









OBJECTIVE	TARGET	PROGRESS	PLAN STATUS	
			2008-2010	2011-2019
A. To achieve condition of 2531ha of ancient semi-natural woodland over 0.25ha that are currently in unfavourable condition, to favourable or recovering, giving priority to those holding UK Priority Species & Red Data Book species.	2026	Our target for 2026 has been 60% achieved. Despite figures not yet known for the management of ancient woodland sites by landowners through the Higher Level Environmental Stewardship Scheme, by combining the areas of SSSIs (784ha) and other woodlands (720ha) we have still exceeded our target of 1000ha for 2015 by 150%. 1504ha are in known management by Natural England (SSSIs), Forestry England, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Earlswood Wildlife Partnership and Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire; however, this is only 29% of our total 5135ha of woodland.	↑	↑
B. To restore 918ha of degraded ancient semi-natural woodland.	2026	Our 2026 target has been 53% achieved. The partial removal of conifers from at least 485ha has been carried by the Forestry Commission, Friends of Brandon Wood, Heart of England Forest and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.		
C. To expand the extent of native broadleaf woodland by 1006ha.	2026	Our target for 2026 has been exceeded by 180%. The creation of a minimum of 1825ha. of new broadleaf woodland has been achieved by Forestry England, the Woodland Trust, Rugby Borough Council and Stratford District Council and private individuals.		
D. To establish and promote local markets for the produce from semi-natural ancient and other woodlands.	ongoing	The only information obtained is that all Warwickshire Wildlife Trust woodland coppice produce not used for pea sticks, binders or stakes will now be turned into charcoal and sold at Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre.		
<p>Key to status: 2010: ↑ Any improvement ↔ No change ↓ Decline</p> <p>2019: ↑ Good progress ↑ Some progress ↔ No change ↓ Decline</p>				



PROPOSED ACTIONS	BY	REPORTED PROGRESS	NO.OF SITES/ ITEMS	TOTAL AREA/ LENGTH	% OF TARGET	ACTION STATUS ↑↑↔↓↓
PL1. Identify and assess for SSSI status suitable candidate ANSWs, particularly those supporting priority species	ongoing	A decline. Tile Hill Wood SSSI has been de-designated.				↓








such as dormice and those in landscape scale complexes.						
PL2. Continue to select all qualifying ASNW, including sites of less than 2ha, as LWSs and enter onto database.	ongoing	In progress. HBA: has designated 224 woodlands, covering 2724ha, as LWS.	224 sites	2724ha		
PL3. Ensure that the protection of all ancient woodland is included in Local Development Plans, Neighbourhood Plans and any other relevant strategies.	ongoing	Some progress. The National Planning Policy Framework has been strengthened to <u>no net loss</u> of woodland. The protection of ancient woodland is stated in the following Local Authority documents: North Warwickshire Local Plan 2017: Development leading to the loss of irreplaceable habitats and features, such as ancient woodland or veteran trees will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated there are overriding reasons and benefits that outweigh the loss. Nuneaton & Bedworth Corporate Plan 2007–2021: Protect from development sites considered to be irreplaceable ... priority habitat sites such as ancient woodland. Rugby Borough Council Local Plan 2011-2031: Planning permission will be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of ancient woodland, and/or the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside of ancient woodland unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweighs the loss. All development proposals in the proximity of ancient woodland shall incorporate buffers. Stratford Core Strategy 2014: Ancient woodland contributes significantly to existing ecological biodiversity and must be protected.... Veteran trees are important in the same way and there are examples in this District which are considered to be of national importance. Solihull Woodland Strategy 2010-2014: Consult the Forestry Commission (now Forestry England) when determining all planning applications within 500m of ancient semi-natural and ancient woodland sites, except where the proposed development clearly has no effect on the woodland.	5 out of 7 LAs			
PL4. Ensure that new minor or major developments aim for net biodiversity gain through adherence to the mitigation hierarchy.	ongoing	In progress. HS2 development is committed to <u>no net loss</u> . West Midlands Combined Authority Ind. Strategy is committed to get <u>net gain</u> into policy; the National proposal is for a net gain of 10%. Warwickshire County Council (WCC): all Local Planning Authorities promote biodiversity impact assessments that lead to net gains. No net loss stated. No current examples of net gain to date but there will be in the future.				

<p>PL5. Actively work to ensure development proposals do not affect the integrity or setting of ancient woodland sites or the opportunity to extend existing woodlands or impact on other sensitive habitat sites using the Forestry Design Plan.</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>In progress. Forestry England (FE): comments on planning applications near ancient woodlands. All applications are seen by WCC</p>				
<p>SM1. Maintain favourable ecological condition of all 784ha of SSSI woodlands by ensuring the appropriate management of all sites.</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>In progress. According to Natural England (NE) (2019), all 784ha of SSSI status woodlands in Warwickshire are in ‘favourable condition’, with the exception of Knavenhill Wood which is ‘unfavourable recovering’ as a result of deer pressure; as it has appropriate management in place it can be classed as ‘recovering’.</p>		<p>784ha</p>	<p>100%</p>	
<p>SM2. To achieve condition by 2015 of 1000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland over 0.25ha that are currently in unfavourable condition, to favourable or recovering, and another 1531ha by 2026, giving priority to those holding UK Priority Species & Red Data Book species.</p>	<p>2015-2026</p>	<p>In progress. NE: management of Ancient Woodland Sites through the Higher Level Environmental Stewardship Scheme includes Grandborough and Tomlow near Southam, Dorsington, on the Sernal Estate, Temple Balsall, the West Arden Living Landscape area and Barnrooden at Priors Marston (a 30yr. old plantation now with a wide variety of habitats). FE: in 2012 (then the Forestry Commission), a coppicing project in Weston Wood (52ha), funded by SITA Trust. Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT): with 10 yr. woodland management plans for 405ha of woodland reserves in place, 20ha of coppicing has increased the structural diversity of the woods, including along rides and margins. 5 woodland Local Nature Reserves (22.56ha) are also managed by WWT. Earlswood Wildlife Partnership: manages 45ha of Clowes Wood/New Fallings Coppice, on behalf of the WWT. Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire (BCW): since 2011, has carried out 24ha of coppicing at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weston Wood • Oversley Wood (93ha) • Hay Wood: (104ha) Tallis Wood: an area of 4.5ha, management unknown. Friends of Woods’ groups have been established at 13 sites: Coombe Country Park, Daffern’s Wood LNR, Ryton, Wappenbury, Bubbenhall, New Arley, Oakley, Tile Hill, Oversley, Hay, Brandon and Binley Woods; also at Foundry Wood, an open access community woodland.</p>		<p>720.56ha known to be managed</p>	<p>72%</p>	

<p>SM3. Achieve a varied age structure at the margins of woodland and along rides within woodland by managing or creating areas of scrub (see RM2).</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>Some progress.</p> <p>BCW: in 2017 at Hay Wood, cutting 2 x 4 yr. and 1 x 6 yr. rotations of scrub edge to widen the main rides and increase heathland plants.</p> <p>FoBW: at Brandon Wood the creation of scallops at the woodland edge has resulted in the development of scrub.</p> <p>WWT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is continuing ride side coppicing at Ryton Wood, Wappenbury Wood, Bubbenhall Wood. Hampton Wood and Snitterfield Bushes. • carries out management to achieve this action also at Clowes Wood, Cock Robin Wood, Crackley Wood, Dafferns Wood, Lion Wood, New Fallings Coppice, Piles Coppice, Rough Hill Wood and Tocil Wood. 	<p>16 sites</p>			<p>↑</p>
<p>SM4. Maintain the age structure of wet woodland (see RM3) by coppicing and water management, sympathetically for biodiversity value.</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>Some progress.</p> <p>77ha of this important habitat for willow and marsh tit and lesser spotted woodpecker are recorded by the HBA (2018).</p> <p>Management of wet woodland is known to be carried out at: Alvecote Pools, Brandon Marsh, Claybrookes Marsh, Coombe Country Park, Decoy Wood (Packington), Kingsbury Water Park, Ladywalk Reserve, Middleton Lakes, Stonebridge Meadows, Sreetley Meadows, Temple Balsall NR, Ufton Fields, and Whitacre Heath.</p>	<p>13 sites</p>			<p>↑</p>
<p>SM5. Retain old dead and decaying trees in wet woodland, or at least stumps, for nesting sites for lesser spotted woodpecker and willow tit; supplement with rotten logs with sawdust-filled holes for willow tit nest building, e.g. at Alvecote Pools.</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>In progress.</p> <p>WWT: this is implemented, provided dead wood is not a liability, at Alvecote Pools, Brandon Marsh, Claybrookes Marsh, Stonebridge Meadows, Temple Balsall, Ufton Fields and Whitacre Heath.</p> <p>Retention of dead and decaying wood is part of the management of wet woodland at Decoy Wood (Packington), Kingsbury Water Park, Ladywalk Reserve, Middleton Lakes and Steetley Meadows.</p> <p>CCC: at Coombe Country Park a conservation area with no public access allows the retention of dead standing & fallen trees for willow tits and marsh tits; an area of willow & alder carr is managed for lesser spotted woodpeckers.</p>	<p>13 sites</p>			<p>↑</p>
<p>SM6. Restore 287ha of conifer or non-native broad-leaved plantation on ancient woodland sites to native broad-leaved plantation or semi-natural woodland by 2015 and a further 631ha by 2026 (UK Forestry Standard. Ancient & Semi Natural Woodland Policy).</p>	<p>2015-2026</p>	<p>2015 target exceeded.</p> <p>FE: in the Warwickshire Forest Design Plan 2011-21 programme of conversion of pine to broadleaf woodland (comprising 225ha of Plantations on Ancient Woodlands (PAWS), 61ha of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) and 1ha of Secondary Woodland) 287ha of restoration will be implemented at Arley Wood and the following 3 other woods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weston & Waverley Wood: 40ha of conifers (a third) removed in 2012 for natural regeneration • Hay Wood: a 7 yr programme of rotational thinning to reduce conifers by 30%. • May Wood: 3rd of conifers removed from 4/5th of wood 	<p>7 sites</p>	<p>485ha known to be restored</p>	<p>170%</p>	<p>↑↑</p>

		<p>Friends of Brandon Wood (FoBW): low impact thinning of Brandon Wood (74ha) is restoring it to mainly broad leaf; approx. 50% of Corsican pine has already been removed and the aim of the current 5yr.management plan 2017-2022 is to remove 400 tonnes annually.</p> <p>Heart of England Forest (HoEF): removal of 14ha of conifers from Coughton Park (76ha) in 2011-13.</p> <p>WDC: Oakley Wood, managed by WWT, with removal of 850m³ from 48ha in 2019/20.</p>				
<p>SM7. Increase the extent of the woodland cover and resource by 314ha by 2015 and a further 692ha by 2026 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> expanding existing ASNW by natural regeneration or appropriate woodland creation using locally native species in accordance with FC Bulletin 112. expanding other plantation or farm woodland cover in the sub region in accordance with the regional spatial strategy and other policy and or legislation creating new plantations of native broadleaf species. 	2015-2026	<p>2026 target exceeded.</p> <p>FE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in 2012, funded a 10yr restoration of 9ha of quarried farmland to woodland was undertaken by Smiths Concrete/Hanson to link Bubbenhall, Ryton and Wappenbury Woods. in 2011/12 and 2012: 312.9 ha. of new woodland was entered into EWGS (English Woodland Grant Scheme) in 2013: approved 53 Woodland Creation Grant (WCG) cases, a total area of 1043.7ha Oversley Wood : 9ha clearfells (3) replanted with oaks Waverley Wood: 12ha clearfell replanted with oaks from 2014-19: funded by FE, HoEF created 358.37ha of native species forest, predominantly in the area around Sernal and Dorsington, <p>Woodland Trust (WT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jubilee Wood, created in 2013 on 10.36ha of University of Warwick land (Coventry District) as a Diamond Jubilee Wood. Cuttle Brook Wood, Temple Balsall (Solihull Borough) was planted for the millennium 6.87ha. Flowers Wood, Ilmington, Stratford: a 1.67ha millennium wood. Kingstree Wood, Kineton: a 3.41ha millennium wood. <p>Rugby Borough Council, with support from WT: in 2012 created the 47ha Diamond Jubilee Wood in Rugby.</p> <p>Stratford District Council: at Bridgetown Community Woodland and Meadows, south of the town centre, consists of large open fields, sparse hedgerows, 10ha of mature trees and a community orchard.</p> <p>Leasowes Farm: 2 areas, 1.2ha in the Dunsmore Living Landscape area.</p>	67 sites min.	1825ha known to have been created	580%	
<p>SM8. Introduce additional woodland habitats e.g. open ground, rides, river banks, etc. and increase social, economic and biodiversity opportunities</p>	ongoing	<p>In progress.</p> <p>FE: all management plans have to include open spaces to get compliance for their 10 year licence (UK Forest Standard).</p> <p>WWT 2017-2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 pond at Brandon Wood improved and another 3 to be improved with biodiversity offsetting money applied for by FoBW. 	12 sites min.			

<p>where appropriate during all the above actions.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hedgerow restoration at 8 sites min.: 10.38km restored or newly planted with another 10km planned. <p>BCW: carried out management in Ryton Wood, resulting in a 185% increase in butterflies since 1990 (2014).</p> <p>Severn Rivers Trust: riparian planting of 3515 trees in 2013 is part of the Avon & Leam Catchment Plan delivery.</p> <p>Foundry Wood: 0.25ha of deciduous wood is managed as an open access community woodland.</p>				
<p>SM9. Work at a landscape scale, focusing effort on identified important clusters of ANSW to maximise benefit, ‘rewilding’ the wider countryside and restoring the range of the habitat to build resilience to climate change. Target areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunsmore Living Landscape • West Arden landscape area • North Arden landscape area • Hay Wood ‘central’ cluster 	<p>2026</p>	<p>In progress.</p> <p>WWT: the Dunsmore Living Landscape Partnership has been active since 2004 and, with funding from SITA in 2012 and HLF in 2016, is developing co-operative woodland management on a landscape scale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • since 2012, 13.4ha of coppicing with standards, 600m of ride restoration and 2ha of tree planting has been carried out. • from 2017-2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Piles Coppice: a trial area of lime coppicing is planned as part of the new management plan. ▪ Wappenbury Wood: 0.9ha coppiced and deer fenced, and ride/path management undertaken with creation of a new ride and scalloping along a bridleway. ▪ Ryton Wood: 0.81ha coppiced with some brashing up and dead hedging. <p>HoEF: from 2014-19 created 358.37ha of native species forest in the West Arden landscape area, about 20% of which is open grassy rides considered to be part of the woodland mosaic.</p> <p>BCW: defined an area for action called the North West Woodlands Warwickshire Landscape in 2014; carries out management at 13 sites including Hay Wood.</p> <p>Warwickshire Rural Hub: operates on a landscape scale to promote the creation and management of broad-leaved woodland through biodiversity offsetting.</p> <p>Arden Farm Wildlife Network (Facilitation Fund) project: was started in 2018 to achieve more, bigger, joined up and diverse natural habitats in the Arden area of the county.</p>	<p>17 sites min.</p>			
<p>SM10. Establish, implement and maintain deer management groups covering all the main concentrations of woodland in the sub-region and minimising loss caused by development or neglect, prioritising Dunsmore Living Landscape area.</p>	<p>2015</p>	<p>No progress.</p> <p>WWT: deer management takes place in Wappenbury Wood, Snitterfield Bushes, Hampton Wood and Ryton Wood.</p>				

RM1. Maintain the HBA digitised dataset of all woodland and other adjacent habitat types and seek to establish a record of habitat types within woodlands.	ongoing	In progress. Habitat Biodiversity Audit (HBA): in 2019 the total area of ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) in the sub-region including woodland on the AWI is given as 5,135 ha including sites under 0.25ha.		5135ha		
RM2. Record areas of biodiverse scrub (see SM2).	ongoing	In progress. HBA: an on-going task with the Phase 1 habitat survey updates though usually within a mix of habitats.				
RM3. Record further areas of biodiverse carr woodland (see SM3). (Ref. RM3 Marsh & Swamp and SM13 Rivers & Streams action plans).	ongoing	In progress. Total area of wet woodland recorded in 2018 was 77ha (see details in the Marsh & Swamp report)		77ha		
RM4. Identify plant indicator species for assessing the quality of woodland habitat.	2015	Completed.				
RM5. Use existing indicator flora list for monitoring woodland condition and expansion every 5 years.	2015, 2020	In progress.				
RM6. Using existing research, establish a project to develop local sustainable markets for the produce of ASNW and AWS to facilitate their management, e.g. Dunsmore Woodlands.	2018	Little information. WWT: charcoal making: all woodland coppice produce not used for pea sticks, binders or stakes will now be turned into charcoal and sold at Brandon Marsh Visitor Centre.				
CP1. Raise awareness and understanding of the ecosystem services value of trees and woodlands, particularly ASNW & AWS amongst woodland owners, managers, contractors and the public.	ongoing	In progress. FE: achieved through the New Environmental Land Management Scheme (<i>NELMS</i>). Woodland Trust/ RBC: in 2016 a partnership was forged to show how tree planting can deliver wide social and environmental benefits for local authorities; supported by a Countryside Stewardship grant from Natural England (see SM6). Arden Farm Wildlife Network: delivers multi-environment benefits including biodiversity net gain, healthier soils, improved water quality and profitable sustainable farming.				

<p>CP2. Organise a programme of training and discussion sessions to cover all elements of sustainable woodland management in the Dunsmore Living Landscape area. One training event per year as a minimum.</p>	<p>2020</p>	<p>Target achieved.</p> <p>WWT: has held one event every two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coppicing / hedgelaying / green hay/ green wood working, e.g. hay rakes. • land owner event held by the Dunsmore Living Landscape Project in 2015/6 <p>FE: runs UK Forest Standard training days.</p> <p>Warwickshire Rural Hub: organises several events for members each year, including one advising on woodland creation and management in 2018.</p> <p>Arden Farm Wildlife Network: regular events are organised for members.</p>				<p style="text-align: center;">↑</p>
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