

## 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1.1 Location

1.1.1 Perivale Wood is located at GR TQ163808. It lies in the Brent Valley just south of Horsendon Hill and about 4 miles north of the Thames. It straddles the parishes of Greenford and Perivale in the London Borough of Ealing. For further information see fig1. It is situated off a side street in a suburban area but there is a good deal of other open land within one km of the Reserve.

### 1.2 Summary description

1.2.1 The reserve occupies about 11 hectares (27 acres) of which 7 ha is woodland. It slopes gently from the Grand Union canal, which forms its northern boundary, down to the south and lies 23-29 metres above sea level.

1.2.2 The woodland is oak (pedunculate) with a predominantly hazel understory. Coppicing has been re-introduced in recent years in part of the wood. The west side the wood is dominated by suckering elm which provides an area of glade/edge habitat.

1.2.3 The north of the wood consists of an old Victorian rubbish dump which is higher than the rest of the reserve. It has a completely different flora to the wood, being dominated by small elms, elder and nettles. The eastern and southern hedge are bounded by 'hedges'. These are discontinuous, varying between a good laid hedge, a line of shrubs, linear blackthorn thicket, dead hedging and fill-in fence.

1.2.4 Surrounding the wood on the east, south and west are three pastures. These are maintained by grazing of horses, supplemented by occasional clearance as necessary. The pastures have appreciably different floras which may be accentuated by the grazing regime.

1.2.5 To the south-west is a heterogeneous area called the Pondfield which used to be pasture. The reserve has two small ponds in addition to the Pondfield and a stream; however these dry up regularly.

1.2.6 The reserve is fully fenced and access is restricted to members of the Selborne Society except on designated days.

1.2.7 There is a wooden hut which is used for meetings, discussions and teaching purposes, a shed for storing tools and equipment and a small bird hide.

### 1.3 Land tenure

1.3.1 Perivale Wood is owned freehold by the Selborne Society. The Society's constitution has a number of aims relating to conservation in general but the Society's main reason for existing and its main focus of activity is Perivale Wood.

### 1.4 Map Coverage

1.4.1 There are no detailed large-scale maps. However a small map was drawn with the aid of surveying equipment in 1973 (this is the basis of figs 2 and 3).

## 1.5 Photographic coverage

1.5.1 There is a considerable collection of slides and photos. These are mostly in individual's houses and have not been fully sorted or catalogued. There are also a few old aerial photos which show some history of the reserve.

## **2 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

### 2.1 Climate

2.1.1 In 1984 the climate was described (ref 1, 6.2) as “ .. temperate with a mean annual temperature of 11deg (?) and extreme temperatures uncommon. Rainfall is modest at about 570mm pa but is well distributed, falling on average some 140 days in the year. The daily average of sunshine is about 4 hours”. It is believed this is now substantially inaccurate. Rainfall is now persistently lower with drought and long periods of hot sunny weather occurring in most summers. (This is a matter of general observation - we do not have local meteorological records to support this). A change in winter and/or spring temperatures is indicated by the fact that the bluebells now reach their peak of flowering one or two weeks earlier than they did twenty years ago.

### 2.2 Air pollution

2.2.1 The amount of larger particulate matter (smoke) and sulphur dioxide pollution have reduced in the last few decades and are normally well below official guidelines. Sulphur dioxide however remains the main reason almost certainly for the low diversity of lichens. The main threat to air quality now is probably now from motor traffic. Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) levels in particular are high in the borough, sometimes exceeding National Air Quality Strategy standards. NO<sub>2</sub> is measured in Perivale Wood with a diffusion tube placed out each month as part of a network of sites in the borough. Initial indications are that pollution levels are typical of 'background sites' and about half of that of road-side sites. Information on other pollutants such as ozone is not available, but based on information from other locations, the levels of pollutants could be sufficient to have ecological effects.

### 2.3 Hydrology

2.3.1 There are no natural ponds or streams although there are 4 artificial ponds, a stream and a couple of drainage channels. The stream drains from Horsendon Hill to the north and under the canal; however it only runs occasionally. The drainage channels had not carried water for several years until the winter of 98/99. There are number of slight depressions in the pastures and the wood and these become wet or flooded after sustained wet weather, although less frequently now than in previous years. A large area in the north-west of the wood used to be regularly wet but now is not.

2.3.2 The soil is generally drier than in earlier years, the woodland and pasture soils often being dry outside the summer months. It is now very rare for the pastures to be squelchy. It is surmised that the water table has fallen appreciably in the last 15 years.

2.3.3 The movement of groundwater is not well understood. We believe there is a general flow from north to south; indeed the top part of the “paddock” appears to get wet due to leakage from the canal. There is also a flush in the Pondfield which emanates from the adjacent IBM sites to the west; but this has

also reduced in recent years. Extensive rebuilding has taken place on the IBM site and this is thought to have adversely affected both groundwater and the stream.

2.3.4 Ground and surface water entering the reserve comes from the highly urbanised surroundings. As a result, there may be appreciable amounts of pollutants in the water. However, no analysis of the water has been undertaken.

## 2.4 Geology

2.4.1 Perivale Wood is underlain throughout by London Clay although outside the reserve, notably on Horsendon Hill, the clay is capped in places by sandy or loamy Claygate beds. For more detail see ref 1, app 1.

## 2.5 Geomorphology

2.5.1 The reserve generally slopes down gently from north to south in a concave manner ie steepest at the north end. Superimposed on this are slight undulations. The natural contours are obscured in north by the "Mound" and "Dust Heap" which form a continuous bank of 2-4 metres high. Beyond this bank and beyond the edge of the Reserve comes the canal before the natural contours emerge again on Horsendon Hill.

## 2.6 Soils

2.6.1 The soils are derived from London Clay and have developed over long periods with fairly stable semi-natural vegetation. The soils were surveyed and analysed in 1961 (ref 1, app 1). The soils are described as *non-calcareous surface water gley*.

2.6.2 Three main phases were recognised:

- a in the undisturbed woodland is the "natural phase" with a moder humus rich in organic matter overlying the clay. The pH is of the topsoil is as low as 3.5.
- b in the wet elm part of the wood is a somewhat distinct "wet phase" soil which lacks the distinct top horizons. The nutrient levels are lower and the pH much higher.
- c in the pastures is the "grassland phase" with a mull humus, moderate nutrient status and moderate pH.

The situation may have changed since 1961 with the loss of the big elms and the drying of the wood, so it is unclear if the wet phase still exists.

2.6.3 There is also an unnatural soil derived from rubbish, the latter being a heterogeneous mixture of unweatherable material and highly organic material. The soil is rich in nutrients and is not acid.

# **3 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT**

## 3.1 Flora

3.1.1 Some 380 spp of flowering plant have been recorded at Perivale Wood since records began in 1911. Some of these are now extinct, some are ephemerals that were recorded once and some are accidental or deliberate exotic introductions. About 180 spp are present on a regular basis.

3.1.2 Starting with a survey in 1914 by Shenstone, recording of the flora has improved over the years. The reserve has been divided up into some 50 compartments and each has been thoroughly recorded in the last 10 years.

3.1.3 There are no outstanding rarities present; however a number of locally uncommon spp are present eg wild service tree (*Sorbus torminalis*), adder's tongue fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) and yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*). Two uncommon grass hybrids have also been recorded - *Festulolium braunii* and *F. loliaceum*.

3.1.4 Some 50 spp of moss and 11 spp of liverworts have been recorded. However, bryophytes have not been recorded regularly over the years.

3.1.5 The number of recorded lichen spp is small. However, a couple of new ones have been recorded over the past 15 years which are indicative of an improvement in air quality in respect of SO<sub>2</sub>.

3.1.6 The fungi have been exceptionally well recorded over the last 5 years. There is now a list of over 900 spp (including microscopic ones) comprising some 850 true fungi and 70 slime moulds (myxomycetes). The few sites in Britain with a larger list are mainly larger areas and contain a greater variety of habitats.

3.1.7 A number of spp new to Britain have been recorded, although most are microscopic and may not in fact be rare. One macroscopic spp is *Hemimycena epichloe*, fruiting on rotting grass stems. A small but distinctive ascomycete *Aniptodera fusiformis* on rotten wood in the Pondfield is new to Europe, having been previously recorded just once in a creek in Illinois.

3.1.8 Two spp are known only to Perivale Wood and have been published as new to science. *Antrodia pseudosinuosa* is a polypore found on a single log of elm that died of Dutch elm disease. *Orbilinia fimicoloides* is a small discomycete found on vole dung. A number of other collections have not proved nameable at Kew and may also be undescribed spp.

## 3.2 Fauna

3.2.1 Birds have been well recorded over the years and there is an extensive list. Of particular note are sparrowhawk and hobby which have bred in the Reserve in recent years. All three British spp of woodpecker are recorded.

3.2.2 A number of small mammals are known including one record of harvest mouse and a very old record of dormouse. Moles are present under the wood but not under the pastures. Other mammals include the fox, grey squirrel and hedgehog. Stoat was recorded many years ago but the weasel is more regular. The rabbit has surprisingly not returned since myxomatosis (but there was one sighting in 2000). Horses, introduced to graze, are present each summer. Domestic cats frequent the area.

3.2.3 The herpetological fauna consists of common frog, toad and smooth newt. Slowworm are regularly found and grass-snake has been recorded.

3.2.4 Insects have generally been poorly recorded. However a recent survey using pitfall traps found some 180 spp of invertebrate in two of the pastures. 24 spp of butterfly have been recorded, of which about 19 probably breed and some 260 spp of moth. Hoverflies and bumble bees have also been relatively well recorded.

### 3.3 Communities

3.3.1 A number of communities have been recognised in Perivale Wood. These are described in simple ad-hoc terms; no attempt has been made to classify them using, for example, the NVC. See fig 2 for a map showing the extent of the communities as described in ref 6. Fig 3 is a larger scale sketch map showing the names used in the descriptions and plans. The communities are described briefly below:

#### Close-canopy oak wood

3.3.2 Perivale Wood is an example of an old coppice-with-standards woodland - an unlikely survivor in suburban west London. The standards are pedunculate oak. The only other high canopy tree is ash which occurs mainly around the edges. The understory includes, in addition to hazel, hawthorn (common and some midland), blackthorn, crab apple, maple, elder, cherry, grey willow and wild service.

3.3.3 The larger part of the wood used to be coppiced but this was abandoned after the last war. Currently, this is being left to develop undisturbed. In a small part of the wood, near the centre, coppicing has been re-introduced and a small area is now coppiced each year.

3.3.4 Perivale Wood is recognised as one of the finest examples of a bluebell wood - a magnificent sight in spring with some 6 million bluebells. The reason for such a concentration of bluebells with such a paucity of other field layer plants except bramble is not understood.

#### Elm edge

3.3.5 The area along the south-west edge of the wood is dominated by English elm. Some of the biggest trees of the reserve grew in a line along the western boundary and would have been planted or allowed to grow in the hedge line. The extensive area of smaller trees and suckers is presumed to arise from these big trees. It is apparent that the elm was highly competitive and given time might have ousted the oak to become the climax vegetation. All the mature elms died of Dutch Elm disease and have now fallen and largely rotted away but the suckering continues and the elm area still forms a distinct community of dense elm suckers with occasional oak standards and other trees.

3.3.6 Because there are relatively few standard trees near the western edge, this area has a distinctive extended woodland edge character, termed here woodland edge/glade. It is somewhat similar to a glade because, while the woodland proper does not extend west, there is a fair amount of tall scrub in hedge and close by in the adjacent pastures, enclosing the area as in a glade or ride.

#### Wet elm

3.3.7 A small area to the north-west was recognised as a distinct habitat in 1974 (ref 6). Because of drying out, it is doubtful if it is now distinct from the elm edge.

#### Clearings

3.3.8 Within the wood are several clearings which were made by felling a few oaks. The clearings are fairly small and as a result are often still rather shaded. The communities lie somewhere between the loose canopy wood around the clearing and the communities one might expect in a developing open area. Only two clearings, the Central Clearing and the Gilbert White Clearing, are now distinct and easily recognised as clearings.

## Hedges

3.3.9 The southern edge of the wood is bounded by a 'hedge' which in fact varies in its composition along its length including: lines of large shrubs (mainly hawthorn); dense bands of blackthorn; newly laid hedge; dead hedging; infill fencing.

3.3.10 The Eastern hedge is a recognisable hedge in parts, although not as large and dense as one might wish and is part of an old hedge and bank system. It was neglected for many years. Towards the north, the hedge degenerates and in the northern third it has developed into a thick band of blackthorn scrub, encroaching into the Paddock. The southern part has been restored by re-laying and attempts are being made to restore/replant the centre section. The hedge forms the boundary between the parishes of Perivale to the east and Greenford to the west. Despite its neglect, it retains some of the characters of an ancient hedge with about 7 spp of woody plant per 30 yard stretch and a rich associated flora.

## Old rubbish dump

3.3.11 The north of the wood consists of an old Victorian rubbish dump which is higher than the rest of the reserve. It has a completely different flora to the wood, dominated by small elms, elder and nettles.

## Pastures

3.3.12 Surrounding the wood on the east, south and west are three pastures, the Paddock, Willow Mead and Little Elms Meadow. The pastures are well-established, neutral, unimproved grassland, an uncommon habitat in the area. They are maintained by grazing of horses, supplemented by occasional clearance as necessary. The pastures have a fairly rich flora particularly the northern end of the Paddock. The flora of the three fields are appreciably different and this may be accentuated by the grazing regime.

## Ponds

3.3.13 The reserve has two small ponds in addition to the Pondfield; these have water most of the time but are now prone to dry up in the summer. There is also a stream running from north to south, sometimes just inside and sometimes just outside the western boundary. It is meant to feed the three ponds; unfortunately it has rarely flowed in recent years.

## Pondfield

3.3.14 To the south-west is a heterogeneous area called the Pondfield which used to be pasture. It consists of a large but temporary pond with reeds and great water grass which is being invaded by dryland plants. There is a wide range of other plants including a range of introduced trees.

## Miscellaneous

3.3.15 In addition to the main habitats, there are a number of small miscellaneous areas such as the area around the hut and an area affected by rubble from the industrial site next door.

## 4 CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

#### 4.1 Archaeology

4.1.1 There is no known archaeological significance of Perivale Wood.

#### 4.2 Land use

4.2.1 Perivale Wood is maintained solely as a nature reserve.

#### 4.3 Past management in nature conservation

4.3.1 Perivale Wood is the second oldest nature reserve in the country (Wicken Fen is the oldest). It became a bird sanctuary in 1902 and was purchased in 1922. The woodland is, as far as is known, derived from the primary woodlands which grew up after the last ice age although it has been heavily used and managed since.

4.3.2 The pastures were extant before the land was incorporated into the reserve but their previous history is not known.

#### 4.4 Public interest

4.4.1 Perivale Wood is well known amongst the local community. Its "Open Day" is a popular event with a thousand or more people attending. It is the premier nature conservation site in the Borough of Ealing and attracts by far the most interest and attention in respect of education and research. The Selborne Society, which owns and runs it, has a membership of over 700, a huge number for a local group of any type.

### **5 ECOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT**

5.1 Perivale Wood is a rare and fine example of a bluebell wood in the London area. It is well-established, secure and relatively well-recorded and is unique in terms of its recorded fungus flora. It is well used by interested and concerned people, but because of the restricted access, its nature conservation potential has not been compromised. The first priority for management is therefore to retain its nature conservation value. The second priority is to increase its value to the local community.

## PART 2 - EVALUATION

### 1 CONSERVATION STATUS OF SITE

#### 1.1 History

1.1.1 Perivale Wood is the second oldest nature reserve in the country (Wicken Fen is the oldest). It became a bird sanctuary in 1902 and was purchased in 1922. The woodland is, as far as is known, derived from the primary woodlands which grew up after the last ice age although it has been heavily used and managed since. The pastures were extant before being incorporated into the Reserve but their previous history is not known.

#### 1.2 Designations

1.2.1 Perivale Wood is designated as a SSSI under Section 23 of the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. It is also a Local Nature Reserve under Section 21 of the Act, being the first in the borough of Ealing. It is designated by the London Ecology Unit as a Site of Metropolitan Importance.

#### 1.3 Site description

#### 1.4 Operations likely to damage the special interest

1.4.1 The biggest threat is climate change, the effects of which we believe we are already seeing in Perivale Wood. Lower rainfall may threaten the viability and health of the huge bluebell population because bluebells are sensitive to the water regime. Drying out of ponds and pastures will lead to profound changes in the flora and in certain fauna.

1.4.2 Perivale Wood is a small area is bounded in parts by land which is intensively used. The industrial sites to the east and west pose a particular threat because change of use and re-building can alter the water flows. The loss of water from the west side of the reserve side some years ago is correlated with re-development of the IBM site, not with drought.

1.4.3 There are difficulties in adjusting the grazing regime, in particular the number of horses, to the needs of the pastures. (This assumes that the most desirable regime is understood which is probably not the case.)

1.4.4 The Reserve is run by volunteers and the Selborne Society has limited funds to bring in contractors. The lack of time and effort from volunteers is threat to all aspects of the reserve.

1.4.5 Although the site is owned by the Selborne Society and is thus more secure than most, there is a generalised threat because of its location in a heavily built up area where land is at a premium and is very expensive. While there is no immediate threat, the continuing predilection for road-building must pose a threat to this as to many other SSSIs.

#### 1.5 Site definition and boundaries

1.5.1 The Reserve's size and shape result from the history of land acquisition by the Selborne Society. The urbanisation of Perivale at that time would have prevented enlargement, even if the money had been available for more land purchase. Generally the site is well defined, with clear fences and known owners

on all sides. On the west side, however, there is uncertainty. The current fence is inside what we believe to be the true boundary. Many years ago, the Society unwisely agreed to an easement of the boundary which gave a strip of to the predecessors of IBM and put the stream partly on their land. The stream has been abused since then. However, in 99/00 redevelopment of the IBM site gave the opportunity to secure the western edge of the reserve in habitat terms. A Royal Mail sorting office was built and as part of the planning consent, the Society was able to negotiate 20 metre buffer zone with a bund and a fence to cut out sound and light. The buffer zone has been thinly planted with native trees and shrubs and will be allowed to colonise naturally, so it is now, in effect, an extension of the Reserve.

5.2 The Grand Union Canal forms a natural boundary on the north side of the reserve. In fact the wood used to extend further north - the building of the canal in about 1800 cut off a strip which has since degraded. Beyond the canal, however, is a large expanse of open land called Horsendon Hill which is now managed sympathetically for wildlife. Perivale Wood in many respects forms part of this much larger ecological unit. The woodland on Horsendon Hill (now only a relic and some distance to the NE) and that of Perivale Wood used to be continuous.

1.5.3 The land to the west, while basically an industrial/ commercial site, is valuable for conservation. It is a large site and some of it has already been set aside for habitat creation and improvement. The owners, IBM, have shown a desire to co-operate with the Selborne Society in developing a 'buffer zone' on the eastern side of their land adjacent to Perivale Wood.

## 2 EVALUATION OF FEATURES

### 2.1 Size

2.1.1 The Reserve appear to be sufficiently large for viable and self-sustaining populations of many plants, breeding birds, small mammals and invertebrates. The size and boundaries may be a limitation on larger mammals such as rabbits and deer. Some of the habitats such as ponds, wet ground and clearings are small and may not provide a sufficient area for the less common spp.

### 2.2 Diversity

There is a wide range of habitats within a relatively small area. This leads to a considerable diversity of spp. Within the individual habitats, diversity may not be particularly large; however the diversity of higher plant spp in the pasture is considerable as is the fungus flora of the wood.

### 2.3 Naturalness

Perivale Wood was a managed or 'working' wood before it became a nature reserve and is thus not wholly natural. It has however always been a wood as far as we are aware and it is therefore as natural a habitat as one is likely to find in the region. Within the confines of the built-up area of London, its naturalness is exceptional and is one of its most attractive features.

### 2.4 Rarity

Semi-natural woodland is clearly rare in the London area and there are no woodlands of comparable nature, size and interest for many miles to the north, south and east. (A large tract of woodland, Ruislip Woods, lies about 9km away to the west north west. The history of the pastures is not known but there is no evidence of 'improvement'. The pastures therefore may well be good examples of traditionally

managed grassland. Being the only known site in the world for two spp of fungi, Perivale Wood has exceptional rarity. (It may of course be the case that these fungi exist at other sites. Until they are proved to exist at many other sites, however, Perivale Wood must be assumed to be of critical importance for these fungi and for preservation of biodiversity. To assume otherwise would be contrary to the "precautionary principle".

### 2.5 Fragility

The habitat are not particularly fragile except in the sense that the pond and wet areas are obviously dependant on a good supply of water..

### 2.6 Typicalness

Perivale Wood is probably typical of the many coppiced woods that used to exist in Middlesex and the pasture is probably typical of the ones in the area before it was urbanised. The habitats can hardly be called typical now, at least on a local scale, because there is so little ancient wood and pasture left.

### 2.7 Recorded history

Although recording of activities and wildlife has been patchy, the data on Perivale Wood is very good by normal standards. Not only is there now a lot of data on plants, birds and fungi; there is a fair history of records, enabling one to assess changes and trends.

### 2.8 Position in ecological units

See 1.5.2 for a discussion of Horsendon Hill to the north. Perivale Wood is also very close to a swathe of open land, some 5km long, called the Brent River Park.

### 2.9 Potential value

Most of the habitats are mature and valuable already and attempts to enhance them could be counter-productive. A notable exception is ponds and wet ground where security of water supply would greatly enhance the conservation value. There is clearly potential to increase the educational value of the reserve, in particular by providing more interpretative facilities. There is also great potential for more research, measuring and recording.

### 2.10 Intrinsic appeal

Visitors to Perivale Wood never fail to be impressed by the beauty and serenity of the place. The juxtaposition of deciduous woodland and pastures with grazing horses is particularly attractive while the sight of millions of bluebells carpeting the ground in spring is sensational. Perivale Wood would be notably attractive even if it were situated in fine countryside; its location in west London increases its appeal by virtue of its difference and accessibility. First-time visitors are amazed that such a gem exists in the drabness of suburbia.

### 2.11 Identification/confirmation of important features

### 2.12 The site in a wider perspective and implications for management

2.12.1 Perivale Wood is designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance in London. As one of a network of SSSIs, it is recognised as having some outstanding features and being one of the more important sites for conservation in the country. The signing of the Biodiversity Convention and the production of Biodiversity Action Plans emphasises the need for sites such as Perivale Wood to play their full part in preservation of biodiversity. The primary aim of the Biodiversity Convention is encapsulated in “ .. to conserve and where practicable enhance the overall populations and natural ranges of wildlife, habitats and ecosystems .. ”. This and the other objectives indicate that, even without spectacular rarities, highly threatened spp or unusual habitats, Perivale Wood has a valuable role to play in the local, regional, national, european and world arena.

2.12.2 In fact, Perivale Wood has some spectacular rarities in terms of its fungi (see Part 1, 4.17,18). This alone makes it worthy of the strongest protection.

2.12.3 The fact that Perivale Wood has a long history as a nature reserve, that it has a long history of recording and research, that it is more secure than most sites, and that it is readily accessible to a large population, means it is ideally placed to act as a focus for study and research and thereby act as a lead site for promoting conservation.

2.12.4 Many SSSIs are rather anonymous - perhaps a small part of a farm or estate, not managed separately and with nothing to distinguish them in the public eye. Perivale Wood is more well known than many other SSSIs and nature reserves - it has a fairly high profile and a whole organisation which deals with it. It is therefore well placed to engage the public and raise awareness of conservation issues generally.

2.12.5 Perivale Wood is a fine example of a particularly English phenomenon - a bluebell wood. Also, bluebells and deciduous woods are attractive and popular. The bluebell and the state of bluebell woods could be used as an indicator of the state of our countryside and our environment. These factors could enable Perivale Wood to become a ‘showpiece’ reserve.

### 2.13 Specified limits

## PART 3 - OBJECTIVES, ISSUES AND CONSTRAINTS

### 1 IDEAL MANAGEMENT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

#### 1.1 Introduction

It is important that there is a set of 'ideal' aims and objectives. These are long term aims and do not generally consider the logistics or constraints which might prevent them being achieved. Unless these ideals are documented, understood and accepted, there is unlikely to be a proper vision or a coherent or effective management regime intended to realise the aims. There are also a larger number of shorter term objectives, usually with a narrower scope, which are intended to feed into the ideal objectives and explicitly take account of logistics and constraints.

#### 1.2 Ideal aims

The set of ideal aims or 'missions' are, in priority order

#### **OVERALL AIMS OF MANAGEMENT**

- 1 Contribute to nature conservation and to the preservation of biodiversity
- 2 Develop the reserve as a focus for research and recording
- 3 Enhance opportunities for education, enjoyment and experiencing conservation in action

#### 1.3 Objectives

The aims listed in 1.2 are broad and potentially very wide-ranging. Each of these 3 aims is considered and a rationale is applied to convert them into more tangible objectives.

##### Aim 1

Nature conservation and preservation of biodiversity can be considered at local, regional, national and international levels. Perivale Wood can make a contribution at all of these levels. At first sight it might appear that biodiversity can be maximised by having a large number of different habitat types. While such a policy might maximise biodiversity in the reserve itself and thus enhance the attractiveness of the reserve when considered in isolation, it is unlikely to support biodiversity the objectives on a wider scale. Perivale Wood already has a lot of habitats, some very small in area. Any new habitats would be likely to be poor examples of the type, being small, unstable and spp-poor, thus adding little to biodiversity beyond the reserve. The biggest contribution Perivale Wood can make is to protect and enhance those habitats which are already sizeable, good or of special significance.

The most important in habitats in general terms are the oak woodland and pastures. The elm woodland is of some intrinsic interest in the way it develops in the post Dutch elm disease era. The other habitats, while valuable, are of lesser or more local interest.

In the light of the above, the first aim can be translated into a number of more detailed objectives':

**OBJECTIVES TO SUPPORT CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY**

- 1a Maintain and enhance the wood as an example of lowland pedunculate oak woodland with areas of coppicing
- 1b Maintain and enhance the pastures as an example of old unimproved neutral meadow
- 1c Allow evolution of the elm woodland edge (but intervene where necessary to protect special spp)
- 1d Retain and enhance the woodland clearings, edges and hedges
- 1e Extend and enhance the ponds, restore the water flow and enhance water retention

**Aim 2**

There is a considerable history of recording at Perivale Wood and a certain amount of more detailed research has also been done. This gives a useful basis for further work. Research and recording could also benefit from: the known history and context; access to records; support by the Selborne Society and its members; an indoors location (the hut); a secure place to store equipment and samples; the long term security of the site. It is also appropriate that research and recording should be focused at a place that is an SSSI and LNR and which is known to have an exceptional biota.

There is a wide range of habitats and interests at Perivale Wood as well as certain features of special interest. Thus there is a need for recording of the full range of biota with particular emphasis on filling the gaps, that is on groups where little has been done so far. More intensive recording and research is needed on the features of special interest. It is recognised that specialist help will be needed; however the status and pre-existing records of Perivale Wood should assist when encouraging the experts to spend their valuable time here.

In the light of the above, the second aim may also be translated into a number of more detailed objectives:

**OBJECTIVES TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND RECORDING**

- 2a Continue periodic recording of higher plants by Compartment
- 2b Restore, regularise or intensify as appropriate the recording of bryophytes, fungi, insects, birds and larger mammals
- 2c Institute systematic recording of other groups eg small mammals, invertebrates, algae
- 2d Institute research into matters of conservation importance at the reserve, eg the effect of grazing intensity on flora of the pastures
- 2e Encourage research into a wide range of wildlife and ecological issues

2f Institute research and recording on broader ecological and environmental matters such as hydrology, air, soil and weather

### Aim 3

While it is desirable to increase opportunities for education, enjoyment and for experiencing conservation in action, these must not place at risk the conservation value. There are other places in the borough which are suitable for general-purpose activities and where there is less risk of damage. Attention should be focused on those activities where Perivale Wood would offer particular advantages such as an enclosed site, a juxtaposition of features and a large society to support the public. The objectives are :

#### **OBJECTIVES TO SUPPORT EDUCATION, ENJOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE**

- 3a Improve the facilities such as hut and toilets for the use of occasional visitors and the regulars
- 3b Improve 'interpretation' features of the reserve
- 3c Use reserve to demonstrate conservation in action and traditional woodland management
- 3d Increase the educational potential, particularly for adults

## **2 FACTORS INFLUENCING MANAGEMENT**

### 2.1 Natural trends

2.1.1 The oak trees and to a lesser extent other trees and shrubs are rather even-aged. This means the wood is to some extent unnatural, is potentially unstable and is low in diversity of micro-habitats.

### 2.2 Man-induced trends

2.2.1 Trends which are in a sense man-induced are included in 2.3 below

### 2.3 External factors

- Change in weather/climate
- Reduction of some air pollutants and increase in others
- Public interest and support for conservation
- Central government policy and legislation
- Local government policy, practice and support
- Local Agenda 21 interest and commitment

### 2.4 Obligations

2.4.1 There are no formal obligations other than the normal ones pertaining to land ownership, running a society and undertaking physical works. These include health and safety responsibilities for visitors and people working on site.

2.4.2 The Selborne Society is concerned with conservation in the wider context, not just in Perivale Wood. The Society works closely with the Council and other voluntary groups to promote conservation in the borough at large. Given severe staff and money constraints, work done by voluntary groups is of vital importance. The Society has an informal obligation, by use of the Reserve and otherwise, to promote and support conservation at a borough-wide level. Where there are plans which might harm conservation interests, it has an informal obligation to try and change the views of those concerned or, failing that, to oppose their plans.

2.4.3 The Society has been nominated as one of the lead organisations to develop a *Biodiversity Action Plan* for the borough of Ealing.

## 2.5 Legal constraints

2.5.1 There are no special legal constraints. There are of course the normal legal constraints and requirements pertaining to land ownership, running a society and undertaking physical works.

## 2.6 Management constraints

- Mainly voluntary labour
- Limited money and reluctance to spend it
- Lack of access to woodland for heavy machinery
- Need to gain agreement and support of members for radical action

## 2.7 Impact assessment

No statement needed

### 3 OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Based on the characteristics of the reserve as described in Part 1, the evaluation of its features as described in Part 2 and the overall objectives and the factors influencing management in Part 3 above, a set of more detailed management objectives have been produced. These range from clear 'prescriptions' ie some self-contained piece of work to be carried in out in a defined manner to a requirement for a study or a decision. In most cases the rationale for the operational objectives is obvious; in a few however some explanation is needed. The set of objectives is listed below.

*Note - This may not be complete. It includes only the habitat management objectives and even these may not be the full set.*

#### OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- 1 Survey and plan for small-scale selective felling and/or pollarding of oaks (may involve deciding on new or extended clearings).
- 2 Continue to coppice the area which has been instituted over the last decade. Decide on precise periodicity of coppice cycle (there could be more than one cycle). Note - the proposed period is 12 years.
- 3 Decide whether to extend the area under coppice. Note - very slight extension only is proposed.
- 4 Leave a significant proportion of the total area of oakwood and sizeable blocks as non-intervention areas.
- 5 Maintain Central Clearing by means of full-scale clearance of vegetation as needed for the convenience of the public.
- 6 Maintain all woodland paths by clearance of vegetation.
- 7 Maintain Gilbert White Clearing by coppicing all tree spp.
- 8 Cut on a cycle of about 4 years the scrub on the western edge of the elm woodland in order to maintain the edge/glade habitat.
- 9 Re-build and re-structure the middle part of the eastern hedge by infilling with shrubs and dead-hedging and by consolidating the new hedge line.
- 10 Continue the process of cutting back the blackthorn thicket northwards for 30m to restore more hedge. (Beyond that, the thicket should be left but the blackthorn suckers and other non-herbaceous plants must cleared, say at 3 year intervals, to prevent further encroachment into the Paddock.)
- 11 Restore live hedges along south and south-west boundary as far as possible. Construct fencing where hedging it is not practicable.

- 12 Maintain all good hedges where by clipping on a cycle of about 3 years (precise period depends on growth of the stretch of hedged concerned). This may require that paths alongside the hedges are cleared.
- 13 Cut back scrub where this is encroaching into the pastures (at about 3 year intervals).
- 14 Remove selected bigger shrubs to restore grassland.
- 15 Continue the grazing regime whereby horses graze Little Elms Meadow (LEM) and Willow Mead (WM) from early May but are only allowed into the Paddock in July.
- 16 Survey the pastures, particularly LEM, for adder's tongue fern and undertake targeted maintenance to encourage it.
- 17 Survey the Pa, particularly the northern half, and adjust the grazing regime, supplemented with selective cutting, as necessary to retain/restore the floristic diversity.
- 18 Dig out the Little Elms Meadow (LEM) pond on a 2 year cycle; half to be dug out and surrounding Glyceria cleared one year and the other half the next year (this is to preserve some continuity of habitat).
- 19 Renovate LEM Pond to prevent loss of water to railway embankment.
- 20 Dig out Upper Woodland Pond as required
- 21 Develop a strategy using expert help and society funds as necessary to increase the supply of water on the west side of the reserve and to hold it.
- 22 Keep the major open areas in the Pondfield (north-east and mid-west parts) clear by removing/coppicing shrubs.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 There is a good deal of experience, thinking and discussion which has led up to the statements and prescriptions in the Plan. It is helpful for the reader to understand this background as this will facilitate involvement and informed debate on changes to the plan. Rather than clutter up the text of parts 2 and 3, it is more convenient to put the rationale in a separate part. This means that the rationale, which is by its nature more discursive than other parts of the plan, can be changed or added to without changing the other parts.

1.2 Many of the principles discussed lead to a number of Management Objectives, not just to one. A set of principles is therefore listed in section 2 and the relevant objectives, ie the ones that they provide a rationale for, are noted.

## 2 RATIONALE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

### 2.1 Felling [Objective 1]

Because of the rather even-aged distribution of trees, the wood is liable to instability and consequent loss of conservation value in the long term. Management to improve the age/size diversity of trees and shrubs is desirable, such as selective felling and perhaps pollarding and limited planting. Any such management must be judicious and limited in extent since disruption can damage the flora and fauna. by damaging habitat continuity.

### 2.2 Avoiding drastic change [Objectives 4,8,13,15,16,18]

The only known spp which are rare nationally or internationally are the fungi. The best way to protect them is to preserve the habitat type, avoid any drastic activities near the fungus's location and to manage specifically to maintain and increase the particular micro-habitat in which it occurs. For the locally uncommon spp, maintenance of the habitat so that it is favourable to their spread and survival is needed.

### 2.3 Scrub clearance [Objectives 10,12,13,14]

While scrub is now recognised more than hitherto as a valuable habitat, there is a reasonable quantity already in PW and it should not be allowed to increase at the expense of the pastures or other open areas. It is therefore necessary to clear any encroaching scrub.

### 2.4 Coppicing [Objectives 2,3]

2.4.1 There has been debate over many years about the desirability of coppicing, how much should be done and where. Most of the wood used to be coppiced when there was a full-time keeper. This was abandoned for several decades until about 1965 when small-scale coppicing was re-started. This was not properly planned and hence no precise coppice area or cycle was defined.

2.4.2 While there was no proper planning of the re-start in 1965 until 1999, it now seems sensible to continue this traditional form of management and provide some continuity in the area where coppicing has been re-started.

2.4.3 By 1999 an almost continuous swathe of coppice had been defined and most had been cut within about the previous 10 years. There were a couple of areas with uncut hazels or ones where the date of cutting was unknown. These areas were not planned - they arose out of the rather haphazard planning and execution. For practical reasons of defining and identifying blocks and also for habitat reasons, these areas should be brought into the coppice area and cycle. ("Coppice area" refers to the whole area under active coppice management.)

2.4.4 As coppicing has not been done over most the wood for many decades, there is now no good continuity argument for extending the area to the rest of the wood. Neither are there good habitat/conservation arguments for doing so. For many years, coppicing has been such an accepted conservation practice that its desirability has barely been questioned. Now there is a reaction and questions are being asked about how good the habitat is compared with uncoppiced woodland. While coppicing may help certain flowers and butterflies, it is doubtful what other conservation advantages there are. Diversity of invertebrates, fungi and bryophytes are almost certainly lower in coppice than in undisturbed wood. It is generally recognised that ancient woodland is a most valuable habitat. The undisturbed parts of PW are probably as close to this as anywhere in London and it would be reckless to disturb such areas without good reason.

2.4.5 Another good reason for limiting the area under coppice is to minimise the manpower needed. The reserve is short of volunteer labour and there is no point in exacerbating the problem. The current size of block is such that it can be done by one person in a couple of days or by a party on a Conservation Day. Because one needs to keep up a continuous cycle, it is especially important not to commit to more than can be maintained in the longer term.

2.4.6 The blocks are far smaller than is ideal for habitat reasons, in particular for maintaining viable populations of spp. Blocks of similar age should be adjacent where possible because two or more blocks of similar age will form a larger area of fairly uniform habitat. In addition, this makes colonisation easier from one block to another.

2.4.7 There has been discussion about the best length of the coppice cycle. In principle, a longish cycle is preferred as it gives a wider range of habitat, from newly cleared to mature coppice. After coppicing a block in PW, bramble often becomes rampant. If the block is re-cut too soon, it never goes or even weakens. While bramble is a valuable habitat in PW, it is already abundant and we do not need more. If, on the other hand, coppice is left for more than about 8 years, its growth suppresses the bramble by shading it out.

2.4.8 Taking into account the above, a plan has been drawn up for coppicing a swathe from near the CC to the GWC over a 12-year cycle. See the "coppicing" task sheet and the map and write-up of the area.

## 2.5 Western edge 'glade'

2.5.1 The great majority of the reserve consists of relatively stable habitat. There is value in having certain areas maintained at an early stage of succession or "arrested succession". This has happened at the west edge of the wood (E of S.Me.P and N of N.Me.P) where dense suckering of elm has been removed along with other spp such as bramble to leave an area 10-15m wide suitable for herbs, grasses and associated spp

2.5.2 The clearance has been done for many years, but this was on a rather spasmodic due to lack of planning and labour. The aim is (1999 onwards) for any particular stretch to be cleared regularly. A

period of 3 years has been chosen as this should enable the grasses and herbs to survive rather than having to re-colonise and because it is fairly easy to clear 3 year's growth (long-handled cutters will remove the elm suckers).

2.5.3 In accordance with the principle of maintaining diversity and also to help spread the work, the clearance will be done in a number of small 'blocks'. Because the blocks are, to some extent contiguous, this will help re-colonisation should spp have been lost since the last cut. There are 3 stretches :

S part of S.Me.P	SW corner of wood to W.P.
N part of S.Me.P	W.P to G.W.P
N.Me.P	P.P. to B.P.

Each stretch will be treated separately and divided into blocks which are done on a 3-year cycle.

## 2.6 Water and drainage

2.6.1 One of the most distinctive features of Perivale Wood has been that parts of it are wet, especially in winter. Indeed, the north west part of the wood was given the name "Wet Elm Woodland" and the pastures are often wet and sometimes waterlogged. This was the case until about 1990, but then a series of dry years led to the wood and the pastures drying out. The years 1999 and 2000 were very wet, making conditions as wet and muddy as ever.

2.6.2 Wet and muddy areas tend to be unpopular with people who may feel they are a "bad thing". There is an attitude that we ought to prevent areas becoming waterlogged and that ditches and drains need to be restored or improved in order to "improve" drainage. Human colonisation has been accompanied by an inexorable programme of drainage. It is now recognised that this can be very harmful to wildlife and habitats and if we wish to protect and enhance them, it is necessary to stop draining areas. Indeed, it may be necessary to redress the situation by actively increasing the supply of water. Increasing the availability of water is now a very common feature of management for nature conservation.

2.6.3 This issue is recognised in the Management Plan for Perivale Wood. There is a presumption against actions which increase the drainage and, as a result, are likely to dry out habitats. The exception is where an area is important mainly for its amenity value, for example the area around the hut, the path to the wood or the access to the Visitor Centre. In such cases, drainage may be undertaken in order to improve access or make it more convenient. Drainage should not be increased, for example by digging out ditches, without good reason and without consideration of the effects on habitats.

## 2.7 Ponds [Objectives 18-22]

2.7.1 Ponds are naturally temporary features and generally, the smaller a pond, the shorter its life. In large areas of wilderness this is not an issue. As some ponds go, others form and this flux, maintained over a wide area, ensures that the diversity of habitat and its fauna and flora is preserved. In the smaller and less natural areas which we now have, this is not the case. Ponds are a fairly uncommon, even endangered, habitat and they may be influenced, spoiled or destroyed by non-natural processes. Nor will new ponds just appear. Today, therefore, ponds cannot be allowed to disappear thoughtlessly or by default. It is now necessary to 'manage' ponds, at least to the extent of monitoring them and deciding whether to leave them or to intervene.

2.7.2 In PW the ponds are few and are small in extent but they provide a significant amount of the interest and biodiversity. Also, each one of the ponds is very different in character. All the existing ponds should therefore be retained, being dug out or otherwise renovated at intervals.

## 2.8 Dead wood policy

### HISTORY

Note – Only changes to Parts 1-4 and to the general sections of Part 5 (eg rationale) are listed here. Updates on the projects and tasks in Part 5 are dated along with the entry.

- 1997 - Parts 1,2, and 3 up to list of (22) operational objectives
- Autumn 98 - Comments provided by Peter G, but changes not incorporated at this stage
- Dec 1998 - Rationale for coppice
  - Re-write of Dec 98 after crash (Part 4, 2.4 and Part 5, task 2)
- Jan 1999 Rationale for W edge glade (Part 4, 2.5 and Part 5, Task 3)
- Mar 1999 Small changes to wording and typos including Peter G ones.
- Feb 2000 Addition of section on drainage (Part 4, 2.6)
- April 2000 Project "Maintain Pondfield Pond" written (Task 4)
  - Rationale for pond maintenance written (4/2.7)
- June 2000 Minor updates to Part 1, eg yellow rattle, rabbit, the bund
- Sep 2000 Section on water and drainage added (Part 4, 2.6).
- Sep 2001 Heading on dead wood added (Part 4, 2.8)

### Figs

- 1 Map of area
- 2 Maps of reserve - topological
- 3 " " " names of paths etc
- 4 blank task sheet (5/1.3)

## **PART 5 – PRESCRIPTIONS, TASKS AND PROJECTS**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In order to provide a link between the principles in the Management Plan and the actual tasks that make it come about, a set of “task/project/prescription” forms is being written. An individual or one-off action can be written up on a form and this is termed a “project”. Where the task is repetitive (in time or place) the form provides a generic description and is termed a “task”. If there is not a project or task identified as such, the sheet is described as a “prescription”. This term is also used where the tasks or project have been identified but are shown on separate sheets. (This will arise where an outline scheme of management has been identified and this has been expanded into a number of more specific actions.)

1.2 It is expected that new forms will be produced and existing ones updated on a regular basis. Thus there will be frequent changes to this part of the plan. In contrast, other parts of the plan should be quite stable. Thus re-issues or updates of Part 5 will be the norm.

1.3 See Fig 4 for a blank form.

1.4 It is considered useful to show revisions to prescriptions with dates. However, this makes the prescriptions cumbersome and harder to read. Prescriptions in Part 5 represent the current position, while the history is put into Part 6.

1.5 The action taken ought to be recorded. It is intended that this will also be recorded in Part 6.

## 2 PRESCRIPTION / TASK / PROJECT SHEETS

See following pages for sheets.

A list of sheets written to date follows “T” means Task, “P” means Prescription and “J” means Project.

1. Selective felling of oaks [J]
2. Coppicing (Comps 17,31) [T]
3. Maintain glade on west edge of wood (Comps 9,17,19) [T]
4. Pondfield Pond maintenance (Comp 15d) [P]
5. Pondfield management - excluding the pond (Comps 15,16) [P]
6. Pondfield management – west part (Comp 15a) [P]
7. Pondfield management – NE part (Comp 15b) [P,T,J]
8. Pondfield management – SE part (Comp 15c) [P,T]
9. Pondfield management – north part (Comp 15e) [P]
10. Pondfield management – far west part (Comp 16) [P]
11. Woodland non-intervention areas (var comps) [P]
12. Old Rubbish Dump management (Comps 27,28) [P]
13. Management of pastures (Comps 2,12,14) [P]
14. Grazing of pastures (Comps 2,12,14) [T]
15. Improve water supply to area east of pond - (Comp 15b,c) [J]
16. Maintenance of LEM Pond [T]
17. Maintenance of Upper Woodland Pond [P]
18. Maintenance of Lower Woodland Pond [P]
19. Eastern Hedge [P]
20. Blackthorn Hedge – west part [P]
21. Blackthorn Hedge – east part [P]
22. Scrub control in Willow Mead [P]
23. Scrub control in Little Elms Meadow [T]
24. Scrub control in Paddock [T]
25. Scrub removal in Little Elms Meadow [J]
26. Scrub removal in Willow Mead [J]
27. Scrub removal in Paddock [J]
28. Maintenance of North Meadow Path hedge [T]
29. Maintenance of South Meadow Path hedge [T]
30. Eastern Boundary [P]
31. Clearings [P]
32. Central Clearing [T]
33. Wet Elm Woodland [P]
34. Area north of Paddock [T]
35. Pasture near hut [P]

36. Hut enclosure [P]
37. Paddock willow area [P]
38. Pollard willows in Paddock [T]
39. Bridle Path [P]
40. Western Boundary [T]
41. Western Boundary - north part [P]
42. Bund [P]
43. Railway Embankment [P]
44. Path clearance
45. Clearance of rank veg in Paddock
46. Clearance of rank veg in LEM

The following prescriptions / tasks / projects sheets have been identified as needed but have not yet been written.

- 47 Pond dipping platform in Pondfield Pond [J] (Comp 15d)

Updated Aug 03

<b>Project</b>	
<b>Selective felling of oaks</b> (all woodland comps)	
<b>No. 1</b>	Updated 28/4/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The wood is rather even aged as far as the oaks are concerned, with the great majority some 200 years old. There may come a time when a lot will start to lose their crowns and die and as a result, the wood could change its character completely. The dense bluebell layer in particular could be lost. The wood will inevitably evolve and some older gnarled oaks which would let more light in would be beneficial. However, it is generally considered best to maintain a variety of habitat, so a mixture of young, mature and old oaks is desirable. Selective felling would have two main effects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 It would open up areas which would be colonised by saplings (not necessarily oak, at least in the first instance).</li> <li>2 It would encourage neighbouring oaks to grow faster so they would, in effect, age faster.</li> </ol> <p>There have been suggestions from visitors and consultants that the wood would benefit from selective thinning as the oaks are densely spaced as well as even aged. However, there has been an increase in the number of mature oaks dying in recent years, so it appears that the wood is thinning naturally. Thus there seems little merit in felling oaks.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
No action required, other than monitoring the rate of natural deaths.	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

**Task****Coppicing** (Comps 17,31)

Updated 28/4/02

No. 2

**Background and history**

Most of the wood was coppiced when there was a full-time keeper. This was abandoned until about 1965, when small-scale coppicing was re-started. An ad-hoc approach was developed of coppicing a small parcels in some years. This was finally formalized in a plan (Ferriday, Jan 1999) based on previous years' activity and discussions.

The plan showed a series of 12 adjoining "blocks", one of which will be coppiced each year, giving a 12-year cycle. (For discussion on reason for this choice, see 4/2.4.7.) The main area to be coppiced was in the central area - the Great Clearing running from near CC through to GWC. This represents the larger part of Comp 31, but the SW and SE corners of this triangular comp are not included. The coppice area extends over the GWP to take in the South part of the GWC. Other than this, there was no policy to have coppice outside Comp 31.

This plan was not adhered to properly in 01/02 when over-enthusiastic volunteers coppiced a larger area than the plan allowed for. (There was no habitat management justification or pressing need for materials.)

At the management meeting in April 02 it was decided that some areas should be coppiced on a more frequent basis, eg every 6 years, as the 12-year cycle was producing poles that were too thick for fencing work that is the main use of the arisings.

**Rationale**

The object of the task is to continue this traditional form of management and provide some continuity following the re-start in 1965.

As coppicing has not been done over the wood for many decades, there is not a continuity argument for extending the recently coppiced area near the centre of the wood to the rest of it. Habitat / conservation reasons to extend the area of coppice are unclear (see 4/2.4 for further discussion.)

**Description**

A revised plan for coppicing needs to be drawn up. This will include areas that will be coppiced every 6 years in order to provide suitable materials for fencing. It will also include areas to be coppiced every 12 years, a longer coppice period having continuity and habitat advantages.

Towards the end of each year the trees for coppicing should be marked out by a designated member of the Management Committee in accordance with the coppice plan.

The ground may be cleared of bramble etc only to the extent needed to facilitate works.

Generally all stems should be cut off close to the ground with sloping cuts. The poles to be stacked in an agreed location and brushwood to be piled in a location in or near to the block.

Where hazels are sparse, good ones can be layered and pegged to the ground rather than cut. This will create new stools.

In order to make clear the extent of each block, the stools should be tagged. Since \*\* they have been marked with a yellow plastic disc with the year engraved. (The year refers to early part of the year. Thus, whether coppicing were done in Dec 1998 or Jan 1999, the block would be marked as 1999.) If there are not sufficient discs for every stool, ones around the edge of the block should be tagged.

Where there is a hazel with a single stem and no apparent history of coppicing, it should be left intact. (The reason for this is that compared with the large amount of old or new coppice, there are very few 'natural' hazels in the wood. We want to preserve the latter for reasons of diversity.)

Spp other than hazel may be cut as well. Holly and elder should be cut back; otherwise they will tend to take over when the hazel is cut. The rarer spp (maple, crab apple, rowan, cherry) would normally be left. Aspen should be left as it is already thin and we do not want to weaken it. Decisions on hawthorn bushes should be made on a case-by-case basis.

**Requirements:**

**People** One person who knows about coppicing. Helpers as necessary.

**Tools** Billhook, handsaw and slasher

**Materials** None

**Time** Outside the growing season ie Nov to end Jan

**Person hours** The blocks currently contain between about 12 and 25 trees, so time may vary. Typically 10-30 hours.

**Other**

**Comments**

**Completion**

See Part 6

<b>Task</b>	<b>Maintain glade on west edge of wood</b> (Comps 9,17,19) No 3 <span style="float: right;">Updated 28/4/02</span>
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>The western edge of the wood is dominated by suckering elm. This forms a distinct habitat bordering the oak woodland. However, there has been a history of cutting back the encroaching scrub near the N.Me.P and S.Me.P so as to form a 'glade' between the wood and the paths and hedges. The aim is to maintain an early successional stage suitable for herbs, grasses and associated invertebrate spp. Keeping the vegetation low also allows light to reach the N.Me.P and S.Me.P hedges thereby allowing them to flourish.</p> <p>By cutting a certain amount each year, a variety of habitats is maintained corresponding to 1,2, and 3 years growth.</p>
<b>Special sp</b>	St Mark's fly (best site in PW is on wood side of S.Me.P). Wood sedge (rare, mainly by S.Me.P).
<b>Description</b>	<p>The aim is to maintain a swathe 10-15m wide back from the N.Me.P and S.Me.P by regular clearance.</p> <p>There are 3 stretches :  stretch 1 - E of S.Me.P ; SW corner of wood to W.P  stretch 2 - E of S.Me P ; W.P to G.W.P  stretch 3 – E of N.Me.P ; P.P to B.P  Within each stretch there are 3 blocks, each of which is about a third of the stretch.</p> <p>The aim is to cut one block of each stretch each year in a regular pattern :  Year 1 : stretch 1 block 1 + stretch 2 block 1 + stretch 3 block 1  Year 2 : stretch 1 block 2 + stretch 2 block 2 + stretch 3 block 2  Year 3 : stretch 1 block 3 + stretch 2 block 3 + stretch 3 block 3  Year 4 : stretch 1 block 1 + stretch 2 block 1 + stretch 3 block 1  etc</p> <p>Suckering elm should be cut off at ground level. Other woody spp such as hazel, hawthorn, holly or elder should also be removed. The taller shrubs and trees, ie ones that have not been cut in previous clearances, and any rarer woody spp should be retained unless agreed otherwise by the Man Com. Bramble and other invasive spp should be removed.</p>
<b>Special spp</b>	Wood sedge. This must be protected from management activity and should be excluded from any cutting or clearance.
<b>Requirements: (volunteer effort using hand tools)</b>	<p><b>People</b> stretch 1,3 - each block c 8 hrs ; stretch 2 - each block c 5 hrs</p> <p><b>Tools</b> long-handled cutters and/or billhook, slasher</p> <p><b>Materials</b> none</p> <p><b>Timing</b> best outside the growing season ie from Nov to Feb</p> <p><b>Other</b></p>

<b>Special spp</b> Wood sedge is one of the rarest spp in the reserve, occurring at just one or two places near S.Me.P. This should be spared any cutting.
<b>Comments</b>
<b>Completion</b> See Part 6

**Prescription****Pondfield Pond maintenance (Comp 15d)**

No 4

Updated 20/12/03

**Background and history**

The Pond was created in 1965 as part of the Pondfield. Over the years it gradually silted up and shrunk and by the 1980s it was regularly drying out in summer. This was due to the natural silting process but, probably more importantly, due to the reduced running of the Eastern Boundary stream which feeds the pond and due to the falling water table.

In 1999 and 2000 the eastern end of the neighbouring IBM site was re-developed with a Royal Mail sorting office. The pond was dug out and run-off from the roof of the building (just under half the area) and some of the hard standing was diverted into the stream, thereby providing additional water.

There is a leak in the embankment on the Railway Embankment side. This is near the top of the bank and so the pond leaks only when it is fairly full.

The embankment on the Railway Embankment side contains a number of large old tree stumps. When these finally rot away a major breach in the bank could occur.

**Rationale**

The aim is to maintain pond habitat with a good diversity of fauna and flora. To do this, there are two main requirements :

- a) keep the habitat as a pond, ie retain the water
- b) control invasion of scrub near the banks, as this is inimical to many spp.

**Description**

1 The pond needs to be maintained by digging out periodically. It will otherwise become silted up due to the mud brought in by the stream and by the vegetation growing and dying in it. The rate of silting is not known, as the pond has just been re-constructed. However, as the pond is fairly large, it is not expected that digging out will be needed very frequently.

2 Due to the nature and timescale of the digging (a large digger for a short period) fine profiling was not possible. It may be beneficial to re-profile some part of the pond. In particular the steep banks on the northern and eastern sides could be made much more shallow. (A gradual slope and consequent 'draw-down' zone gives more opportunities for emergent vegetation and its dependant wildlife.)

3 Reed has re-colonised the pond very fast and if we are to retain open water, periodic clearance will be needed. Reedbed is an important habitat, so the aim should be to retain a good area of reeds as well as open water. One approach would be to clear about one third of the pond each year on a rotating basis. An alternative would be to keep a particular area clear, but let the rest of the pond stay as reedbed. The easiest approach and the one that maintains the best access is to clear the north and northwest parts regularly and allow the rest to stay dense reedbed.

4 The new bund and channels carry a lot of silt into the new pond. A silt trap was dug by BTCV in 2001? but it is not clear what effect this has had.

5 The leak in the embankment on the Railway Embankment side should be plugged. This will require some excavation and rebuilding of the bank.

6 To prevent the bank failing when the tree stumps rot away, preventative maintenance is needed on the embankment on the Railway Embankment side. The proposed method is to drive a line of boards into the soft bottom of the pond just inside the present bank and to backfill with clay. This will create an extension to the bank inside the line of the tree stumps.

**Requirements:**

**People**

**Tools**

**Materials**

**Other** Waders needed !

**Comments**

**Completion**

**History**

See Part 6.

## Prescription

### Pondfield management - excluding the pond (Comps 15a,b,c,e,16)

No 5

Updated 28/4/02

## Background and history

1 The Pondfield was created by fencing off an area from LEM in 1965. A large pond was dug in the central eastern part. The rest of the area was largely left alone but a number of trees were planted around the N, S and W perimeter of the site and on the islands in the pond. These trees were either exotics/non-natives in the UK, such as Lombardy poplar and weeping willow, or not natural for the habitat/location eg osier and Scots pine. A number of shrubs or herbaceous plants were also introduced eg Berberis. Nowadays such planting of exotics would not be countenanced.

2 In the absence of grazing, the erstwhile grassland was allowed to succeed to tall herbaceous vegetation. It appears there was a policy of maintaining some form of 'arrested succession', that is not allowing the area to turn into scrub and thence woodland. However, this was not formalised in plans or minutes - it has been surmised from the occasional clearance of areas of the Pondfield since 1965 and the establishment of the hide looking west towards the pond.

## Rationale

The Pondfield is largely an area of 'arrested succession' where the control of grazing has been removed but where a succession to woodland is not desired. To achieve this, a careful programme of management is needed, consisting largely of removal of scrub.

## Description

1 The Pondfield is a considerable area and has a number of parts with different characteristics. As a result, there are a number of different management objectives and prescriptions. This task/project is intended only as a broad statement. There are more detailed prescriptions for certain parts of the Pondfield – see nos 7-10.

2 Comp 15a (W of pond) – eastern part. Keep clear of encroaching scrub so as to maintain the open 'draw-down' area of pond, the reedbed and the herbaceous vegetation of the spoil pile.

3 Comp 15a – western part. No plan at present.

4 Comp 15b (E and NE of pond). Keep the area wet, thereby helping to preserve the remarkable stand of *Carex riparia*. Keep clear of encroaching scrub, facilitating the use of the hide.

5 Comp 15c. This area is dominated by trees and saplings of aspen and alder. Aspen is one of the most interesting and special trees of PW. The area should be kept wet in order to conserve the aspen and alders.

6 Comp 15d. Most of this is the pond, which is covered by a separate plan (no 4). The southern embankment, however, is a distinct area. The main significance of the embankment is that it prevents the water from the pond running into the Railway Embankment. The large trees which have grown up on the embankment are a threat to its integrity as their root systems will penetrate it and may cause it to leak. It is therefore policy to remove all scrub from the embankment. Removal of all scrub has two other advantages. Firstly, the embankment forms act as a path which could enable people to walk round and enjoy the pond. To fulfill this role, it needs to be kept clear. Secondly, trees shade out and eventually destroy reedbeds. Being to the south of the pond it is especially important that shading is prevented.

7 Comp 15e. The substrate of this area is strongly influenced by the industrial site to the north. There is no general plan for the area at present, but any maintenance should protect the old pollarded oak towards the E end and the stand of butterbur towards the west end.

8 Comp 16. As with Comp 15e, the substrate of this area is strongly influenced by the industrial site nearby, this time to the west. The substrate contains a good deal of building rubble with sundry materials such as old iron. There is no plan for the area at present.

**Requirements:**

**People**

**Tools**

**Materials**

**Other**

**Comments**

**Completion**

See Part 6

<b>Prescription</b>		
<b>No 6</b>	<b>Pondfield management – west of pond (Comp 15a)</b>	28/4/02
<b>Background and history</b>		
<p>See Project 5 for general information. See Part 6 for history.</p> <p>A scrape was dug out on the west side of the pond which provides an area which floods when the pond is full or nearly so, but dries out as the water level falls. This is now a distinct area which has been designated Comp 15a/2. An area the shape of a tongue, towards the north of Comp 15a and extending west almost to Comp16, was cleared of scrub and used to dump spoil from the pond excavation. This is designated Comp 15a/3. The remaining part of Comp 15a is designated Comp 15a/1.</p>		
<b>Rationale</b>		
<p>Encroaching scrub is a major issue for pond management. Trees and shrubs draw large amounts of water and thus tend to dry out ponds. Their presence also inhibits the vegetation which is characteristic of the margins of open ponds. Shading by scrub means that valued habitats such as reedbeds cannot survive; nor can species of open water such as dragonflies. Periodic clearance of encroaching scrub is therefore an aim of management.</p>		
<b>Description</b>		
<p>Comp 15a/1. Keep eastern edge clear of encroaching scrub. This will protect the patch of reeds and prevent shading of the pond. No plan for rest of area at present.</p> <p>Comp 15a/2. Monitor area for invasion of scrub or other unwelcome plants. The aim is to maintain the open “draw-down” area of pond.</p> <p>Comp 15a/3. Keep area clear of encroaching scrub. The mound may be colonised by interesting ruderal spp if it is maintained in a state of arrested succession.</p>		
<b>Requirements:</b>		
<b>People</b>		
<b>Tools</b>		
<b>Materials</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Comments</b>		
<b>Completion</b>		
See Part 6		

**Prescription + tasks + project****Pondfield management – NE part (Comp 15b)****No 7**

Updated 10/8/03

**Background and history**

See Project 5

**Rationale**

Encroaching scrub is a major issue for pond management. Trees and shrubs draw large amounts of water and thus tend to dry out ponds. Their presence also inhibits the vegetation which is characteristic of the margins of open ponds. Shading by scrub means that valued habitats such as reedbeds cannot survive; nor can species of open water such as dragonflies. Clearance of encroaching scrub is therefore an aim of management, especially as scrub is a common habitat elsewhere in PW.

The hide has been designed to enable visitors to look towards the pond. Clear sightlines are desirable, which means that obstructing vegetation need to be prevented although the reed colony may frustrate this aim.

**Background and history**

See Project 5 for background and history).

The area has been periodically cleared of oaks and other trees and scrub that was growing up. The large willows to the SW of the hide have been pollarded periodically.

The northern part is, and has been for a long time, a scrubby area which was developing into woodland. It has been designated Comp 15b/2. It is not really distinct, in habitat terms, from Comp 15e.

The southern, and larger, part is the part that was periodically cleared. It includes a remarkable dense stand of *Carex riparia* in the NE part. It is designated Comp 15b/1.

**Description**

1 The north part of Comp 15b is of no special interest except for the massive old pollarded oak and will be allowed to progress to woodland. In order to protect the more interesting and sensitive areas, the main path into the PdF and towards the pond runs alongside the channel on the north side. The developing woodland on the north side should be controlled by cutting overhanging branches and by removing suckers and saplings that encroach onto the path.

2 The southern part is of more interest and a state of arrested succession will be maintained. Encroaching scrub and trees should be cut down.

3 The most interesting feature of Comp 15b- the stand of *Carex riparia* – will only be retained if it continues to be wet. Management is needed to restore and maintain wet conditions – see no 15.

4 There is an area of low lying mud to the east of the pond but which is separated from it by the eastern embankment of the pond. Consideration should be given to extending the pond into this area by digging out this area to a shallow depth or by damming the stream so that it floods it. (See no 15).

**Special spp** Reeds. Reedbed is BAP habitat.  
*Carex riparia*. See above

**Requirements :**

**People**

1 (15b/2) Clearance of overhanging branches and encroaching scrub. 2 hours every 2 years.

2 (15b/1) Clearance of encroaching scrub. 6 hours every 3 years.

3 (15b/1) See no 15.

4 (15/b1) Not yet defined.

**Tools**

1,2 long handled cutters

**Materials**

1,2 none

**Other**

**Comments**

**Completion**

See Part 6.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Pondfield Management – SE part (Comp 15c)</b>
<b>No 8</b>	Updated 28/4/02
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>This ground is wet, especially to the south, when there has been a preceeding period of wet weather. The area supports a colony of aspen, the only other one being S of the CC. Most of the Reserve's alders are also here. The most interesting features are these tree spp and all they probably need is continuance of moist conditions.</p> <p>There appears to be an invasion of hawthorn. This was probably caused by drying out of the habitat in the 1990s.</p>
<b>Background and history</b>	See Prescription 5
<b>Description</b>	<p>1 The area needs to be kept wet - see Project 15.</p> <p>2 The comp includes several pollarded crack willows. Pollarded willows are considered a valuable resource, but they need also need to be controlled to stop them dominating the area and drying it out. Pollarding should therefore be continued.</p>
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	2 Pollard willows. 4 hours every 2 years.
<b>Tools</b>	2 Pollard willows. Long handled cutters, long handled saw, steps/ladder
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<p><b>Prescription</b></p> <p><i>Pondfield Management – north part (Comp 15e)</i></p> <p>No 9 <span style="float: right;">Updated 28/4/02</span></p>
<p><b>Background and history</b></p> <p>See Project 5</p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>The substrate of this area has been affected by its proximity to the IBM site. The trees and shrubs are varied, being a mixture of introduced spp and naturally colonising ones. Conservation interest is low except for two items :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The massive pollarded oak is probably a corner marker of the wood and one of the two oldest oaks in the Reserve. Ancient oaks have considerable wildlife and historical value.</li> <li>b) Toward the west of the comp there is a big patch of butterbur. This has probably been sustained by a flow of water from the IBM site which exuded nearby. With the re-development of the site, the hydrology may well have changed, threatening this sp.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Special spp</b></p> <p>Butterbur. See above.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>No management action identified. The butterbur patch should be monitored annually.</p>
<p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p><b>People</b></p> <p><b>Tools</b></p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b></p>

<p><b>Prescription</b></p> <p><i>Pondfield Mangement – far west part (Comp 16)</i></p> <p>No 10 <span style="float: right;">8/5/02</span></p>
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<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>As with Comp 15e, the substrate of this area is strongly influenced by the industrial site nearby, this time to the west. The substrate contains a good deal of building rubble with sundry materials such as old iron bars. There is no special wildlife interest other than the planted Scots Pine. There is no plan for managing the area at present.</p>
<p><b>Background and history</b></p> <p>See Project 5</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>No action required.</p>
<p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p><b>People</b></p> <p><b>Tools</b></p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b></p>

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Woodland non-intervention areas</b> (all woodland comps)	
<b>No. 11</b>	8/5/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>There is no point in managing the woodland for its own sake. Mature woodland is one of the richest habitats and is one of the scarcest in the borough. While managing woodland by coppicing or by other means has some advantages and is popular, mature woodland has important features such as a richer invertebrate fauna and fungus flora. More specialised and rarer spp tend to live in this mature habitat.</p> <p>There is already a fair amount of disturbed woodland in the form of coppice areas. On the west side of the wood there is arrested succession achieved by cutting of elm suckers and other spp adjacent to SMeP and NMeP. There is also a relatively large amount of woodland edge (because of the small size of the wood, the perimeter to area ratio is large.) This woodland edge shares some features of disturbed wood. Thus there is no obvious need to increase the area of disturbed wood at the expense of undisturbed wood.</p> <p>An important consideration is the finality of intervention. If a new management regime is introduced for part of the wood, this represents a change from up to 200 years of continuity. It cannot be quickly changed back. If nothing is done, on the other hand, the option is left to act any time in the future. Great caution should therefore be exercised and if there is doubt, the wood should be left alone.</p> <p>There is one exception - paths should be kept clear. This is necessary for public access and the paths themselves form a distinct and well-established habitat.</p>	
<b>Special spp</b>	
Bluebell (valued British sp and the outstanding plant of PW). <i>Viburnum opulus</i> (just one plant). Wild service (indicative of ancient woodland).	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>No action, except where branches are growing across paths or there are large dead branches overhanging paths. These should be removed on an 'as and when' basis. Other vegetation (usually bramble) encroaching on the paths should also be removed as and when.</p> <p>The eastern part of the wood, Comp 1, is the biggest block of wood that is not bisected by a path so the central part of it is in some respects the least disturbed habitat of the entire reserve. In order to retain this feature, there should be an especially strong presumption against any action (other than path clearance.)</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
See history for 'unauthorised' management (coppicing and clearance of bramble).	
<b>Completion</b>	



<b>Prescription</b>		
<b>No. 12</b>	<b>Old rubbish dump (Comps 27,28)</b>	29/4/02
<b>Rationale</b>		
<p>The old rubbish dump (Dust Heap and Mound) forms a distinct and unpredictable area. There is no 'preferred' habitat for it. Indeed, the main interest is simply to see how it develops and what wildlife it harbours. There are certainly a number of spp that are either not present elsewhere or that are much rarer away from it.</p> <p>The Canal Path runs along the mound and needs to be kept clear for access. The path edge forms a distinct habitat which is of modest interest.</p> <p>Much of the DHp and M is adjacent to fencing. There is no point in allowing trees to damage or undermine the fences, eg by growing in the fence line or by putting branches through it.</p>		
<b>Description</b>		
<p>No action, except :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Where branches are growing across paths or where there are large dead branches overhanging paths, these should be removed on an 'as and when' basis.</li> <li>2 Where other vegetation is growing across the path, it should be removed. In particular, nettles may be removed (or knocked down) up to about 1m from the path edge.</li> <li>3 Where trees are growing in a fence line, they should be removed on an 'as and when' basis</li> <li>4 Where branches from a tree are growing into a fence or just over it, they should also be removed on an 'as and when' basis</li> </ol>		
<b>Requirements:</b>		
<b>People</b>		
<b>Tools</b>		
<b>Materials</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Comments</b>		
<p>Much unauthorised management has been carried out on the Dust Heap – see Part 6. In particular, a large stand of Japanese knotgrass was removed for no good reason.</p>		
<b>Completion</b>		

**Prescription****Pastures**

No. 13

8/6/02

**Rationale**

- 1 Grasslands can be retained as such by either grazing or mowing. The grassland at PW has been grazed for the last \*\* years. Mowing was done for a number (\*\*) of years before that, following an earlier regime of grazing.
- 2 As long as horses can be obtained, grazing is considered preferable to mowing. Because horses graze selectively, the pastures are heterogeneous, ranging from very short turf to tall grass and herbs. They have significantly different floras (and probably faunas) and this diversity is desirable. As an example, there is an area in Willow Mead that is grazed very short and this is the only location for several spp of wax cap fungi (Hygrocybe).
- 3 The logistics of grazing are much simpler as long as there is a suitable owner, as the owner can manage the horses. Mowing involves maintaining machinery on site or employing contractors, both of which have proved problematic. Also, some of the fields are uneven, which poses problems for mowing. A disadvantage of grazing is that one is somewhat dependent on the owner doing what is required, in particular using the right number of horses.
- 4 Grazing does not always remove the desired amount of grass. In particular, areas of rank grass can be left which get colonised creeping thistle or other spp. Once an area has become rank, the horses avoid it so the problem becomes worse. Pulling or cutting may be necessary in some areas to overcome this. This is particularly important in areas where there are special spp, eg adders-tongue fern, which could be eliminated by rank growth.
- 5 There is a constant tendency for scrub to encroach from the edges of the pastures. Clearance of this scrub is needed, as otherwise the pastures, which are very important habitat, will be lost.

**Description**

- 1 The pastures should be grazed, with the regime of earlier grazing in LEM / WM and later grazing in the Pa.
- 2 This may be supplemented by cutting of the sward or selected spp in order to prevent rank vegetation developing.
- 3 Vegetation encroaching into the edges of the pastures should be cleared periodically.
- 4 The pastures should be regularly inspected for over- or under-grazing so that the grazing regime can be adjusted and other action undertaken as necessary.
- 5 No removal of "undesirable" spp, other than those in connection with a defined task or project, should be

undertaken without express agreement of the Management Committee. For example hoary ragwort, one of the most special spp in PW, has been pulled up (because of concerns about horses eating it) and a yew (one of only two in the reserve) was pulled up.

6 Special action may be required to protect certain spp. Eg adders tongue fern is an unusual plant which could be lost if the grass became rank in the particular areas where it grows. These spp need to be monitored and special action may be undertaken eg cutting of long grass in adders tongue fern area.

**Special spp**

Adders tongue fern (LEM and N Pa), hoary ragwort (mainly N Pa but also in LEM), lesser stitchwort (E side of N Pa and N side of WM), creeping jenny (E side of N Pa), Festulolium x braunii (Pa), Festulolium x loliacium, (Pa), marsh horsetail (N Pa), bulbous buttercup (LEM), blinks.

**Requirements:**

**People**

**Tools**

**Materials**

**Other**

**Comments**

**Completion**

**Task****Grazing of pastures**

No. 14

29/4/02

**Rationale**

The pastures are an old-established feature and are the most important habitat after the oak woodland. Pastures can be maintained as such either by grazing or mowing.

For \*\* years the same pattern has been adopted. LEM, WM, the Hut Field and the BrP have been grazed by horses from as soon as possible after Open Day (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in May). In July or August, the Pa has been opened to the horses, but the other fields were left open. If it is considered that LEM/WM area becoming overgrazed in comparison to the Pa, the former fields have been shut off for a period and the horses confined to the latter. The horses have been taken away from the Reserve, either when the grass has been grazed right down, or more commonly, when the rain starts to make the fields muddy and subject to poaching. This is typically in October.

One reason for this regime was to ensure that the pastures were properly and controllably grazed. The aim was to have sufficient grazing to give a short sward in large areas, if not the whole of a field, as this can give an interesting and distinct habitat. The other reason was to develop diversity by treating the fields differently. By delaying grazing in the Pa, the spring flowers were allowed to flower and set seed before being trampled or eaten. There are significant differences between the flora of LEM/WM and Pa which are probably due to the different grazing patterns.

**Description**

The pastures should be grazed, with the regime of differential grazing in LEM/WM and Pa retained.

Horses should not graze during the winter.

Gazing should commence in early May, the most practicable time being straight after Open Day. The horses should be confined to WM and LEM plus the Hut Field and BrP. There is a fence between LEM and WM. If LEM is becoming over-grazed while WM is not, the gate between the two may be closed for a week or more.

In July or August, the Pa should be opened for grazing. LEM/WM will normally be left open. The date at which the Pa should be opened may vary and will depend on how much LEM/WM has been grazed down and how much the Pa has grown up. The aim is that LEM/WM should have had a significant amount of grazing so that there are some areas of short sward and most, if not all of the fields have had some grazing before the Pa is opened. The other aim is that the Pa is sufficiently developed to let the spring and summer flowers develop and the grass become fairly lush before it is opened but not too overgrown or dried up. These two aims are not necessarily consistent and a compromise may be needed. It should be noted that the weather over the spring and summer can have a considerable effect, as can the number of horses.

If the Pa is being undergrazed and/or LEM/WM is over-grazed during this period, the gate may be closed for a week or more to confine the horses to the Pa. Likewise, the gate between LEM and WM may again be closed if the former is over-grazed relative to the latter.

The optimum number of horses is thought to be 4 (full-sized). The owner should be asked to put this number of horses on the fields (or maintain an average of 4) and should be charged for them. If the growing season is good (warm and moist), more horses may be desirable and the owner should be invited to add one or two more (at no extra cost).

The time that the horses leave is generally determined by the state of the pastures. Unless there has been uncharacteristically heavy grazing, the horses can be left until the fields become soft and poaching starts. It may be noted that poaching occurs regularly at the points where the horses congregate such as the Hutfield and 'pinch points' such as the gate into the Pa or the Br.P. This should not be regarded as a problem. As long as poaching is confined to a small proportion of the grassland, there is no threat to the biodiversity. In fact, poached areas are a distinctive habitat. For example, the only part of the Reserve where toad rush is common is in the S Pa where it colonises bare mud created by the horses going through the gate.

**Requirements:**

**People**

**Tools**

**Materials**

**Other**

**Comments**

**Completion**

**Project**

Improve water supply to area east of pond - (Comp 15b,c)

No. 15

Updated 10/8/03

**Rationale**

The main interest of these areas is that they are damp, at least for some of the year. Comp 15b has large areas of *Carex riparia* and *Glyceria maxima*. While these spp appear to survive dry conditions quite well, colonisation by other, commonplace spp has happened and is likely to continue unless the area is kept wet. Comp 15c is dominated by aspen and alder and the invasion has been less pronounced, due to the shading of the trees. However there was a good deal of *Crataegus* and some other non-wetland spp, due to the drier conditions.

As the pond is now lower and deeper, it tends to draw water away from the adjacent areas, thus accelerating their drying out. To offset this in Comp 15b,c, the streams should be engineered to keep these areas damp. There is a good fall on the stream where it runs through Comp 15b and then where, after branching, it runs between 15b and 15c which makes damming and flooding of 15b,c practicable.

Diverting water to Comps 15b,c inevitably reduces the flow to the pond. This is not necessarily a problem as when the levels in the PdF and LEM ponds become high, water is not retained anyway.

The aim is to divert water to Comps 15b,c when flow is good, but when flow is low, the water will all run directly into the ponds. This means that during periods of drought, at least one or two areas stay wet, namely the ponds. This may be achieved by having dams which are slightly leaky. When flow is low, all the water leaks through, the level is low and it runs in the bed of the stream to the pond. When flow is high, the dams hold back water, the level rises and it overflows the banks into Comps 15b,c.

**Description**

The easiest approach is to dam the stream so that the stream level (top of the water) is higher. It is probable that a number of dams will be needed in order to control where the water actually goes. The dams can be most quickly constructed from mud reinforced by logs, but ones constructed with planks set into the banks will be more durable. The precise effect of damming is difficult to predict. A number of small semi-experimental dams, have been constructed (by BTCV) They have had some effect, but more needs to be done. If they appear ineffective or counter-productive, they can be demolished. If they are successful, they can be retained or enhanced.

**Requirements:**

Requirements not yet clear

**People****Tools****Materials****Other****Comments**

**Completion**

See part 6

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Management of Little Elms Meadow Pond (Comp 14b)</b>	
<b>No. 16</b>	30/4/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The LEM pond is the most accessible pond in PW and as well as having importance purely as a wildlife resource, is important aesthetically and educationally. It is small and in most parts shallow and as a result would tend to fill in fairly rapidly. The pond has been colonised by Glyceria which, if left to its own devices, rapidly fills the pond and almost certainly increases the rate of silting up. Regular digging out and removal of Glyceria is therefore needed if the pond is to be retained.</p> <p>While digging out may be needed, this process can damage most of the habitat and the fauna and flora that it is meant to help. The solution is to not dig out the pond drastically at relatively long intervals but instead to dig out a modest amount more frequently. In this way, the range of variation of habitats (eg deep water, shallow water, dense vegetation) is retained, together with the diversity of flora and fauna.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>1 The pond should be cleared of Glyceria and other encroaching vegetation every 2 years and the silt removed to restore its depth. On one occasion one half of the pond should be cleared and on the next occasion, the other half should be cleared. This gives a 4 year cycle for any particular part of the pond. (By this means the important habitat of dense emergent vegetation is never wiped out.)</p> <p>2 The situation should be reviewed to confirm that that the 2+2 year cycle is appropriate. Depending on various factors, including rate of re-colonisation and the water supply, the cycle may need to be adjusted.</p> <p>3 There is a leak into RE which needs to be sealed.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
1 Preferably 2	
<b>Tools</b>	
1 Waders, silt shovel, metal rake	
<b>Materials</b>	
1 None	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	

**Completion**

<b>Prescription + task</b>	
<b>Management of Upper Woodland Pond</b>	
<b>No. 17</b>	30/4/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The UWPd provides a useful contrast to the LEM and the PdF ponds, being heavily shaded. As well as its importance purely as a wildlife resource, is important aesthetically and educationally. It is also of historical significance, having been present throughout the recorded history of PW. It is quite small and due to the annual leaf-fall, tends to fill in.</p> <p>While digging out may be needed, this process can damage most of the habitat and the fauna and flora that it is meant to help. The solution is to not dig out the pond drastically at relatively long intervals but instead to dig out a modest amount more frequently. In this way, the range of variation of habitats (eg deep water, shallow water, marginal vegetation) is retained, together with the diversity of flora and fauna.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Silt and leaf fall should be cleared in order to restore the depth about every 4 years. On one occasion one half of the pond should be cleared and on the next occasion, the other half should be cleared. This gives an 8 year cycle for any particular part of the pond. (By this means no one habitat is wiped out.)</p> <p>The situation should be reviewed to confirm that that the 4+4 year cycle is appropriate. Depending on various factors, including rate of re-colonisation and the water supply, the cycle may need to be adjusted. Practical considerations will affect the cycle. If the pond is to be dug by hand, a small amount done frequently may be most convenient. If machinery is hired, the cost and logistics may dictate occasional but drastic digging out.</p>	
<b>Special spp</b>	
Callitriche (only location), celery-leaved buttercup (ony location usually) newts	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
Not yet determined	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<b>Prescription</b>		
<b>No. 18</b>	<b>Lower Woodland Pond</b>	1/5/02
<b>Rationale</b>		
<p>This pond is very shaded and is full of leaves. It has no emergent vegetation and is of little obvious wildlife interest. It is of historical significance, having been present throughout the recorded history of PW. It is also of interest as it gives an indication of the water table (unlike the other ponds, it is not fed by a stream). The pond is small and due to the annual leaf-fall, is probably gradually filling in. It is however, deep in the sense that the bed of the pond is about 1.5m lower than the surrounds and has steep banks.</p> <p>Because of its low wildlife interest and apparent slow rate of evolution, no management is proposed at present.</p>		
<b>Description</b>		
No action.		
<b>Requirements:</b>		
<b>People</b>		
<b>Tools</b>		
<b>Materials</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Comments</b>		
<b>Completion</b>		

**Prescription****Eastern Hedge** (Comp 2a,b,c,d)**No. 19**

1/5/02

**Rationale**

The EH has variously become degraded and has been restored in parts. Hedges are regarded as valuable habitats and should be retained where possible. The management is therefore to preserve the hedge where it exists as such. Where it has degenerated, the minimum should be to keep it in that state. Whether it is worth trying to restore it is less clear, because one of the most valuable features of a hedge is its age as a hedge. Restoring a very degraded hedge may not restore its value and it could damage useful replacement habitat.

**Description**

- 1 "Good" hedge (Comp 2c and part 2b). Maintain hedge by cutting side and top every 2-3 years. Laying may be required at much longer intervals.
- 2 "Intermediate" hedge (south part of 2b). This includes gaps in the hedge line due to shading trees and stretch of double hedge with a 'corale' between. Detailed plans for this area need to be made section by section with the aim of restoring a single stock-proof hedge where possible. Where this cannot be achieved, fencing will continue to be needed.
- 3 "Scrub strip" (north part Comp 2b, Comp 2a). This is a length where the hedge has degenerated into a strip many metres wide of mainly blackthorn. It now a distinct and useful habitat in its own right. It is said to be good for birds. It is, for example, the best place in the reserve for long-tailed tits and is the place where a woodcock was seen (Feb 02). There is no strong reason to try and restore this to hedge, although continuance of restoration some way N from the present boundary with the "intermediate" hedge should be considered. A key policy however is to not let the scrub encroach further into Pa or EHP. It is also planned to cut back the scrub on the E side to restore the most floristically rich meadow of the reserve on the W side of the N Pa. (This does not represent a change in policy - it is simply undertaking a backlog of work of over 10 years to fulfill the long-standing policy of non-encroachment.)
- 4 "Developing" hedge (Comp 2d). This stretch has been restored to a fair extent and the process should be continued by in-filling, trimming and laying as appropriate.
- 5 There is a ditch which is distinct in the S but progressively less so to the N. This has been dug out in the past, but this no ecological value. Drainage of the wood or Pa is not an objective.
- 6 The E side of the hedgebank has proved to be the most effective place for re-introduction of primroses. 'Micro-management' of the habitat may be undertaken specifically to protect and enhance this plant.

**Key species**

Primroses, spindle, yellow archangel, yew. These must be protected from management activity and should be excluded from general cutting or clearance.

**Requirements:****People****Tools**

<b>Materials</b>
<b>Other</b>
<b>Comments</b>
<b>Completion</b>
See Part 6

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Blackthorn Hedge – West part (Comp 10a)</b>	
<b>No. 20</b>	<b>5/6/02</b>
<b>Background and history</b>	
See Part 6	
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Hedges are regarded as valuable habitats and should be retained where possible. The management is therefore to preserve the hedge where it exists as such. Where it has degenerated, the minimum should be to keep it in that state.</p> <p>For background and history see archive. Now that the hedge has been restored, it should be maintained as a hedge.</p> <p>The part of the BIH east of the stile to the corner of WM with BrP has become derelict and has old fence in it. It is however stock-proof. It is not clear whether restoration or other action is needed, but it should be prevented from encroaching further into WM.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>The west part (from the stile westwards) that is now hedge should be maintained by trimming, laying and infilling as appropriate.</p> <p>A plan is needed for the extreme west part that has not been restored (on WM side). Until then, no action other than preventing encroachment into WM (this is Projects 22 and 26).</p> <p>A plan is needed for the east part (from the stile eastwards). Until then, no action other than preventing encroachment further into WM (this is Project 22 and 26).</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Blackthorn Hedge – east part (Comp 10b)</b>	
<b>No. 21</b>	<b>6/6/02</b>
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Hedges are regarded as valuable habitats and should be retained where possible. The management is therefore to preserve the hedge where it exists as such. Where it has degenerated, the minimum should be to keep it in that state. There is little that could be called a hedge and a number of the shrubs that presumably mark the line of original hedge have now died. Some attempts to restore it with in-fill planting and dead hedging have been made, with limited success. The boundary is fairly stock-proof, due to the ditch separating the hedge from BrP.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
A plan is needed on how to proceed.	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Scrub control in Willow Mead (Comp 12)</b>	
<b>No. 22</b>	<b>6/6/02</b>
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The pastures are the second most valuable habitat (after CCOW). One aim is therefore to preserve their extent by preventing scrub encroachment.</p> <p>Access is needed to the BIH from the WM side if it is to be maintained.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Remove encroaching scrub from BIH and RE side of WM about every 3 years.</p> <p>The most important part is to remove blackthorn suckers, which can be readily and quickly removed by long-handled cutters. They should be cut as near the ground as possible.</p> <p>Other growth such as bramble also tends to grow out and this should be cleared with a slasher. (Unless this is done, the horses tend not to graze, which encourages more encroachment.) It should be noted that an edge of bramble, rose etc can be very good for invertebrates. The band of such plants should therefore not be removed totally. However, sufficient needs to be removed to ensure there is not net encroachment. This means 3 year's growth if the action is undertaken every 3 years.</p> <p>As well encroachment on the ground, branches from the trees and shrubs tend to grow into the pasture. These need to be cut back with long handled cutters (saws only needed for thick branches –left over c3 years). This includes the line of hawthorns that are some distance inside WM from the BIH.</p>	
<b>Special spp</b>	
Lesser stichwort	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
Long handled cutters, small saw, slasher	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Scrub control in Little Elms Meadow (Comp 14a,b)</b>	
<b>No. 23</b>	<b>6/6/02</b>
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The pastures are the second most valuable habitat (after CCOW). One aim is therefore to preserve their extent by preventing scrub encroachment. In addition to preserving the extent of meadow generally, scrub control is needed in particular to protect adders tongue fern which grows near RE.</p> <p>Access is needed to the NMeP and SMeP hedges from the LEM side if they are to be maintained.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Remove encroaching scrub from NMeP hedge , SMeP hedge, RE side of LEM and trees/scrub further into LEM about every 3 years.</p> <p>The most important part is to remove blackthorn suckers, which can be readily and quickly removed by long-handled cutters. They should be cut as near the ground as possible.</p> <p>Other growth such as bramble also tends to grow out and this should be cleared with a slasher. (Unless this is done, the horses tend not to graze, which encourages more encroachment.) It should be noted that an edge of bramble, rose etc can be very good for invertebrates. The band of such plants should therefore not be removed totally. However, sufficient needs to be removed to ensure there is no net encroachment. This means 3 year's growth if the action is undertaken every 3 years</p> <p>As well encroachment on the ground, branches from the trees and shrubs tend to grow into the pasture. These need to be cut back with long handled cutters (saws only needed for thick branches –left over c3 years). This includes the interrupted line of hawthorn, blackthorn and elm running parallel to NMeP and SMeP.</p>	
<b>Special spp</b>	
Bulbous buttercup, field woodrush	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
Long handled cutters, small saw, slasher	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Scrub control in Paddock (Comp 4a,b,c,d)</b>	
<b>No. 24</b>	7/6/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The pastures are the second most valuable habitat (after CCOW). One aim is therefore to preserve their extent by preventing scrub encroachment. In addition to preserving the extent of meadow generally, scrub control is needed to protect adders tongue fern, hoary ragwort, knapweed, creeping jenny, lesser stitchwort, marsh horsetail and various sedges. All these occurs only or largely in the N Pa.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Remove encroaching scrub from EH and Eastern boundary about every 3 years.</p> <p>The most important action is to remove blackthorn suckers. Ideally they should be dug out with mattocks, but they can be readily and quickly cut with long-handled cutters. They should be cut as near the ground as possible. Other spp may be retained if they are rare and are not invasive. There is a strong presumption against removal of spindle, yew or privet.</p> <p>Other growth such as bramble also tends to grow out and this should be cleared with a slasher. (Unless this is done, the horses tend not to graze, which encourages more encroachment.)</p> <p>As well encroachment on the ground, branches from the trees and shrubs tend to grow into the pasture. These need to be cut back with long handled cutters (saws only needed for thick branches –left over c3 years). This includes the isolated shrubs that are outliers from the EH.</p>	
<b>Special spp</b> Adders tongue fern, hoary ragwort, knapweed, creeping jenny, lesser stitchwort, marsh horsetail and various sedges.	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
Long handled cutters, small saw, slasher	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<p><b>Project</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scrub removal in Little Elms Meadow (Comp 14a,b)</b></p> <p><b>No. 25</b> <span style="float: right;">7/6/02</span></p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>The pastures are the second most valuable habitat (after CCOW). A clear aim is therefore to preserve their extent by preventing scrub encroachment. In addition to preserving the extent of meadow generally, scrub control is needed to protect adders tongue fern</p> <p>This begs the question of whether one should remove scrub that has established over a number of years (ie from before the last scrub control work of the cycle). If the scrub is well established, the value of the pasture underneath may have been lost. Also, the scrub has its own wildlife value. On the other hand, increasing the area of a pasture is will improve its resilience and possibly (ultimately) its richness. It appears that when enchroaching scrub is cleared, the pasture readily re-establishes.</p> <p>Scrub, particularly blackthorn, is a very common habitat in PW. The loss of some in order to restore pasture is generally desirable. Other spp should be retained if they are rare and are not invasive. There is a strong presumption against removal of spindle, yew or privet.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>Stems should be sawn off at ground level and treated with Amicide. Ideally, roots of blackthorn may be dug out with a mattock. This reduces the incidence of suckering, but is very labour-intensive.</p> <p>Material may be piled up and left to rot in a few places. Preference is for locations which have already been used in this way. Bonfires are not generally necessary unless there are large quantities of cut material. If fires are made, old bonfire sites should be reused, rather than damaging good pasture.</p> <p>There is a major overhang of scrub from the Railway Embankment (RE). All the lower overhanging branches should be cut back. Stems that are growing through the RE fence or are just on the RE may be cut down in order to prevent immediate re-growth. However – there is an option to turn the boundary into a hedge which would replace the post and rail fence. It is therefore suggested that whn cutting takes place, at least one branch from each shrub is left intact so that it can be laid at a later date.</p>
<p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p><b>People</b></p> <p><b>Tools</b> Long handled cutters, saw, mattock.</p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b> See Part 6.</p>

<p><b>Project</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scrub removal in Willow Mead (Comp 12)</b></p> <p><b>No. 26</b> <span style="float: right;">7/6/02</span></p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>The pastures are the second most valuable habitat (after CCOW). A clear aim is therefore to preserve their extent by preventing scrub encroachment.</p> <p>This begs the question of whether one should remove scrub that has established over a number of years (ie from before the last scrub control work of the cycle). If the scrub is well established, the value of the pasture underneath may have been lost. Also, the scrub has its own wildlife value. On the other hand, increasing the area of a pasture will improve its resilience and possibly (ultimately) its richness. It appears that when encroaching scrub is cleared, the pasture readily re-establishes.</p> <p>Scrub, particularly blackthorn, is a very common habitat in PW. The loss of some in order to restore pasture is generally desirable.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>Stems should be sawn off at ground level and treated with Amicide. Ideally, roots of blackthorn may be dug out with a mattock. This reduces the incidence of suckering, but is very labour-intensive.</p> <p>Material may be piled up and left to rot in a few places. Preference is for locations which have already been used in this way. Bonfires are not generally necessary unless there are large quantities of cut material. If fires are made, old bonfire sites should be reused, rather than damaging good pasture.</p> <p>A good deal of clearance of blackthorn was done along the western part of the BIH. This was done primarily to restore the latter to a hedge and to give access top the newly formed hedge. There are parts left uncleared and consideration should be give to clearing these also. In particular the hedge has grown out near WM/LEM boundary. This has been cut back on previous occasions and further preventing encroachment is a definite policy (Task 23). However, a decision is needed whether to cut back further into the old growth.</p>
<p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p><b>People</b></p> <p><b>Tools</b></p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b></p> <p>See Part 6.</p>

<b>Project</b>	
<b>Scrub removal in Paddock (Comp 2a,b,c,d)</b>	
<b>No. 27</b>	7/6/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The pastures are the second most valuable habitat (after CCOW). One aim is therefore to preserve their extent by preventing scrub encroachment. This begs the question of whether one should remove scrub that has established over a number of years.</p> <p>Removal of this older scrub is a somewhat different issue from removing recent encroachment, where the policy is clear (see Task 24). If the scrub is well established, the value of the pasture underneath has probably been lost. Also, the scrub has its own wildlife value. On the other hand, increasing the area of a pasture is will improve its resilience and quite possibly (ultimately) its richness. The removal of scrub is thus a finely balanced decision.</p> <p>Scrub, particularly blackthorn, is a very common habitat in PW. The loss of some in order to restore pasture is probably generally desirable. Where there is some special feature or merit, eg mature hawthorns or rarer spp, this may alter the balance such that the presumption is in favour of not clearing it.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Stems should be sawn off at ground level and treated with Amicide. Ideally, roots of blackthorn may be dug out with a mattock. This reduces the incidence of suckering, but is very labour-intensive.</p> <p>Material may be piled up and left to rot in a few places. Preference is for locations which have already been used in this way. Bonfires are not generally necessary unless there are large quantities of cut material</p> <p>In the Pa there are some isolated shrubs of hawthorn and occasional other spp. The number is modest and they do not take up a significant area of the Pa. No clearance appears to be needed at present, but the situation should be reviewed.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	
See Part 6.	

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Maintenance of North Meadow Path Hedge (Comp 16)</b>	
<b>No. 28</b>	11/8/03
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Hedges are regarded as valuable habitats and should be retained where possible. The management is therefore to preserve a hedge where it exists as such. A new post and wire fence was erected on the LEM side of the hedge in order to protect the hedge. The hedge has now been resorted and the fence was removed in 2002.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Maintain hedge by cutting side and top every 3 years. Laying may be required at much longer intervals. How high / thick ?</p> <p>Where gaps still occur, these should be filled by planting seedlings. These may be taken directly from places where they are unwanted, such as by paths or the NMeP glade, or from ones that have been grown in pots for the purpose. Preferred sp is hawthorn, although others such as holly would help to increase diversity. Elm would be expected to be an important component of the hedge as the edge of the wood is dominated by it, but it does not usually form seedlings which can be planted. Blackhorn should not be used as it is very invasive and so threatens adjacent habitat. Seedlings/saplings may be protected by plastic tubing until c1m high.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	
See history / archive	

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Maintenance of South Meadow Path Hedge (Comp 13a,b)</b>	
<b>No. 29</b>	Updated 10/8/03
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Hedges are regarded as valuable habitats and should be retained where possible. The management is therefore to preserve a hedge where it exists as such. The SMeP, while somewhat gappy, is quite dense in parts. Because of this and the fact it stands on a bank, it forms the basis of a continuous stockproof hedge. Management should therefore continue to maintain the good bits and improve poorer, gappy parts.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Maintain hedge by cutting side and top every 3 years. Laying may be required at much longer intervals. How high / thick ?</p> <p>Where gaps still occur, these should be filled by planting seedlings. These may be taken directly from places where they are unwanted, such as by paths or the SMeP glade, or from ones that have been grown in pots for the purpose. Preferred sp is hawthorn, although others such as holly would help to increase diversity. Elm would be expected to be an important component of the hedge as the edge of the wood is dominated by it, but it does not usually form seedlings which can be planted. Blackthorn should not be used as it is very invasive and so may threaten other habitats. Seedlings/saplings may be protected by plastic tubing until c1m high.</p>	
<b>Special spp</b>	
<p>Goldilocks. A few plants grow on W side of SMeP. (Was for many years the only place in the reserve, but one seen by BIP in 2003). Wood sedge. Usually found only around SMeP, but recently also by path from MSt to canal.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<p><b>People</b>  <b>Tools</b>  <b>Materials</b>  <b>Other</b></p>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	
<p>See Part 6.</p>	

**Prescription**

**Eastern Boundary (Comps 4a,b,c,7)**

**No. 30**

Updated 10/8/03

**Rationale**

This boundary has a continuous stretch of chain link fence, which is a liability as it requires constant maintenance to patch it up. This is due largely to break-ins from the adjacent recreation field, but the fence is quite old and the chain link would need replacing anyway at some stage.

The boundary running up from the SE corner to about halfway up the Pa is next to an industrial site where security and deliberate damage to the fence are not an issue. The building and structures are unattractive and more trees or shrubs would help to shield them. The southern part of this section is mixed, with odd trees and shrubs in the very south (part of Comp 4c), pollarded willows just north (part of Comp 4c) and a more continuous line of scrubby vegetation to the north again (part of Comp 4b).

The boundary line opposite the recreation field continues the pattern of the north end of the industrial site, with a line of scrubby vegetation. It varies from being quite continuous and dense in some parts to very thin and gappy. In the extreme north, palisade fencing has been continued round the corner from the canal towpath.

**Description**

The southern part of the boundary opposite the industrial site should be investigated with a view to planting of shrubs to provide more visual screening as well as some extra habitat. With the new development, this should happen anyway.

For action on willows (pollarding), see Prescription 37.

The part of the boundary opposite the recreation field also needs a detailed plan. The number of shrubs is sufficient to form the basis for developing a proper hedge, at least in some parts. This would improve security and might even obviate the need for the fence. Elsewhere, stronger and lower maintenance fencing may be needed. To preserve the option of a hedge, the shrubs should be pruned every 4 years, the stems being cut off at around head height and long branches, especially those protruding into the Pa, should be lopped. It has been suggested that the palisade fence should be continued from the N end.

**Requirements:**

**People**

**Tools**

**Materials**

**Other**

**Comments**

**Completion**



<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Clearings</b> (Comps 9,17)	
<b>No. 31</b>	23/4/00
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Clearings provide a contrasting habitat in the wood if kept open but it is not obvious how valuable this is. The spp which colonise clearings will tend to be ones which are already common in PW and elsewhere. If a clearing is temporary, new trees will eventually grow up, which will help to break up the even age structure. However, there are probably more effective methods such as selective felling. Clearings can provide an attractive and useful amenity.</p> <p>The only real clearings are now the Central and the Gilbert White clearings. In addition some of the central part of the wood is fairly open - this was called the Great Clearing.</p> <p>The CC is of considerable amenity value, being attractive, a good vantage point and providing an opportunity for visitors to sit down. It is a very good stopping point for guided groups and classes.</p> <p>The GWC is distinct and allows the coppice area underneath to flourish. The GC also allows coppice to flourish by virtue of the paucity of big trees.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>The CC is a valued part of PW and should therefore be maintained by periodic clearing.</p> <p>The GWC and GC are in the coppiced area of the wood. The coppicing cycle will in general include removal of young individuals of tree spp such as oak and this should be continued.</p> <p>No attempt should to restore or maintain the other (relict) clearings such as Ash End Clearing.</p> <p>No new clearings should be made.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<p><b>Task</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Central Clearing (Comp 24)</b></p> <p><b>No. 32</b> <span style="float: right;">24/4/00</span></p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>For general comments on clearings see Prescription 31.</p> <p>The CC was established by cutting down mature oaks in ** and is now a familiar and much loved feature of PW. It is of considerable amenity value, being, attractive, a good vantage point and providing an opportunity for visitors to sit down. It is a very good stopping point for guided groups and classes and is well used as such.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>1 The boundaries of the CC should be retained by clearing encroaching scrub and bramble. This includes removal of overhanging branches of the shrubs (but not canopy trees). This should be done about every 3 years.</p> <p>2 Although grass grows in the CC, it does not normally grow tall or rank. Small areas of long grass can be left as long as they are not in the way of the routes through the CC or in the area between the benches. Isolated taller plants such as willowherb and hawkweeds should likewise be left unless they intrude on routes.</p> <p>3 The benches in CC are the most important in PW and should be maintained and renovated as appropriate. They will in due course have to be replaced. The simple style, of posts and seats made simply from materials to hand is appropriate to the location ; more fancy or specially made benches are not preferred.</p>
<p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p>People</p> <p><b>1 c2 person hours every 3 years</b></p> <p>2 0-1/2 hour every year</p> <p>3 No estimate as survival of seats and replacement are hard to predict.</p> <p><b>Tools</b></p> <p>1 Long handled cutters and slasher</p> <p>2 Slasher</p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b></p>

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Wet Elm Woodland</b> (Comps 20b,22,25,26)	
<b>No. 33</b>	24/4/00
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>This is a distinct habitat at the NW of the wood. Although it was clearly drying out in the 1990s, it retained its dank, overgrown nature with a shrub layer mainly of elm and much nettle in the field layer. The wet weather in 1998 and 1999 restored it to wetness, with pools of open water in various places, mainly at the west edge of wood in comp 20b.</p> <p>Being distinct and having been left largely alone for many years, little intervention is needed. Shortage of water is the greatest threat and nothing should be done to exacerbate this. The stream should not be dug out as this will encourage drying out. Indeed there may be a case for obstructing the stream so that it will break its banks or spill out into the wood in wet periods. (The evidence of early 2000 suggests that when the weather has been very wet, there is more than enough water to feed the ponds and Pondfield lower down. Thus using the water in wet periods for the WEW does not jeopardise other areas.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>No specific or regular action required.</p> <p>The drainage situation should be monitored and judicious changes may be made to enhance dampness.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<p><b>People</b>  <b>Tools</b>  <b>Materials</b>  <b>Other</b></p>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	
<p>Two small, rough dams created on 22/4/00 to raise water level in stream and thus reduce drainage of adjacent woodland. c1/2 hour.</p>	

<b>Task</b>	
<b>Area north of Paddock (Comp 3)</b>	
<b>No. 34</b>	24/4/00
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>This is a scrubby area running from the top of the gently sloping Pa up the Mound to the canal. It is an undistinguished patch, in contrast to the nearby Pa, which is one of the most floristically interesting areas in PW (including <i>Eqisetum arvense</i>, <i>E palustre</i>, adders tongue fern and hoary ragwort). Its scrub and rank vegetation should not be allowed to encroach into the Pa.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Encroachment into the Pa depends on a number of factors, including the intensity of grazing at the top of the Pa. The situation should be monitored and scrub and rank vegetation encroaching south and west into the Pa should be cut back as necessary.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
0-3 hours every 2 years	
<b>Tools</b>	
Long handled cutters, slasher	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

**Prescription****Pasture near hut (Comp 5)****No. 35**

24/4/00

**Rationale**

In one sense this is just a small part of the pasture of PW and as such should be subject to the general prescription. It is, however an isolated area, being separated from the WM and LEM by the BrP which may limit colonisation and interchange of spp. Although adjacent to the Pa, it is isolated from the Pa in the sense that the horses are prevented from moving between fields in the earlier part of the grazing season (see Prescription 14).

The field is often wet and is subject to flooding in prolonged wet periods (this is a continuation of the situation in the south Pa). Drought is more of a threat than flooding for the pastures of PW as a whole, so no action should be taken to increase drainage or reduce flooding. Poaching by horses is a particular risk in wet weather because horses congregate in this small area. However, the horses should not be moved out of PW due to poaching in this area alone. The area recovers well, as demonstrated in winter and spring of 1998/99, and the optimum grazing of other pastures is far more important than the risk of harm to this field.

The field has some aesthetic significance as it is the one that is always seen by visitors. It also contains the path into the wood and it is most desirable that the path is kept in good repair and is dry, even if the rest of the field is flooded.

There is hedge between this pasture and the Pa. This is of recent origin and has been nurtured and well maintained.

**Description**

The grazing regime is the same as WM (see Task 14).

The path should be built up with hoggin as and when required.

The hedge with the Pa should be trimmed to maintain a height of c1½ metres and thickness of c1 metre every 2 years.

**Requirements:****People****Tools****Materials****Other****Comments****Completion**

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Hut enclosure (Comp 6)</b>	
<b>No. 36</b>	25/4/00
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>The hut enclosure is a small part of the reserve but it is the place with the overwhelming concentration of people. The primary aim is therefore to make it attractive and convenient to people and not just to preserve wildlife. It is the one area where 'gardening' should be the norm. However, there is no intent make it a formal garden with flower beds, etc.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Cut grass a few times a year.</p> <p>Trim trees and shrubs</p> <p>Clear paths, around display board, etc of vegetation</p> <p>Maintain seats in good state of repair</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

**Prescription****Paddock Willow Area (Comp 7)****No. 37**

updated 10/8/03

**Rationale**

This area is a distinct part of the Pa as it has ditches that are flooded for a period each year. It is quite different from other ditches or ponds in the Reserve as it is dominated by grass, but not *Glyceria maxima* or *Phragmites*. While there has been a tendency for the area to dry out more in the last decade, this is probably due to low rainfall, rather than silting up. The area is fed by a spring from the site to the east. This needs to be protected when the site to the east is redeveloped.

The pond is the only location for *Glyceria fluitans*. It is also a good site for frogs. There are banks to the west, but these have no particular wildlife interest and do not serve to keep the water in.

The other main feature is the pollarded willows. These should continue to be pollarded, but the previous (unagreed and undocumented) intent of pollarding very frequently needs to be reviewed. If all the willows are pollarded say every 2 years, the visual screening will be poor.

**Description**

Pollard willows – see Task 38

No action needed to retain water. (The stream along the boundary should not be dug out as this could tend to drain the area.)

**Special spp**

*Glyceria fluitans* (only location in reserve), frogs

**Requirements:****People****Tools****Materials****Other****Comments****Completion**

<p><b>Task</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pollard willows in Pa (Comp 7)</b></p> <p><b>No. 38</b> <span style="float: right;">24/4/00</span></p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>The pollarded willows help to screen the adjacent industrial site, albeit only slightly. They are easy to pollard in the first or second year when long handled cutters or a long handled saw can be used. After that, the job becomes more difficult, as ladders and saws are needed.</p> <p>Having started on a cycle of more frequent pruning, this should be continued. However, re-consideration of this is needed.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>All willows should be pollarded every 2 years. All trees may be done in one year. Alternatively, some may be done in one year and the remainder the next.</p> <p>If a tree looks sickly, it may be left unpollarded.</p> <p>One or two branches should be left on each willow (current thinking is that this lessens the strain on the tree and reduces its chance of dying).</p>
<p>Requirements:</p> <p><b>People</b> c4 hours over 2 years</p> <p><b>Tools</b> long handled cutters, long handled saw, ladder, steps, saw</p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b></p>

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Bridle Path (Comp 11)</b>	
<b>No. 39</b>	24/4/00
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>This is the access for the horses to WM and LEM. Management needs to take account of this.</p> <p>The BrP is also very visible to a number of neighbours. Management may be undertaken to keep them happy, but this must reflect that the BrP is part of a nature reserve, not an extension of their garden.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Generally the horses will keep a pathway clear. However, this can become muddy. Rank vegetation, such as burdock, may be removed from alongside the path to increase its width and prevent the BRP becoming very overgrown.</p> <p>The area next to the garden fences is sometimes colonised by garden plants. These have never proved troublesome in the sense of invading a significant area and such colonies should no need to be removed.</p> <p>The ditch between the BrP and the wood may help to keep the BrP dry, but its influence is not clear. It should not be dug out as it will tend to dry out the wood, which is not an objective.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<p><b>Task</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Western Boundary</b> (Comps 21b,c,d)</p> <p><b>No. 40</b> <span style="float: right;">updated 10/8/03</span></p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>A path has been maintained in Comp 21c and 21d by occasional clearance of scrub and rank vegetation. This was cleared thoroughly in preparation for and during the bund and fence works in 99/00. In addition, the path was extended along Comp 21b, which had been previously been cleared very infrequently.</p> <p>The path should be maintained, as it is needed for access to the stream and to the bund. (These are the most dynamic parts of the Reserve and need monitoring.) The cleared area has provided a distinct habitat with a number of different spp from the adjoining woodland. The path should continue to perform this function, which will become more necessary now with the possibility of the western edge of the wood and the bund vegetation joining to form an undifferentiated and monotonous habitat.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>The path should be cleared as required. This is expected to be 1 or 2 times a year. A path of only c1m should be cleared to retain access and the extra width should be cleared only once a year. This both reduces labour and improves habitat management. In particular it will assist stone parsley in the N and barren strawberry and 3-veined sandwort in the S.</p> <p>A path should be retained at least 2m wide next to the fence in Comps 21b and 21d. In Comp 21a a path of 3-4m wide should be maintained, at least to the point where barren strawberry and 3-veined sandwort were found. In Comp 21c, the path should be from the fence to the stream.</p>
<p><b>Special spp</b></p> <p>Carex remota, Potentilla sterilis (only place in PW) and Moehringia trinerva, Sison amomum (only place in reserve).</p>
<p><b>Requirements:</b></p> <p><b>People</b></p> <p><b>Tools</b> strimmer, slasher, long handled cutters</p> <p><b>Materials</b></p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p><b>Completion</b> See Part 6.</p>

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Western Boundary – north part (Comp 21a)</b>	
<b>No. 41</b>	24/4/00
<b>Rationale</b>	
The Boundary Path has never extended up to the canal – indeed there is no obvious way that it could be as Comp 21 is just the base of a steep slope, the Dust Heap, by the Boundary fence.	
<b>Description</b>	
No action at present.	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

**Prescription****Bund** (Comps Bund a,b,c,d,e)**No. 42**

Updated 25/6/02

**Rationale**

This is a new habitat, the bund having been created in 99/00. New compartments have been defined as Bund a to Bund e. (This use of letters at the start of the designation instead of numbers mirrors that in the RE and is intended to distinguish areas which are not within the legal boundary of the Reserve.) The designations a to e are used to represent the section of the bund opposite a corresponding compartment inside the boundary. Thus Bund a is opposite Comp 21a, Bund b is opposite Comp 21b and so on. Bund e is opposite Comp 15e.

Because it is designated in the plan as a "buffer zone" and has a security fence some 20m to the west of the Reserve fence, it is now fairly secure as wildlife habitat and is, in effect, an extension of the Reserve.

A schedule of thin planting of native spp was agreed with the Selborne Society. A management schedule for the area, to prevent the saplings being overwhelmed by other vegetation in their early years, was discussed. It is not known if this has been finalised and indeed, whether it is necessary anyway.

It was intended that the growth of the saplings and natural colonization should be allowed and there is no reason why this intent should be changed. It may also be noted that management of this new and quite extensive area would make heavy demands on the limited manpower available.

**Description**

Little action needed at present, although the area should be monitored as it will develop and change fast.

Small areas by the BP fence should be cleared so that the stream on bund side of fence (Bund D) can be seen and accessed. Particularly at FP1(Fence Post) 110-111 where the pipe connects to BS.

**Requirements:****People****Tools****Materials****Other****Comments****Completion**

**Prescription****Railway Embankment – (Comp RE1,2,3)****No. 43**

Updated 15/11/02

**Rationale**

The RE is a form of buffer zone. As it is available for wildlife and is unlikely to be developed for other use, it is, to some extent, an extension of the Reserve. It is owned and under the control of Railtrack and thus we have limited rights over its management.

There is a constant tendency for the shrubs, which form a line just on the RE side of the fence to hang over and shade out the meadows in WM and LEM. These overhangs should be removed – see 22, 23, 25 and 26.

**Description**

Overhanging branches should be removed.

**Requirements:****People****Tools****Materials****Other****Comments****Completion**

**Prescription****Path clearance** (Various Comps)**No. 44**

29/4/00

**Rationale**

Paths are an important amenity for the people visiting the Reserve as they enable easy access.

Paths also have an important function in that they confine almost all visitors to a few defined tracks within the wood, thereby preventing damage and disturbance to the great majority of it. This is of particular importance in the wood as bluebells are very sensitive to trampling.

To preserve amenity and to protect the wood as a whole, preservation of paths is a high priority.

**Description**

Paths are maintained to some extent by the process of being walked on but they can still become overgrown and need clearing. In the woodland, the main invader is bramble. This can be cleared by cutting back with a slasher. However, the preferred method is pulling the shoots out of the soil and throwing back into the wood. Typically, the shoots are pulled out for one metre from the path edge, but this depends on how narrow the path has become.

In the wood, branches from shrubs gradually grow across the paths at all heights and need to be cut.

In the wood and more particularly on the edges, various herbaceous and woody spp tend to encroach onto paths. These may be removed with a slasher, but pulling of seedlings or saplings of the woody spp is preferable. All spp should generally be removed, but care must be taken for one rarity in PW - the small flowered buttercup on S.Me.P. This must not be cut, but surrounding plants may be.

Path clearing is on an 'as and when' process, but is typically needed once a year. In the more shaded parts of the wood, once every two or more years may be sufficient, but on paths such as N.Me.P, S.Me.P and C.P more frequent clearance may be necessary. Clearance of the vegetation encroaching at ground level may need to be undertaken more often than clearance of branches at higher level.

**Requirements:****People****Tools**

Slasher, long handled cutters

**Materials****Other****Comments****Completion**

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Clearance of rank veg in Paddock (Comp 4)</b>	
<b>No. 45</b>	July 01
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Due to vagaries of grazing and rate of growth, there is a tendency for rank vegetation to appear in the more central areas ie not the E or W edges (the latter are covered in Task 24). This should be cleared because otherwise they act as a source of increasing areas of non-grass spp and loss of Pa habitat.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>In recent years creeping thistle has invaded the N part and a large patch of bramble has grown on the E side near the N end. This should be removed, a slasher normally being sufficient, and the material piled up in a convenient place at the edge of the Pa. Thistles can be pulled which is a more permanent solution, but it is a great deal more work and it is not clear if this extra work is justified.</p>	
<b>Precautions or special protection</b>	
<p>Do not clear ragwort, especially hoary ragwort</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
Time required depends entirely on the vagaries of growth and grazing.	
<b>Tools</b> Slasher	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	

<b>Prescription</b>	
<b>Clearance of rank veg in LEM (Comp 14)</b>	
<b>No. 46</b>	9/6/02
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Due to vagaries of grazing and rate of growth, there is a tendency for rank vegetation to appear at various points in LEM. This should be cleared because otherwise it acts as a source of increasing areas of non-grass spp and loss of meadow habitat.</p>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>There is a general tendency for rank vegetation to extend from the hedges and the scrub areas in LEM. In recent years creeping thistle has invaded the NW area. Such rank vegetation should be removed. A slasher normally being sufficient, and the material piled up in a convenient place at the edge of the Pa. Thistles can be pulled which is a more permanent solution, but it is a great deal more work and it is not clear if this extra work is justified.</p>	
<b>Precautions / special spp</b>	
<p>Do not clear ragwort, especially hoary ragwort.</p>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<p>Time required depends entirely on the vagaries of growth and grazing.</p>	
<b>Tools</b> Slasher	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Completion</b>	
<p>See Port 6.</p>	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Pond dipping platform in Pondfield Pond (Comp 15d)</b>
<b>No. 47</b>	
<b>Rationale</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Precautions or special protection</b>	
<b>Requirements:</b>	
<b>People</b>	
<b>Tools</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	
<b>Other</b>	

**Completion**

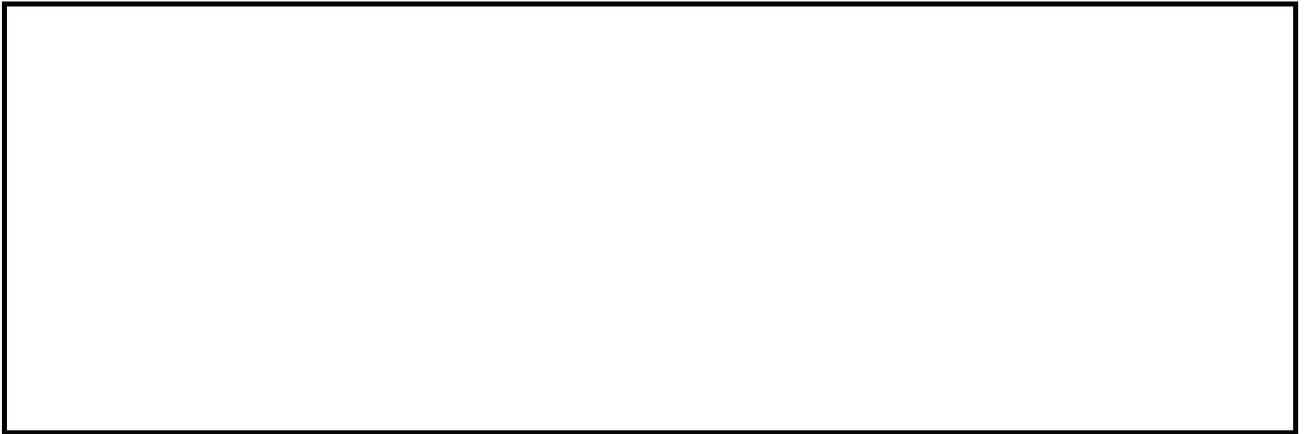
(Task no. )

Written /01

**Comments**

Written /01

**History**



## Appendix to Part 5 - Checklist of compartments

This table provides a checklist of the tasks/projects/prescriptions against the compartments that they apply to. In some cases a task/project is specific, but in others it applies to several or many.

Comp	Location	Habitat Type	Project / Task / Prescription
1	East part of wood	CCOW	1,11
2a	North part of EH	EH	19
2b	Mid part of EH	EH	19
2c	South part of EH	EH	19
2d	Far S part of EH	EH	19
3	Top of Pa	ORD	9
4a	North Pa	Pasture	13,14,24,27,30,45
4b	Mid Pa	Pasture	13,14,24,27,30,45
4c	South Pa	Pasture	13,14,24,27,30,45
5	Field by hut	Pasture	13,14,24,27,35
6	Hut enclosure	Misc	36
7	Pa willow area	Misc	30,37,38,
8	SE corner of wood	CCOW	1,11
9	S part of wood	CCOW/EE	1,3,11,31
10a	W part of BIH	BIH	20
10b	E part of BIH	BIH	21
11	Bridle Path	Misc	39
12	Willow Mead	Pasture	13,14,22,26
13a	N part of SMeP	WE	29
13b	S part of SMeP	WE	29
14a	N part of LEM	Pasture	13,14,23,25
14b	S part of LEM	Pasture	13,14,16,23,46
15a	W part of PdF	PdF	5,6
15b	NE part of PdF	PdF	5,7
15c	SE part of PdF	PdF	5,8
15d	PdF pond	PdF	4,47`
15e	N part of PdF	PdF	5,9
16	Far W part of PdF	PdF	5,10,
17	Mid S part of wood	CCOW/C/EE	1,2,3,11,18,31
18	NMeP	WE	28
19	PP to VS part of wood	CCOW	1,3,11
20a	BP to VS (S) part of wood	CCOW	1,11
20b	BP to VS (N) part of wood	CCOW/WEW	1,11,33
21a	W boundary - DHp	ORD	41
21b	W boundary – W of UWPd	Misc	40
21c	W boundary – BP (N)	Misc	40
21d	W boundary – BP (S)	Misc	40
22	W of UWPd part of wood	WEW	33
23a	VS to UWPd part of wood	CCOW	1,11
23b	VS to BWP part of wood	CCOW	1,11
23c	PP to FP part of wood	CCOW	1,11
24	Central Clearing	CI	31,32
25	UWPd and wood N	Pond/WEW	11,17,33,
26	Base of Dust Heap	ORD/WEW	11,33
27a	DHp W of DHpP	ORD	12
27b	DHp E of DHpP	ORD	12
27c	W part of Mound	ORD	12
27d	E part of Mound	ORD	12
27e	Mound E of EHP	ORD	12
28a	W part of Canal Path	ORD	12

28b	Mid part of Canal Path	ORD	12
28c	E part of Canal Path	ORD	1,11
29	NE part of wood	CCOW	1,11
30	NW part of wood	CCOW	1,11
31	Central part of wood	CCOW/CI	1,2,11,31
RE	Railway Embankment	Misc	43
Bund	Bund	Misc	42

Introduction and projects 1-3 written ?1998

First part of 2, Projects 3-44 and App written over a period up in month up to 1/10/00

Minor changes edits Feb 2001