

WGS REF. No. NWP/015/207	Site Name Smith's Wood	District/Parish <i>Solihull</i>
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Owner/tenant/agent Solihull MBC Contact David Lowe Solihull MBC, Ecologist Landscapes Section PO BOX 19, Council House, Solihull, West Midlands, B91, 3QT	Nature Conservation Status / Designation EcoSite. SINC. Scheduled monument beneath wood	Total area (of included woodland) <i>5.6 ha</i>
	Other Designations / Protections <i>Midlands Plateau Natural Area (43)</i>	Grid ref (access) <i>SP 172 892</i>
	Ancient / Recent Semi-Natural / Plantation <i>ASNW</i>	Surveyor <i>Helen S Miller Middlemarch Environmental Ltd</i>
	Biodiversity Action Plan <i>Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull BAP See Appendix A</i>	Date of survey <i>9 July 2004</i>

Woodland vegetation types (**mark on map**).
SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND TYPE (HAPS):
Lowland mixed broadleaved (Forest Practice Guide 3)

NVC COMMUNITIES:
W10/W8 transitional mosaic

PLANTATIONS:
Small area of scots pine and larch in NE of site.

Adjacent land (**mark on map**)
Urbanisation: residential housing, school and grounds, industrial.

Threats
Over use from recreation.
Invasion of exotics from neighbouring gardens.
Garden and household waste dumping. Vandalism

Aspect N/A	Slope <i>More or less flat</i>	Altitude 88 – 91 m
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Soil– from Soilscape on www.magic.gov.uk

Ref/class	Name	Main surface texture class	Natural drainage type	Natural fertility
18	Slowly permeable seasonally wet acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils	Loamy	Impeded drainage	Moderate

Geology
Keuper Marl and Pleistocene sands and gravel

Climatic Factors From Met Office web-site for Stratford-Upon-Avon weather station, approximately 15 miles south of the Solihull Woodlands:

- Average annual rainfall 622.3 mm with 115.7 days experiencing less than 1 mm.
- Average annual days experiencing air frost and ground frost: 62.2 and 95-110 respectively
- Minimal risk from wind exposure.

WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET.
COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

County
Unitary
West Midlands

Ref. No. NWP/015/207

	Tx	Tp	Ts	Tc	Tn	Cx	Ct	Px	Pc	Sx	Sc	St	Js	Jp	Jv
Acer cam	O											O		O	
Acer pse														O	
Aescu hip												R			
Alnus glu															
Betul pen	R														
Betul pub															
Carp bet															
Casta ast															
Conifer sp															
Coryl ave						O				A			R	R	
Crata mon										F			R	O	
Crata oxy															
Euony eur															
Fagus syl															
Frang aln															
Fraxi exc	ID											O	O	F	
Ilex aqu	R									R		O		O	
Junip com															
Larix sp		R													
Malus syl															
Picea sp															
Pinus syl															
Popul tre	R														
Prunu avi	R											R		R	
Prunu lau															
Prunu pad															
Prunu spi										R			R		
Querc cer															
Querc pet/hybrid															
Querc rob	ID			R								R			
Rham cat															
Rhodopon										R					
Salix alb															
Salix aur	R											R	R	O	
Salix cap															
Salix cin										R					
Salix fra															
Salix pen															
Salix vim															
Samb nig										O				O	
Sorbu ari															
Sorbu auc															
Sorbu tor															
Taxus bac															
Thely san															
Tilia cor															
Tilia eur	R														
Tilia pla															
Ulmus car															
Ulmus gla															
Ulmus pro															
Vibur lan															

D = dominant A = abundant F = frequent O = occasional R = rare L = localised

Smith's Wood comprises of two Cmpts separated by Windward Way. The northern Cmpt is oak-ash woodland with a varied understorey of hazel, hawthorn and elder. The ground flora is primarily nettle and bramble. The southern Cmpt has oak dominating the canopy with a hazel and hawthorn understorey. The ground flora is mainly bramble and bluebell. Both Cmpts have a moderate to good structure with at least some natural regeneration. Both Cmpts have a mosaic/transitional community between W8 and W10. There appears to be limited management been undertaken recently, although some of the oaks have had their epicormic/lower branches trimmed. The woodland is primarily used for local recreation. There are formal tarmac and lit pathways and informal paths through the wood. The wood is included on the Ancient Woodland Inventory. There are some banks/ditches at the woods periphery. Scheduled monument: ridge and furrow beneath woodland. The boundaries are fenced. There are no obvious signs of rabbit, squirrel, deer or grazing problems.

stand description management & use history nature of boundaries grazing

Area of (ha)

Ancient Semi-nat ASNW	5.6	Recent Semi-nat		Ancient Replanted AWS		Recent Plantn.	
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Area occupied by each NVC type

0-0.5 ha	0.5-2 ha	2-10 ha	10-20ha	20+ha
		W8/W10 transition		

Tree layer	Height 13 m	Cover (%) 80	Shrub layer	Height 3 m	Cover (%) 60
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Age class abundance (all species, using DAFOR system)

D/mature	Mature	Young trees	Saplings	Seedlin	Coppice
	D	O	O	R	R

	Sx	Sc	Js	Jp	Jv	S	Sc	Js	Jp	Jv
Clem vit						Ribes syl				
Daph lau						Ribes uva				
Heder hel		IA				Rosa arv				
Ligus vul						Rosa can				
Lonic per		R				Sarot sco				
Maho aqu						Ulex eur				
Myrica ga						Ulex gal				
Ribes nig	R					Vibur opu				

Tp Planted tree *Cx* Coppice *Sc* Climber
Tn Self-sown tree *Ct* Regrowth from stump *St* Young tree
Ts Standard in c-w-s *Px* Pollard (2.5m+) *Js* Seedling
Tc Grown from coppice *Pc* Pollard (1-2.5m) *Jp* Sapling
Tx Any other tree *Sx* Shrub *Jv* Sucker



Site name;
Smith's Wood

Surveyor
Helen S Miller
Middlemarch Environmental Ltd

Date of survey
June 2004

HABITATS, FEATURES & COMMUNITIES (MARK ON MAP)

Habitats

Smith's Wood comprises of two Cmpts separated by Windward Way. Both Cmpts have a mosaic/transitional community between W8 and W10. Both Cmpts have a moderate to good structure with at least some natural regeneration. These are detailed below (Target notes) and marked on the map.

The northern Cmpnt is oak-ash woodland with a varied understorey of hazel, hawthorn and elder. The ground flora is primarily nettle *Urtica dioica* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus* with a range of common woodland vascular species occurring at least rarely throughout. The most frequent included Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, various grasses, herb-robert *Geranium robertianum*, ivy *Hedera helix* and enchanters nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*. Species occurring rarely include remote sedge *Carex remota* and broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*. Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* is locally abundant. There is moderate to high ash regeneration, particularly where the canopy is lighter.

The southern Cmpnt has oak dominating the canopy with a hazel and hawthorn understorey. Other canopy trees and shrubs occurring rarely include Norway maple, dogwood and raspberry. The ground flora is mainly bramble *Rubus fruticosus* and bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*. Other woodland herbs include enchanters nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, garlic mustard *Allaria petiolata*, greater stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*, male fern *Dryopteris felix-mas* and remote sedge *Carex remota*. Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* occurs rarely and ivy *Hedera helix* is locally abundant.

Wetland features

There are no wetland features in the wood.

Veteran trees and deadwood

Deadwood habitats are rare to occasional throughout the wood, mainly as cut fallen trees. There are no veteran trees, although some have the potential to be veterans in the future.

Notable species

Bluebell occurs within the wood – a UK BAP species.

There is a moderate woodland bird population.

Non-native, invasive species occur within the wood – rhododendron and snowberry.

Other features

There are some banks/ditches in the south-west and south-east of the wood.

Adjacent landuse

The adjacent land is urbanisation: residential housing and industrial to the north and east. School playing fields (lowland grassland) to east and south. Lowland grassland in the form of amenity grassland with the occasional tree to the west.

Target notes for map

1. Group of aspen.
2. Clearing – tall ruderals, mainly nettle.
3. Area with wood pasture character - poor understorey and ground flora. Mainly ash and oak with hazel and cherry scrub.
4. Locally abundant bracken.
5. Rhododendron.
6. Open canopy. Hazel coppice with occasional holly. Mainly bramble, some dogwood. Deadwood: cut oak limbs. Ash regeneration.
7. Snowberry.
8. Slight bank and ditch with old hawthorns. Ash which has been layed in the past.
9. Deadwood – cut oak.
10. Burnt out oak with door handles attached. Still alive. Also burnt stumps.
11. Limes.

4	FC 2000	WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET OTHER VALUES OF THE WOOD	REF No. NWP/015/207
SITE NAME: SMITH'S WOOD		COMPILED BY: HELEN S MILLER MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL LTD DATE: AUGUST 2004	
ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE			
<p>Smith's Wood is identified on English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory as ASNW. The wood originally comprised of 6 ha of ASNW but 2 ha have since been cleared.</p> <p>The wood is situated on a Scheduled monument: ridge and furrow, dated between 1066 AD and 1539 AD. The wood was first mentioned in 1490 indicating an open field agricultural system around the 15th century or earlier. The wood is part of the Manor of Gilson. There is a bank and ditch extant on the Burtons Green Side of the Wood.</p> <p>There is the suggestion of old banks along the south-west and south-east edges of the wood. There are also some indications of internal banks/ditches. A winter assessment would more clearly identify/locate these features.</p>			
LANDSCAPE			
<p>Smith's Wood lies in the Countryside Commission/English Nature's Character Area "Arden (97)". This Character Area has a "wide variation of landscape character" and includes the "undulating wooded landscape and small hedges of the main plateau". This Character Area has a long history of wood-pasture with "deer parks and estate woodlands once widespread". Some remnant features, such as veteran trees, provide reminders of the past. "Broad-leaved woodland and hedgerow trees lend a well wooded character to the area". The "woodlands themselves vary in type from twentieth century plantations to species rich ancient woodland (with) oak and ash woods with bracken, bramble or dog's mercury are particularly distinctive". The mosaic of urban areas and woodland are characteristics of the Character Area.</p> <p>Although the Character Area suggests the landscape has reasonable woodland, the Natural Area (Midlands Plateau, 43) is characterised by lowland heathland with woodland, grassland, freshwater and farmland with woodlands being under represented at just 4%. 40% of the land area of Natural Area 43 is urban. Woodlands are therefore an important feature of the landscape. Many of the woodlands within the Natural Area are less than 5 ha and are typically uncoppiced, even-aged stands regenerated from clear fells. However, about half are semi-natural in character. The woods cover a range of NVC communities, although they tend to be more acidic.</p> <p>The land surrounding Smith's Wood is relatively flat and the wood is one of several forming prominent features in a landscape dominated by urbanisation. The small size, locality and situation of Smith's Wood is fairly typical of the Character Area and Natural Area in which it occurs.</p>			
RECREATION / PUBLIC ACCESS			
<p>Smith's Wood is primarily used for informal recreation and walking. There are no footpaths within the immediate surrounds of the wood. Access to the site is good with the main access points being off Windward Way. There are no clear rides, although there are several formal paths, lit and tar-maced, and less formal paths throughout the wood.</p>			
WOOD PRODUCTION, GAME / LIVESTOCK & OTHER CONSIDERATIONS			
<p>There does not appear to be any formal wood production taking place within the wood at present. However there is evidence of recent ad-hoc coppicing and thinning, notably in the south-east of the site. As a result of being entirely surrounded by urbanisation and partially backing onto housing there is an issue of garden and household waste dumping. There is also much vandalism/bikers/fire within the wood. The wood is a proposed Local Nature Reserve.</p>			

PHOTO No. 1 (mark location and direction on map)
North Cmpt. 358⁰

DATE:
9 July 2004

NVC TYPE:
W8/W10
transition



PHOTO No. 2 (mark location and direction on map)
South Cmpt. 253⁰

DATE:
9 JULY 2004

NVC TYPE:
W8/W10
transition



6	FC 2000	WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION & MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		REF No. NWP/015/207
SITE NAME: SMITH'S WOOD		SURVEYOR: HELEN S MILLER MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL LTD		DATE OF SURVEY: 9 JULY 2004
<p>ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION of the main features of interest (include an assessment of naturalness, representativeness, size, rarity, fragility, position in an ecological unit, diversity, recorded history, potential value, intrinsic appeal)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation significance of Smith's Wood lies in the ASNW status and the potential to improve their condition through future management. • The wood has a high degree of native species and naturalising character. • Smith's Wood is an Ecosite and pSINC. It is also a proposed Local Nature Reserve. • The woodland forms a valuable woodland island within an area dominated by urbanisation; providing aesthetic as well as ecological value through breaking up a potentially monotonous, low diversity landscape. However, it has poor connectivity to other habitats. • The floral diversity is relatively variable and the NVC community is not clearly defined but approximates a transitional/mosaic community between W8 and W10. Therefore one HAP type is represented. There is some diversity in habitat with the presence of at least some deadwood habitats, clearings, and some, although fairly recent, coppiced areas. • The wood has a good woodland bird population and suggestion of being suitable for invertebrates, notably butterflies in the more open areas. • There are some possible ancient woodland bank/ditches to the south-west, south-east and within the wood. • There is the potential for woodland improvement through re-introducing and establishing coppice coups and favouring/encouraging the native species that are regenerating. There is also potential for improving the structure of the wood through encouraging a native understorey to develop. • There is potential to increase the quality and quantity of the deadwood habitats within the wood. Some of the older oaks have the potential for future veteran trees. • There is potential to increase the habitat diversity through management of the woodlands, re-introduction/continuation of re-established coppice management and management/creation of rides/glades. The latter options would be of particular value for woodland butterflies and dormice. Selective and sensitive thinning would encourage more age diversity within the canopy species. • Deer, rabbits and squirrels do not appear to be a major problem at the present. • Bluebells are locally abundant and are likely to be a major aesthetic asset to many of the woodlands in the spring. • There are several non-native invasive species within the wood – snowberry and rhododendron. 				
<p style="text-align: center;">ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS (based on conservation objectives and above evaluation)</p> <p>The management of this wood should be viewed in conjunction with the other woodlands managed by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC). For example some woodlands may lend themselves better to coppice; while in others may be more suited to minimal intervention. A range of habitats should be created across the district. Wildlife and public access are the key focus points for the management of woodlands within the SMBC District.</p> <p>The following management considerations should be considered to improve the future nature conservation values of the woodland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any current and future native shrubs, including hazel, holly, elder and hawthorn, should be protected and/or encouraged and avoided during any forestry operations. • Opening up and allowing the oaks to mature with some being retained as future veteran trees. Improving the age structure, particularly through encouraging natural regeneration. Planting and bracken/bramble control may be necessary to aid age restructuring. • Re-creation/creation of rides/glades with an irregular scalloped edge would allow greater light penetration and vary the habitat diversity and structure. This variation in habitat diversity and structure may encourage greater flora diversity and therefore be beneficial for birds and invertebrates. • Continuation/re-establishment of coppice management, especially where this has already begun in the south Cmpt. The northern Cmpt has potential for hazel coppice with oak/ash standards. The southern Cmpt has potential for hazel coppice with oak standards. • Control of non-native invasive species; snowberry and rhododendron to prevent shading out the native ground flora. • Discourage garden and house hold waste dumping. • Create new standing/fallen deadwood where safe to do so. <p>The following guidelines should be followed to ensure continued/improved conservation and aesthetic appeal of the woodlands and landscape and that impacts are minimised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish/re-establish management coups/compartments. This will aid in the maintenance of a species and structurally diverse woodland. • Protect any native shrubs during forestry operations. • Forestry operations, particularly felling, should not be carried out during the bird breeding season (1 March until 31 August). • Care should be taken not to damage any of the old banks. • Bramble may become overwhelmingly dominant where significant light is allowed to reach the woodland floor, therefore it may be appropriate to develop an understorey prior to opening up the canopy. • Management should favour native species in the canopy and understorey. • Removal and control of non-native, invasive species: rhododendron, snowberry and sycamore. • Existing deadwood, both fallen and standing should be retained and protected. Some native trees should be retained to provide for future veteran trees and deadwood habitats. Some felled material should be left on site to create deadwood piles of value to invertebrates. • Natural regeneration is the preferred option if restocking is required although planting may be necessary. If the latter is the case it should be after attempts to encourage natural regeneration and local provenance is preferred. • Standard forestry practices for nature conservation/enhancement should be followed. 				

SITE NAME: SMITHS WOOD	COMPILED BY: HELEN MILLER
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OWNERS OBJECTIVES

For full details of the owners objectives please refer to 'Woodland Strategy for Solihull'. The key objectives are summarised below.

1. 'Protect, manage and enhance Solihull MBC woodlands with, and for the benefit of Solihull residents, recreation, nature conservation and visual amenity.'
 - a) Public safety – ensure it is not neglected
 - b) Recreation and public access – maintain or improve where appropriate
 - c) Wildlife conservation – maintain and wherever suitable restore natural ecological diversity
 - d) Landscape enhancement – maintain and where appropriate improve aesthetic value
 - e) Sustainable management of woodlands – taking opportunities to produce utilisable products such as woodchips for fuel, charcoal, fence materials and interpretation signs.

MISSION STATEMENT / LONG TERM VISION

The aim is to develop woodlands, which balances visual amenity, recreation and nature conservation while maintaining the landscape character of the Borough.

The ecological assessment clearly identified that the Solihull woodlands have high current and future ecological value. Several of the woodlands also have archaeological features. The assessments and desk study also indicated the value that these woodlands have for the local residents of Solihull.

LONG TERM MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS / OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Further details and generic long term management proposals and operational objectives can be found in the 'Woodland Strategy for Solihull'. A summary of the key points is provided below.

Aim

Long term objective

Operation objective

Public safety

Maintain public safety at all times in relation to trees
Monitor tree health. Undertake tree surgery only where necessary.

Maintain access for a range of users

Monitor access for all uses. Maintain multi-access paths in good conditions. Create new multi-access paths where appropriate.

Maintain safety on high use, multi-access paths through the woodlands i.e. those with hard standing, lit pathways

Monitor lights on a regular basis and replace any broken ones as soon as possible.

Maintain safety in relation to dangerous plants

Control/remove plants known to be dangerous i.e. giant hogweed.

Maintain safety in relation to non-woodland product e.g. fly tipping

Monitor the woodlands for fly-tipping incidences. Clear up reported fly-tipping as soon as possible.

Recreation

Provide access

Create new multi access paths where appropriate. Create and maintain path networks through the wood.

Wildlife

Maintain a structurally diverse woodland.

Implement appropriate management e.g. selective felling, coppicing, group felling etc

Enhance structural diversity within the woodland

Selectively thinning areas of dense growth or introduce coppice management

Maintain ecological and historical character of ancient woodland

Implement sensitive and appropriate management

Protect trees and woodlands from development

Use additional statutory protection where appropriate e.g. TPOs, SINCS, LNRs, SSSIs etc

Protect from vandalism by vehicles

Erect physical barriers to prevent access by motorised vehicles especially trail bikes and bikes. Erect and maintain fences around woodlands where appropriate.

Protect from vandalism by fire, litter, garden and house hold waste dumping etc

Education to local residents e.g. leaflet dropping, interpretation boards, school visits. Open up areas where these problems are particular high e.g. create open vista habitats within the wood or at woodland entrances (i.e. at fly-tipping hot spots)

Enhance habitat for roosting bats

Erect a variety of bat boxes. Retain standing deadwood. Identify future veteran trees

Increase habitat diversity - veteran trees

Identify future veteran trees

Increase habitat diversity - deadwood

Create deadwood habitat through ring barking selected trees and leaving some cut trees on site.

Protect the woodlands and wildlife from unnecessary disturbance

Educate the public through interpretation boards etc. Create and maintain footpath networks within the wood and encourage people to stay on them.

Increase habitat diversity - glades

Create rides/glades. Manage those already present.

Enhance ecological character - invasive species

Remove and control non-native invasive species.

Landscape

Protect trees and woodlands from development

Use additional statutory protection where appropriate e.g. TPOs, Conservations Areas

Maintain current landscape value

Avoid large areas of clearfell.

Products

Identify products and local outlets

Introduce a range of management systems to provide a range of woodland products suitable for local use. E.g. a range of coppice rotation lengths across the Borough

SITE NAME: SMITHS WOOD

COMPILED BY: ALAN GUY. MIDDLEMARCH
ENVIRONMENTAL LTD**LONG TERM PROPOSALS (Silvicultural systems, broad management strategies)****A) Management system: High Forest, using Regeneration by Group Fellings. Consider also the possibility of Mixed High Forest and Coppice.****B) Detailed strategies are listed below:****1. Encourage regeneration by group fellings**

- a. Check first whether regeneration is likely to be successful:
 - i. Survey for recent or previous regeneration
 - ii. Establish a trial site and monitor regeneration over 3-4 years, if in doubt.
- a. Felled area should be cleared of bracken and weeds, by spraying with herbicide.
- b. Size of trial site to be approx. 0.1ha. (32m X 32m).
Location: There must be mature parent trees adjacent and preferably surrounding area. If single parent tree, try to place area downwind of tree (prevailing wind direction).
- c. As saplings develop, weed control must be continued, possibly enclosing selected saplings in shelters and then spraying again.
- e. If regeneration is not proving successful, then planting must be considered.

2. Establish coppice management?

- d. Consider this option although there is no evidence of Smith's Wood having been coppiced historically.
- e. The availability of long-term labour resources to undertake this work also needs to be considered.

3. Maintain a dead-wood resource

- a. Check availability of dead wood in woodland, both standing and lying
- b. If shortage of dead wood:
 - Select suitable areas away from main paths
 - Use trees felled for thinning or group fellings for lying dead-wood.
 - If no standing dead wood, select diseased or poorly formed trees for ring-barking. Treat birch in preference to oak or ash. Min. dia. 20cm.
 - Do not ring-bark well-formed or healthy mature trees.
 - Ring-bark approx. 3-5 trees per hectare

4. Introduce Rides or Glades (secondary habitats)

The introduction of a ride or glade into Smith's Wood should be considered. As the eastern section is already cut by several large all-weather paths, the western section seems most suitable. In particular, the area of burnt-out trees in the southern end of the western section (see Target Notes, sheet 3) could be cleared and converted into a glade.

Glades: density of glades: one glade, dimensioned as below, per 3-4 ha of woodland.

- Size of glades: One and a half canopy tree lengths across, for full daylight effect, and preferably rounded in shape.
- Existing glades: expand existing glades to the dimensions shown above.
- Location: Glades should be a 'stop-off' on clear ride(s) or path (s) as they will be used by the public. Glades adjoining ponds are beneficial to both habitats. Glades can also be formed by removing corners from ride junctions.
- Options: Consider planting native shrubs around edge of glade. Leave some felled trunks and short wood to minimise destruction of stands by some young adults.
- Maintenance: As for rides, above.

5. Protect and select existing regeneration

- a. Protect area from public by fencing or signage (in busy areas only).
- b. Select best saplings at 3-4 years old, apply shelters and cut back or spray/weed-wipe competitors.
- c. If weed or grass competition is a problem, spray each year for 3 years in spring and, if required, late summer.
- d. If regenerated trees are going to suffer from shading, gradually open the canopy by felling some of the immediately surrounding parent trees as the young trees develop. This needs careful monitoring each year and a measured approach.

6. Weed Control**a. General Rules re Weeding**

- i. Application by knapsack sprayer or weed wiper in compliance with all legislation for chemicals management, health and safety and code of practice – obtain detailed guidance on this matter.

b. Control Rhododendron and Laurel.

- i. Seedlings and plants under 0.5m: treat with glyphosate, triclopyr or ammonium sulphate. Plants over 0.5m : clear with bill hook, handsaw and/or chainsaw down to stumps during autumn/winter. Spray stumps and all re-growth in mid-May to end June or before re-growth has reached 1.0m tall.

c. Weed control of regeneration areas

- i. Apply herbicide to site in July-August following clearance of trees from the area. Before taking any action, consult owner's senior ecological officer.

FIVE YEAR PLAN OF OPERATIONS (S.M.A.R.T.)

Years 1-5

- E. Initiate natural regeneration**
 - i. Fell test areas and monitor for 3-4 years, i.a.w. protocol above.
 - ii. Control weeds in regeneration areas, i.a.w. protocol, if required.
- F. Selection and protection of natural regeneration**
 - i. Carry out in all test areas and other areas where regeneration of desired species has occurred; in accordance with protocol above.
- J. Extraction of timber**
 - i. Extract all timber arising from group fellings, using either forwarder or, in wet/sensitive areas, horse or forwarder with low impact tyres.
- K. Dead wood resource**
 - i. Leave sufficient felled trees as dead wood resource. Standing dead trees to be left, if necessary using ring barking i.a.w. protocol above.
- L. Introduce new glade in western section**
 - i. Carry out felling as required to create new glade, as identified on Plan and in Long Term Proposals above.
- M. Ecological/archaeological procedures**
 - i. All operations to be carried out i.a.w. protocols concerning Protected Species (if any), Nesting birds, Water habitats, Archaeological features.
- N. Wood pastures**
 - i. Carry out special mowing regime under trees in area shown as Target Note 3, i.a.w. above protocol.

Years 6-10

- R. Natural regeneration – extension of area**
 - i. If group fellings have produced successful regeneration, carry out further group fellings, as per Plan, with min. 40m. gaps between felled areas.
- S. Natural regeneration – protection and selection**
 - i. Carry out i.a.w. protocol above. This includes natural regeneration which is not in the areas of group fellings.
- U. Control invasive species**
 - i. Control invasive species i.a.w. 'Weed Control' protocol above.

9**FC
2000**

WOODLAND LONG TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN

REF No. NWP015/207

MONITORING & REFERENCES

SITE NAME: SMITHS WOOD

COMPILED BY: ALAN GUY. MIDDLEMARCH
ENVIRONMENTAL LTD**MONITORING**

Survey Wood once per year for the following:

- successful regeneration anywhere on site, particularly in trial areas.
- general health of canopy and understorey
- dangerous trees near well-used paths
- damage to trees or ground layer: deliberate or accidental
- damage to paths or forest floor from pedestrians, cyclists etc
- disease
- squirrel or deer damage in trees
- rabbit or deer damage to regeneration areas, coppice areas or newly planted trees/shrubs
- invasive species
- dumping of inert matter or other waste NB do not try to inspect suspicious substances, bags or containers: contact Environmental Health

REFERENCES

Woodland Strategy for Solihull. Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council Environment Services July 2000