

Develop a woodland management plan

Overview

This standard is about developing a woodland management plan.

To develop a management plan it will be necessary to identify key aspects and features of the woodland, and to determine the key management objectives required.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
3. clarify the purpose, scope and objectives for the woodland that is to be managed
4. identify the location and entrance to the woodland
5. provide a grid reference and measure the size of the site using appropriate equipment and sources of information
6. identify and record key aspects of the woodland
7. identify and record other features of significance in the landscape
8. identify and record any special values
9. analyse the information you have gathered
10. determine a long-term strategy for the woodland and develop a woodland management plan
11. identify the management objectives in relation to the woodland
12. determine how the effectiveness of your management plan will be monitored and how often
13. record and present information in an appropriate format to meet requirements
14. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. the purpose, scope and objectives of the woodland that is to be managed
5. how to read Ordnance Survey maps and interpret standard methods of marking
6. how to use GPS equipment
7. how to measure areas from maps and the size of the site from the ground
8. the importance of having a range of species and making an inventory of trees
9. the reasons why information should be recorded
10. how to identify and collate key aspects and take into consideration their impact
11. how to incorporate key aspects into a woodland management plan
12. where to obtain information regarding existing and future proposed access
13. how to determine a long-term strategy for the woodland
14. what evaluation methods may be used and how to determine the most effective method
15. the sources of information relating to woodlands
16. the importance of identifying and consulting with all stakeholders
17. the legal responsibilities relating to protected woodland species, woodland management and woodland access
18. the advantages and disadvantages of a range of survey techniques and how to use these
19. the primary and secondary sources of data
20. the methods of collecting data
21. your responsibilities under relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Key aspects:

- soils, drainage
- historical aspects, including past usage
- trees and shrub species, dominant trees and abundant underwood shrubs
- age, class, and distribution of trees
- stocking, composition and condition of any natural regeneration
- ground flora, dominant species and any unusual species
- fauna, especially any rare or notable species
- archaeological features
- any threats or hazards or other features of significance

Special values:

- the crops to be recorded
- the format of the inventory
- the accuracy and clarity required of the survey and of the inventory
- the updating of stock maps
- the environmental and conservation requirements in
- legislation and from your organisation

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