No.	Objectives (include environmental, economic and social considerations)
1	To manage the productive woodland areas to produce a range of timber products, which will meet estate woodfuel and external market requirements. Woodlands to be thinned on a regular basis and conifer blocks to be felled when mature.
2	Gradual removal of shelterbelts on the moorland areas and their replacement by native woodland species. This will enhance the sporting potential of the estate and enhance biodiversity.
3	Identify suitable areas to be managed under a continuous cover silvicultural system. Sites chosen on soil types, exposure and access.
4	Manage deer population across estate to facilitate the establishment of any areas of continuous cover silvicultural system if adopted.
5	Manage the deer population across the estate to a level that allows establishment of young tree crops within restocking as well as any new areas of planting.
6	Manage the woodlands to conserve the resident red squirrel population.
7	Maintain and enhance the sporting potential of the woodlands for shooting by the gradual process of diversifying species and age classes.
8	

Section 3: Plan review – achievements

Use this section to identify achievements made against previous plan objectives. This section should be completed at the 5-year review and could be informed through monitoring activities undertaken.

Objectives	Achievement

Section 4: Woodland survey

This section is about collecting information relating to your woodland and its location, including any statutory constraints, such as designations.

4.1 Description

Brief description of the woodland property:
4.1 Physical Aspect 4.1.1 Location Lilburn Estates are located in North Northumberland to the South east and west of the town of Wooler. The estate is made up of 25 individual farms centred around Lilburn Towers. About 30% of the estate (8 farms) could be clasified as upland and the balance (17 farms) as lowland. The woodlands are varied in nature but are predominantly a mixture of mixed species shelterbelts and game covers. There are a few larger blocks of mixed conifers as well as areas of native broadleaves planted on the upland fringe. The woodlands are primarily bounded by moorland and farmland, but with adjoining conifer plantations on the southern boundary. OS Grid Reference 1:50,000 sheet 75: NU019238 4.1.2 Soils The predominant underlying soils are variable ranging from brown earths through peaty gleys, surface water gleys and podsols to deep peat. However soils have little implication for most forest operations. 4.1.3 Topography, Aspect, Elevation and Rainfall The topography of the estate is very variable with extensive areas of upland moorland with some steep slopes. The lowland part of the estate is typified by undulating farm land with steeper slopes associated with the tributaries of the River Till on the eastern boundary of the estate. Elevation ranges between 50 and 815m with annual rainfall of 839mm/yr. 4.1.4 Access The estate is bissected by the A697 North-South. Most of the other council roads passing through the estate have junctions off the A697. In addition to the public roads there are several estate farm tracks providing access to the woodlands. There are

several public footpaths and bridleways across the estate and most of the upland areas are classed as "CRoW Act 2000 Access land".

4.1 Tree Crop and Historical Management
The woodland blocks on the lowland part of the estate were planted for a combination of livestock shelter and shooting. The earliest plantings predate 1900 but the majority of the current woodlands were planted between 1950 and 2000. The species planted are predominantly oak, beech, sycamore, ash, Scots pine, Norway spruce, and larch. In the upland areas large blocks of conifers were felled in the period 1995-2000 and replaced by native broadleaf and mixed woodlands. Most of these native woodlands are on the moorland frings and many were planted to aid black grouse conservation efforts.
The owners bought lilburn Towers in the 1970's and since then have significantly increased their landholding buying neighbouring farms when they came up for sale. In the late 1990`s they bought some conifer blocks from the Forestry Commission and have progressively felled these areas, converting them back to moorland and undertaking replacement planting elsewhere on the estate.

Current species proportions as at March 2026

Native Broadleaves - 23%
Mixed Broadleaves - 15%
Mixed Conifers – 16%
Intimate Mix (Conifer/Broadleaf) – 34%
Open Ground - 12%

Please note:

Mixed broadleaves - are predominantly an intimate mix of oak, ash, sycamore and beech.

Native broadleaves - are predominantly alder/birch woods in the uplands and oak/ash/woody shrubs in lowlands. The upland areas contain an element of open space ca. 20%

Mixed conifers - there are practically no areas of single species conifer. Mixtures are mainly SS/SP/JL with some NS/WH/CP

Conifer/broadleaf mixtures are generally woods planted in last 40 years for sporting activities and comprising a mixture of 50% conifer (CP/SP/SS/NS) and 50% MB (oak/ash/syc/beech)

Forest management to comply with European protected species legislation and red squirrel conservation. EPS checklists to be completed as required to comply with legislative requirements. Monitoring and recording of sightings to enable forest management to take account of protected species. Control of grey squirrels as required.

Management to comply with tree health legislation and best practice with woodlands managed to comply with UKFS and UKWAS.

The estate is in the process of investigating CS granted funded agroforestry within selected agricultural land holdings. The intention is this would remain agricultural land and not be converted to woodland.

The following groups of maps have been produced:

Group 1. – Current Woodland Compartments and Species (per land holding)
Group 2. – 10 Year Operational Activities (per land holding)
Group 3. – Woodland Compartment Designations and Constraints (per land holding)
Group 4. – Restocking Species (per land holding)

4.2 Information

Use this section to identify features that are both present in your woodland(s) and where required, on land adjacent to your woodland.

It may be useful to identify known features on an accompanying map. Woodland information for your property can be found on the Magic website and the Forestry Commission Land Information Search.

Feature	Within woodland(s)	Cpts	Adjacent to woodland(s)	Map no
Biodiversity - Designations				
Site of Special Scientific Interest	Yes	See Additional Spreadsheet	Yes	
Special Area of Conservation	Yes	See Additional Spreadsheet	Yes	
Tree Preservation Order	No		No	
Conservation Area	No		No	
Special Protection Area	No		No	
Ramsar Site	No		No	
National Nature Reserve	No		No	
Local Nature Reserve	No		No	
Areas of peat over 50cm deep	No		No	
RSPB Important Bird Area	No		No	
Higher Level Stewardship grant-funded land	Yes	24a	Yes	
Priority Habitats	Yes	See Additional Spreadsheet	Yes	
Other (please specify):	No		No	
Notes	SSSI - Tweed Catchment Rivers - England: Till Catchment SSSI SSSI – The Cheviot SSSI - Colour Heugh and Bowden Doors SSSI - Bewick and Beanley Moors SSSI SSSI - The Allers and Lilburn Valley Junipers SSSI – Roddam Dene SSSI – Harthope Burn (Adjacent to woodland Cpt) SAC – River Tweed			

Feature		Within woodland(s)	Cpts	Map no	Notes
Biodiversity - European Protected Species					
Bat	Species (if known)	Yes	Across Estate		Predominantly associated with old buildings across the estate. Consult with English Nature when required, although it is not envisaged

					that any proposed works will affect bats.
Dormouse		No			
Great crested newt		No			
Otter		Yes	Across Estate		River Till and tributaries. Consult with English Nature and apply for licences when required.
Sand lizard		No			
Smooth snake		No			
Natterjack toad		No			
Biodiversity – Priority Species					
Schedule 1 Birds	Species:	No			None known. Prior to commencement of forestry operations, surveys for nesting schedule 1 birds will be carried out to prevent risk of disturbance.
Mammals (red squirrel, water vole, pine marten etc)		Yes	Across Estate		Red squirrel. Consult with RSNE as necessary. Surveys will also be undertaken to ascertain the presence of other protected species such as otters and bats as applicable.
Reptiles (grass snake, adder, common lizard etc)		Yes	Across Estate		Adders are common in upland areas of the estate.
Plants		No			
Fungi/lichens		No			
Invertebrates (butterflies, moths, beetles etc)		No			
Amphibians (pool frog, common toad)		Yes	Across Estate		Frogs, newts, and toads are likely to be present across the estate.
Other (please specify):		No			
Historic Environment					

Scheduled Monuments	Yes	See Additional Spreadsheet		Very few within the woodlands, but large number on land surrounding the woodland compartments, particularly in the uplands.
Unscheduled Monuments	Yes			Very few within the woodland compartments. Historic England will be consulted as part of this WMP submission.
Registered Parks and Gardens	Yes	61a, 65a		Chillingham
Registered Battlefields	Yes	2a, 7a, 9a, 10b		Battle of Homildon Hill 1402
World Heritage Sites (UNESCO)	No			
Boundaries and Veteran Trees	Yes	161a, 162a, 163a.		Lilburn Towers policy areas
Listed Buildings	Yes	161a		WELLHEAD CIRCA 100 YARDS WEST OF LILBURN TOWER as well as many adjacent to woodland compartments across estate
Burial Grounds	Yes	161a		Lilburn Towers
Other (please specify):	No			
Landscape				
National Character Area (please specify): 03 Cheviot Fringe and 04 Cheviots				
National Park	Yes	See Additional Spreadsheet		Northumberland National Park
National Landscapes (formerly AONBs)	No			
Other (please specify):	No			
People				
CROW Access	Yes	See Additional Spreadsheet		Ex FC areas
Public Rights of Way (any)	Yes	Across Estate		See supplied maps
Common land	No			
Other access provision	No			
Public involvement	No			
Visitor information	No			

Public recreation facilities	No			
Provision of learning opportunities	No			
Anti-social behaviour	No			
Other (please specify):	No			
Water				
Acid vulnerable catchments	No			
Watercourses	Yes	Across Estate		Across the estate
Lakes	No			
Ponds	Yes	Across Estate		Across the estate
Other (please specify):	No			

4.3 Habitat types

This section is to consider the habitat types within your woodland(s) that might impact/ inform your management decisions. Larger non-wooded areas within your woodland should be classified according to broad habitat type. Where relevant this information should also help inform your management decisions. Woodlands should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and ages of trees, appropriate to the scale and context of the woodland.

Feature	Within woodland(s)	Cpts	Map no	Notes
Woodland habitat types				
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	Yes	2a, 107b, 106c, 120a, 115a, 164a, 42a		Akeld, Ilderton Moor, Ilderton Moor, Langleeford, North Middleton Forestry, Earle Hill Head
Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	Yes	303a		West Ditchburn,
Semi-natural features in PAWS	No			
Lowland beech and yew woodland	No			
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No			
Upland mixed ash woods	No			
Upland oakwood	No			
Wet woodland	Yes	123b, 123c, 119a, 169a, 164a, 44a, 23a, 23b, 31a, 21a, 42a, 39a		Riparian woodland along Harthope and Cary Burns
Wood-pasture and parkland	No			
Other (please specify):	No			
Non woodland habitat types				
Blanket bog	No			
Fenland	No			
Lowland calcareous grassland	No			
Lowland dry acid grassland	Yes	118b,		
Lowland heath land	Yes	190a, 107a, 287i, 287k, 287p, 123c, 123b, 120a,		

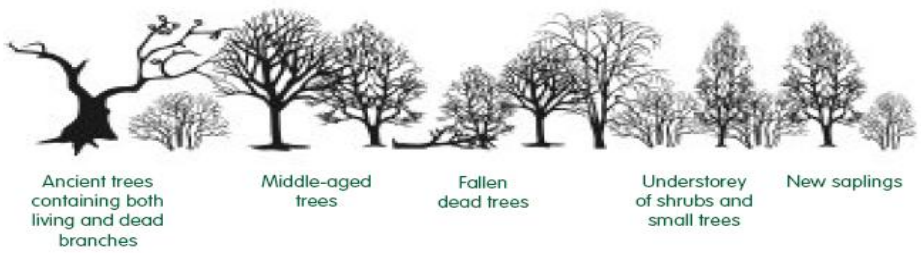
		33c, 33f, 33h, 33k, 33b, 39a,		
Lowland meadows	No			
Lowland raised bog	Yes	190a		
Rush pasture	No			
Reed bed	No			
Wood pasture	No			
Upland hay meadows	Yes	119a		
Upland heath land	Yes	109a, 189a, 107a, 117a, 23a, 23b, 20a, 20f, 20e, 20h, 20d,		
Unimproved grassland	Yes	20, 108, 109, 120, 122, 123		Open space within woodland compartments
Peat lands	No			
Wetland habitats	No			
Other (please specify):	Yes	Too many to list - See Maps provided.		Grass Moorland, Deciduous Woodland, Purple Moor Grass,

4.4 Structure

This section should provide a snapshot of the current structure of your woodland as a whole. A full inventory for your woodland(s) can be included in the separate Plan of operations spreadsheet. Ensuring woodland has a varied structure in terms of age, species, origin and open space will provide a range of benefits for the biodiversity of the woodland and its resilience. The diagrams below show an example of both uneven and even aged woodland.

Woodland type (broadleaf, conifer, coppice, intimate mix)	Percentage of mgt plan area	Age structure (even/uneven)	Notes (i.e. understory or natural regeneration present)
Native Broadleaves	23%	Uneven Aged	
Non-Native Broadleaves	15%	Even Aged	Intimate mixtures - Sycamore/Beech
Conifer	16%	Even Aged	Intimate mixes of con spp
Intimate Mix	34%	Uneven Aged	Conifer/broadleaf mixtures
Open Space	12%	N/A	

Uneven-aged woodland – many wildlife habitats because of high diversity



Even-aged woodland – tidy but of low diversity

Section 5: Woodland protection

Woodlands in England face a range of threats. This section allows you to consider the potential threats that could be facing your woodland(s). Use the simple risk assessment process below to consider any potential threats to woodland(s) and whether there is a need to take action to protect woodland(s).

Note: To add more tables, copy the table and paste below.

5.1 Risk matrix

The matrix below provides a system for scoring risk. It also indicates the advised level of action to take to help manage the threat.

Impact	High	Plan for action	Action	Action
	Medium	Monitor	Plan for action	Action
	Low	Monitor	Monitor	Plan for action
		Low	Medium	High
		Likelihood of presence		

5.2 Plant health

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, *Phytophthora,* Needle Blight etc)	Ash Dieback (Chalara fraxinea)
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Remain vigilant, monitor trees and deal with following current best practice guidance.

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, *Phytophthora,* Needle Blight etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

Threat (e.g. Ash Dieback, *Phytophthora,* Needle Blight etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.3 Deer

Species – Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Roe - High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Roe deer are present and they are actively controlled on the estate by gamekeepers. Levels of damage are monitored and cull requirements amended accordingly. Areas of young more vulnerable trees are targetted for control. Broadleaves are generally planted in treeshelters to give protection. As the areas identifed for management as LISS become actively managed there maybe a reqirement for deer fencing to protect trees especially if species such as Douglas fir are introduced. Use of CS grants to enable continued control of deer across the estate.

Species – Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Fallow - Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Fallow deer are present on the estate and, to date, have been sighted over two areas, namely West Ditchburn and Chillinghan Newtown. They are actively controlled on the estate by gameskeepers. Levels of damage are monitored and cull requirements amended accordingly. Areas of young more vulnerable trees are targetted for control. Broadleaves are generally planted in treeshelters to give protection. As the areas identifed for management as LISS become actively managed there maybe a reqirement for deer fencing to protect trees especially if species such as Douglas fir are introduced. Use of CS grants to enable continued control of deer across the estate.

5.4 Grey squirrels

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	High

Response (inc protection measures)	Grey squirrels presently controlled by estate staff using a combination of shooting and trapping to try and prevent a resident population becoming established. Use of CS grants to further enhance grey control and red protection as well as liaison with RSNE.

5.5 Livestock and other mammals

Threat (sheep, horse, rabbit etc)	Sheep
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Sheep are present on surrounding land therefore fence condition will be monitored and repairs/replacement carried out as necessary

Threat (sheep, horse, rabbit etc)	Feral Goats
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Low
Impact (high/medium/low)	High
Response (inc protection measures)	Vulnerable areas are deer fenced to reduce impact. Monitor impact and maintain fences, cull if required.

5.6 Water and soil

Threat (soil erosion, acidification of water, pollution incidents etc)	Soil Erosion
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	Monitor impact and take remedial action, if required.

Threat (soil erosion, acidification of water, pollution incidents etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.7 Environmental

Threat (pollution, fire, flood, wind, invasive species etc)	Wind
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Survey damage and take appropriate action. Design felling coupes to minimise potential impact. Estalishment of crops may need additional protection.

Threat (pollution, fire, flood, wind, invasive species etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.8 Social

Threat (rights of way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights, anti-social behaviour etc)	Rights of way, CROW
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Low
Response (inc protection measures)	There is a network of well used PROWs across the estate given the size and expanse of land. No issues have been raised with the current level of use of PROWs. Appropriate signage will be used during harvesting operations and PROW closures sought if needed.

Threat (rights of way, CROW, permissive access, events sporting rights etc)	
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

5.9 Economic

Threat (timber forecasting, markets, products, operational costs etc)	Timber markets
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Felling will be undertaken when crops are mature. Timber will have a mixture of uses, some used directly by the estate, standing sales, and sold at roadside.

Threat (timber forecasting, markets, products, operational costs etc)	Operational Costs
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	High
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Increased contractor costs can make operations expensive but timing of works and felling when timber prices are good can offset this.

5.10 Climate change resilience

Threat (uniform structure, provenance, lack of diversity etc)	Clearfell Silvicultural Systems
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Adopt LISS where feesilble (ca. 10 % of area) therefore diversifying species composition and age class structure.

Threat (uniform structure, provenance, lack of diversity etc)	Lack of Diversity
Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	Medium
Impact (high/medium/low)	Medium
Response (inc protection measures)	Within single species compartments, restocking over the next 10 years will aim to add spp and structure diversity.

Threat (uniform structure, provenance, lack of diversity etc)	

Likelihood of presence (high/medium/low)	
Impact (high/medium/low)	
Response (inc protection measures)	

Section 6: Management strategy

This section requires a statement of intent, setting out how you intend to achieve your management objectives and manage important features identified within the previous sections of the plan. A detailed work programme by sub-compartment can be added to the Plan of Operations.

Management objective/feature	Management intention
To manage the productive woodland areas to produce a range of timber products, which will meet estate woodfuel and external market requirements. Woodlands to be regularly thinned and conifer blocks to be felled when mature.	Continue management practices of thinning to improve timber quality and felling at maturity, typically conifer rotation length of 40-60 years. Replant with diverse species, generally in mixtures with a conifer nurse where appropriate.
Gradual removal of conifer shelterbelts from the moorland areas and their replacement by native woodlands. This will enhance the sporting potential and the biodiversity in these areas.	The need for conifer shelterbelts on the moorland is no longer vital for farming practices. Most of these blocks will be felled in the next 10 years and replaced with areas of native broadleaves either in situ or moved to riparian zones/ alternative planting areas.
Identify suitable areas for management under a continuous cover silvicultural system. Areas chosen on basis of soil type, exposure and access.	It is an aspiration to manage many of the lowland areas of woodland on a continuous cover silvicultural system. Most of these areas are a mixed broadleaves or broadleaf/conifer mixtures. The suitablility of these sites will be determined by surveys. The conversion process will be by gradual thinning of woodlands to encourage natural regeneration, primarily of conifer species (SS,SP,NS). The primary method of securing natural regeneration after thinning will be deer control to enable regeneration to be successful.
Manage deer population across estate to facilitate the establishment of any areas of continuous cover silvicultural system if adopted.	The primary method of securing natural regeneration after thinning will be deer control to enable regeneration to be successful.
Manage the deer population across the estate to a level that allows establishment of young tree crops within restocking as well as any new areas of planting.	The primary method of esatblishment success within restocked and new planting areas will be deer control. Deer fencing may be used if econmically viable or where deer culling is not possible.
Manage the woodlands to conserve the resident red squirrel population	Cull grey squirrels over the whole of the Lilburn estate with an intention to co-operate with neighbours to enable greys to be culled over a wider area, landscape scale culling, to conserve the red squirrel population. Red squirrel habitat would be maintained to allow the population to move about from conifer

	wood to conifer wood and to undertake monotoring and surveys to determine the best use of resources to be deployed to conserve the red squirrel poulations
Maintain and enhance the sporting potental of the woodlands for shooting by gradually diversifying species and age class	As areas of mixed conifers are felled they will be replanted with mixed broadleaves and a conifer nurse. The nurse species will be gradually be removed over the first and second thinning operations.

Section 7: Stakeholder engagement

There can be a requirement on both the Forestry Commission and the owner to undertake consultation/engagement. Refer to Operations Note 35 for further information. Use this section to identify people or organisations with an interest in your woodland and record any engagement you have carried out, relative to activities identified within the plan.

Work proposal	Individual/ organisation	Date contacted	Date feedback received	Response	Action
Woodland Management Plan	Northumberland National Park enquires@nnpa.org.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Historic England northeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Natural England enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Red Squirrels Northern England info@rsne.org.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Tillside Parish Council parish@tillside.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Doddington Parish Council clerk@doddington-pc.gov.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Kirknewton Parish Council clerk@kirknewtonparishcouncil.gov.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Wooler Parish Council clerk@woolerparishcouncil.gov.uk				
Woodland Management Plan	Eglingham Parish Council clerk@eglingham-pc.gov.uk				

Section 8: Monitoring

Indicators of progress/success should be defined for each management objective and then checked at regular intervals. Other management activities could also be considered within this monitoring section. The data collected will help to evaluate progress.

Management objective/activities	Indicator of progress/success	Method of assessment	Frequency of assessment	Responsibility	Assessment results
To manage the productive woodland areas to produce a range of timber products, which will meet estate woodfuel and external market requirements. Woodlands to be regularly thinned and conifer blocks to be felled when mature.	Sustainable production of timber to meet the Estate's needs	Keep record of production	Annual	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	
Gradual removal of conifer shelterbelts from the moorland areas and their replacement by native woodlands. This will enhance the sporting potential and the biodiversity in these areas.	Records of game and protected species across estate	Mapping updates to record transition	5-yearly	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	
Identify suitable areas for management under a continuous cover silvicultural system. Areas chosen on basis of soil type, exposure and access.	Surveys to assess most suitable areas, areas identified and mapped as such within estate mapping	Surveys to assess most suitable areas	5-yearly	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	

Manage deer population across estate to facilitate the establishment of any areas of continuous cover silvicultural system if adopted.**Error! Reference source not found.**	Natural regeneration able to establish and start to mature without high levels of deer damage	Deer damage surveys	As per CS grant requirements	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	
Manage the deer population across the estate to a level that allows establishment of young tree crops within restocking as well as any new areas of planting.	Young crops and new planting able to establish and start to mature without high levels of deer damage	Deer damage surveys	As per FLA or EWCO (or equivalent) grant requirements	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	
Manage the woodlands to conserve the resident red squirrel population	The presence of red squirrels	surveys and grey control carried	Annual	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	
Maintain and enhance the sporting potental of the woodlands for shooting by gradually diversifying species and age class	Compartment records maintained and updated through forestry operations.	Build on species % change and species range from last WMP	5-yearly	Lilburn Managers – Estate, Forestry, Agriculture, and Gamekeepers.	

UK Forestry Standard woodland plan assessment

For Forestry Commission office use and approval only:

UKFS management plan criteria	Minimum approval requirements	Achieved	Review notes
Plan objectives: Forest management plans should state the objectives of management and set out how an appropriate balance between social, economic, environmental objectives will be achieved.	• Management plan objectives are stated. • Consideration is given to environmental, economic and social objectives relevant to the vision for the woodland.	**Yes/No**	
Forest context and important features in management strategy: Forest management plans should address the forest context and the forest potential and demonstrate how the relevant interests and issues have been considered and addressed.	Management intentions communicated in ***Sect.6*** of management plan are in line with stated objective(s) in ***Sect. 2***. Management intentions should take account of: • Relevant features and issues identified in the woodland survey (***Sect. 4***). • Any potential threats to and opportunities for the woodland, as identified under woodland protection (***Sect. 5***). • Relevant comments received from stakeholder engagement are documented in ***Sect. 7***.	**Yes/No**	
Identification of designations within and surrounding the woodland site:	• Survey information (***Sect. 4***) identifies any designations that impact on woodland management.	**Yes/No**	

For designated areas, e.g. National Parks or SSSI, particular account is taken of landscape and other sensitivities in the design of forests and forest infrastructure.	• Management intentions (***Sect. 6***) have taken account of any designations.		
Felling and restocking to improve forest structure and diversity: When planning felling and restocking, the design of existing forests should be re-assessed and any necessary changes made to meet UKFS requirements. Forests should be designed to achieve a diverse structure of habitat, species and age range of trees, appropriate to the scale and context. Forests characterised by a lack of diversity, due to extensive areas of even-aged trees, should be progressively restructured to achieve age class range.	• Felling and restocking proposals are consistent with UKFS design principles (for example scale and adjacency). • Current diversity (structure, species, age structure) of the woodland has been identified through the survey (***Sect. 4***). • Management intentions aim to improve/ maintain current diversity (structure, species, and ages of trees).	**Yes/No**	
Consultation: Consultation on forest management plans and proposals should be carried out according to forestry authority procedures and, where required, the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) Regulations.	• Stakeholder consultation is in line with current Forestry Commission guidance and recorded in ***Sect. 7***. The minimum requirement is for statutory consultation to take place, and this will be carried out by the Forestry Commission.	**Yes/No**	

	• Plan authors undertake stakeholder engagement (ref Forestry Commission Ops Note 35) relevant to the context and setting of the woodland.		
Plan update and review: Management of the forest should conform to the plan, and the plan should be updated to ensure it is current and relevant.	• A 5-year review period is stated on the first page of the plan. • ***Sect. 8*** is completed with one indicator of success identified per management objective.	**Yes/No**	

Approved in principle This means the Forestry Commission is happy with your plan and it meets UKFS requirements. **a) You do not yet have a licence to undertake any tree felling in the plan.** **b) WMPs must be fully approved before you can apply for CS HT.**	**Name (WO or FM):**	**Date:**
Approved This means Forestry Commission is happy with your plan, it meets UKFS requirements, and we have also approved a felling licence for any tree felling in the plan (where required).	**Name (AO, WO or FM):**	**Date:**