

Progress Report: WOODLANDS (adopted 2005)

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OBJECTIVES	Target	Progress with Targets (based on progress with actions reported between 2005-7)	Target Progress	Progress Summary	Plan Progress	* HBA status
A. Re-survey and digitally map Provisional Ancient Woodland Inventory, including those woodlands less than 2ha to confirm sub-regional semi-natural woodland area. Recalculate ASNW / AWS totals as required	By 2010	Some progress (on schedule) No County wide review of existing Ancient Woodland Sites yet undertaken, but a few HBA / WBRC records have been updated through single wood survey's. The Provisional Ancient Woodland Inventory is now digitised and publicly available on DEFRA's MAGIC website and Forestry Commission's Land Information Search (LIS). Natural England have not found any new woodland SSSI candidates this current reporting period.	↑	The Woodlands HAP has had significant progress in information provision: Web based access to the Woodland Inventory; consultation on development applications affecting trees and woods; production of guidance literature from various organisations as part of advice and grant support.	↑	Increase
B. To retain and protect all known existing ASNW and veteran trees resources using current legislation & best practice (GIS & aerial photos). Minimise other woodland habitat loss caused by development or neglect.	Ongoing	Target achieved. EN / Natural England have been unable to undertake reviews of SSSI management plans due to pending reorganisation. Keepers of Time policy document published. The Regional Spatial Strategy and almost all local authority Local Plans acknowledge the importance of woodland. Policies and grants now favour the use of native species for restocking on AWS. Local Planning Authorities now regularly consulting on development applications that affect trees and woodlands. Over 30 applications consulted on within the report period. First Deer Initiative involvement in the county as part of Princethorpe Woodland Project.	↑			
C. All identified ASNW woodlands should be considered for SINC status. Further assess suitable candidate woods by 100ha for SSSI status.	Annually	No progress No information on progress of new SINC sites. Natural England have not identified any potential new SSSI woods during the reporting period	↔			
D. To convert conifer or non-native broad-leaved plantation on ancient woodland sites to native broad-leaved plantation or semi-natural woodland. (UK Forestry Standard. Ancient & Semi Natural Woodland Policy). 500ha (average 10ha per year)	By 2050	Some progress (on schedule) The launch of EWGS Woodland Regeneration grant has led to significant interest on various ancient woodland sites. Pre application meetings and training suggest works will be progressed in the coming 12 to 24 months. Initial uptake levels are likely to be above the annual target.	↔			
E. To extend existing ASNW by natural regeneration or appropriate woodland creation using locally native species in accordance with FC Bulletin 112. 250ha (average 5ha per year)	By 2050 but ongoing	Some progress (ahead of schedule) The launch of EWGS Woodland Creation grant and Higher Level scheme from NE has resulted in limited interest for natural regeneration of new woodlands. Awaiting applications.	↑			

F. Increase other plantation or farm woodland cover in the sub region in accordance with the regional spatial strategy and other policy and or legislation by 50ha.	Annually	Some progress (behind schedule) The launch of EWGS Woodland Creation grant and Higher Level scheme from NE has led to some interest on various farmed sites. One particular scheme proposal at Spernal has been identified as significant in scale. Pre application meetings and training suggest that works will be progressed in the coming 12 to 24 months. Initial uptake levels are likely to be above the annual target	↔	EWGS and HLS grant schemes which are only just open for business. The slow timber market place continues to hinder Warwickshire woodlands. Significant woodland creation potential at Spernal near Redditch will almost certainly meet the native woodland creation targets, and large PAWS restoration approvals on Ragley Estate should significantly contribute to that particular target. No real progress has been made on re survey of AWS, and only limited survey information for particular woodlands has been passed to WBRC/HBA.
G. Raise awareness and understanding of the multiple values of trees and woodlands, particularly ASNW & AWS amongst woodland owners, managers, contractors and the public in line with RFF Delivery Plan. . 1 Training event per year as a minimum.	Ongoing	Target achieved Keepers of Time policy document launched. Regional Spatial Strategy programme , with RFF support, develops a Woodland Opportunities Map for the region. RFF delivery plan reviews and reports on first year progress. Launch of EWGS and HLS with woodland options successfully undertaken. Environmental Farm Plans highlight woodland issues to individual owners. FWAG and WWT hold farm visits and various training days that partially cover woodland issues. APF forestry exhibition held at Ragley Estate near Stratford. LA Planning Authorities consult on developments near trees or woods. Princethorpe Woodland Project is launched as flagship landscape scale woodland management project.	↑	
H. To establish and promote local markets for the produce from semi-natural ancient and other woodlands.	By 2008 but ongoing	Some progress (behind schedule) Ecolots is a web based free advertising site for timber and other wood products. RFF delivery plan identifies the marketing needs of the region and proposes support and development mechanisms.	slight ↑	
I. Increase awareness of the value of scrub naturally regenerating into low-density woodland and promote sustainable management of existing scrub areas as a habitat.	Ongoing	Some progress (on schedule) Promoted by FC staff through EWGS, NE staff through HLS and by FWAG through farm environment days. Awaiting potential grant applications.	↑	
J. Use agri-environmental and forestry grant schemes and farming best practice to maintain, restore and create woodland areas. Introduce additional woodland habitats e.g. open ground, rides, etc and increase social, economic and biodiversity opportunities.	Ongoing	Some progress (on schedule) EWGS and HLS (with woodland options) launched in the West Midlands.	↑	
K. Establish, implement and maintain deer management groups covering all the main concentrations of woodland in the sub-region.	Ongoing	Some progress (on schedule) Princethorpe Woodland Project involves DI as part of a landscape scale approach to woodland management.	↑	

