

Map Explanation

In this Forest Resource Plans we want to show you our long term vision for the forest and the type of management we will use to get to that vision. Because we are working with nature, sometimes our plans have to change, for example if the trees became diseased and we had to cut them down early. These plans are reviewed every 10 years to make sure we are still heading in the right direction.

Map 1 - Long-Term Vision






This map shows how we intend the forest to look in 25 to 100 years' time.

-  **Ancient Woodland Management** – These sites have been wooded since 1600 or longer and our management will be to preserve the woodland. If conifers are present, we will gradually convert these plantations to broadleaf woodland, encouraging the native flora.
Key species – dormice, bats, wood ants, marsh / willow tit, wood warbler

-  **Native Woodland Management** – Broadleaf (but not ancient) woodland and new areas of native trees that we will plant to create nature corridors with other woodlands. This category will include stream and river-banks.
Remaining conifers will be removed gradually.
Key species – dormice, bats, wood ants, marsh / willow tit, wood warbler

-  **Standard Forest Management** – Non-native conifers and broadleaves that we manage for timber. We aim to increase the ecological potential of all forests through thinning, making sure the trees aren't all the same age, and planting more than one type of tree.
Key species – woodland birds – wood warbler, marsh / willow tit, dormice, bats, wood ants, red squirrels








-  **Successional Woodland** – Open woodland habitat, broadleaf or conifer trees mixed with open areas/bog for environmental or landscape benefit. Our management will be very limited, such as removing conifers and other invasive species from upland Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). This category will include land difficult to manage for timber such as areas in South Wales which have burned repeatedly. On these sites nature will take its course and trees may grow in time.
Key species – passerines (meadow pipit, tree pipit, redpoll,) nightjars, water voles, black grouse







-  **Open Habitat Management** – Existing or proposed open land, for example upland bog, deep peat, heathland, coastal dunes, crags.
Key species – passerines (meadow pipit, tree pipit, redpoll,) nightjars, water voles, black grouse
-  **Other Land** – Includes buildings, small renewable energy, landscape amelioration, deer management, archaeology, small quarries and mining.
-  **Recreation Sites** – Recreation in the forest, including car parks, picnic sites, visitor centres, and trails and ropeways that we actively manage.
-  **Undefined** – Areas currently under trees where we plan to do something different but need to fell the trees before we can draw up the detail. For example, an area of afforested deep peat that we intend to restore to peat.
-  **Other Land Use (demised)** – Land that is no longer certified as sustainably managed because it is being used for another purpose than forestry. For example, the land under a wind turbine.

Map 2 – Forest Management and Felling Strategy

This map shows how and when areas in the forest will be harvested.






We aim to harvest trees in ways that reduce the impact on the forest and wildlife. These methods are called ‘low impact silvicultural systems (LISS)’, large trees are taken out slowly, and young trees grow to fill the gaps. It isn’t always possible to use LISS, usually because the site is too windy (risk of trees blowing over). In these cases, we clearfell the trees when they reach the best size for market. To plan our business, we schedule the harvesting within five-year periods.

-  **Clearfell 2022-26**
-  **Clearfell 2027-31**
-  **Clearfell 2032-36**
-  **Clearfell 2037-41**
-  **Clearfell 2042-46**
-  **Clearfell 2047-51**
-  **Clearfell 2052-56**

-  **Unassigned Management – young crops or recent felling** – The trees haven't been planted yet or are too young for us to decide on the best way to manage them. A decision will be made in future Forest Resource Plans.
-  **Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)** – The trees have been thinned at least once and the growing conditions are good (quality soils, less wind). There are many low impact ways of working from 'small coupe felling' to 'single tree selection' and coppice.
-  **Minimum Intervention** – Native broadleaf trees, often young which don't need much management.
-  **Natural Reserve** – Areas managed for biodiversity.
-  **Long-Term Retention** – Trees retained for environmental benefit significantly beyond the usual age or size. They may be felled in the future or become Natural Reserves.
-  **Open Land** – Land without trees

Map 3 – Forest Types and Restocking

This map shows the type of forest that will be replanted once the trees are harvested. It is based on our knowledge of the site such as soil quality, windiness, altitude, slope, etc. When time comes, the foresters in the local team will decide on the best species of trees to plant.

-  **Riparian Woodland** – Along rivers and streams, we will plant broadleaves or encourage trees to develop naturally to create wildlife corridors and protect the water quality. Some streams may be too small to appear on the map.
-  **Mixed Woodland Predominantly Broadleaf** – Native broadleaves (preferably locally native) with some conifers (for example redwood). Ancient woodland sites and new native woodlands are included in this category.
> 50% broadleaf
-  **Mixed Woodland Predominantly Conifer** – Non-native trees, mostly conifer for timber production. Trees could include Douglas fir, Norway spruce, redwoods with oak and sweet chestnut.
> 50% conifer
-  **Upland Wales – Lower exposure** – Conifers for timber production. The lower exposure means we have a range of tree species that will grow. On better soils we could choose Douglas fir, western red cedar, Japanese red cedar and sequoias. Grand fir and noble fir are good alternatives to Sitka spruce.
> 50% conifer
-  **Upland Wales – Higher exposure** – Conifers for timber production. Sitka spruce will be the most productive tree on these sites but we will use all

opportunities to include other species in areas with better soils / more sheltered. Birch and rowan will be present.

> 50% conifer



Successional Woodland – Open woodland habitat, broadleaf or conifer trees mixed with open areas/bog for environmental or landscape benefit. This category will include land difficult to manage for timber such as areas in South Wales which have burned repeatedly. On these sites nature will take its course and trees may grow in time.



Open Land – Land better suited to open land management, for example upland bog, deep peat, heathland, coastal dunes, crags.



Other Land – Includes buildings, small renewable energy, landscape amelioration, deer management, archaeology, small quarries and mining.



Undefined – Areas currently under trees where we plan to do something different but need to fell the trees before we can draw up the detail. For example, an area of afforested deep peat that we intend to restore to peat.