Scottish Borders
NATIVE WOODLAND
HABITAT ACTION PLAN



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NATIVE WOODLAND

The status and ecology of native woodland in the Borders

The principle aim of the Scottish Borders HAP for native woodlands is to maintain, enhance and expand in area the native woodlands of the Scottish Borders.

Native woodlands are defined as 'woodlands composed wholly or largely of the tree species which occur naturally in the Scottish Borders; including both woodlands with a continuous history of natural regeneration and those where either the current or a previous generation of trees has been planted within their natural range'.

Throughout Great Britain there has been a gradual decline in the remaining native woodland, with a reduction of approximately 30 - 40% over the last 60 years. This decline has mostly been due to:

1. The conversion of native woodland to agricultural land
2. Neglect, overgrazing and burning
3. Reforestation with coniferous plantations

Although the Borders possesses one of the lowest percentages of native woodland compared to total land area of any Scottish region, there exists within the Borders many opportunities for improved management of the existing native woodlands, and for native woodland expansion.

Native woodlands in the Borders are often unprotected from livestock and as a result of excessive grazing have lost much of their ground flora and fauna as well as their ability to regenerate young trees.

Native woodlands have, for the purposes of classification and assessment by government agencies such as SNH, been divided into a number of different categories:

1. Ancient woodland - woodland present on maps pre 1750
2. Long established woodland - woodland present on maps pre 1850
3. Semi-natural woodland - woodland that has developed through self seeding

Semi-natural woodland in the Borders is sparse and totals approximately 6,790ha. The distribution of ancient and semi-natural woodland within the Borders is interesting: Berwickshire contains the largest hectarage of ancient and semi-natural woodland with 298ha (0.4% of land area), Ettrick and Lauderdale contain 225ha (0.2% of land area), Roxburgh has 180ha (0.1%of land area) and Tweeddale has only 35ha (<0.1% of land area) (Walker & Badenoch 1988, 1989 and 1991). The Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) component consists of 0.3% (1,355ha) of the land area. The broader definition of the native woodland framework which includes ancient, long established and semi-natural and high native component of the Scottish Semi-Natural Woodland Inventory (SSNWI) covers 1.4% of the land area (6,790ha) (Ray et al. 2003).

The Borders has many small remnant woodlands, many of which have been visited by woodland surveyors and a few of which are safeguarded by Scottish Natural Heritage as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and registered as Scottish Wildlife Trust Wildlife Sites.

Box 1. **Examples of important sites for native woodland in the Scottish Borders**

Abbey St Bathans SSSI
Blythe and Birckie Woods
Cragbank SSSI
Glenkinnon Burn SSSI
Henderland Bank SSSI
Hermanlaw and Muchra Cleuchs SSSI
Jedwater Woodlands SSSI
Newtown St Boswells Woods SSSI
Pease Bridge Glen SSSI
Plora Wood SSSI
Ramsaycleuch Bridge
Riskinhope SSSI
The Nest
Whitlaw Rig SSSI

Native woodland types in the Scottish Borders

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) details six different native woodland types as priority habitats, five of which are represented in the Borders:

1. Upland oakwoods
2. Upland ashwoods
3. Wet woodlands
4. Upland birchwoods
5. Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

Further information on the UKBAP Habitat Action Plans for native woodland priority habitats and their associated species can be found at **www.ukbap.org.uk/habitats.aspx**

Few remnants of Borders native woodland can be 'fitted' in to a particular native woodland type; either because the woodlands have been heavily grazed and only the tree species remain, or because remnant ground flora remains beneath an overstorey of trees containing non-native species, such as beech and sycamore National Vegetation Classification (NVC)

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categories: W7 *Alnus glutinosa- Fraxinus excelsior-Lysimachia nemorum,* W9 *Fraxinus excelsior -Sorbus aucuparia-Oxalis acetosella* woodland and W11 *Quercus petraea -Betula pubescens-Oxalis acetosella* woodland are the predominant native woodland types in the Borders.

Upland oakwoods are characterised by a predominance of oak (most commonly sessile, but locally pedunculate) and birch in the canopy, with varying amounts of holly, rowan and hazel as the main understorey species. The range of plants found in the ground layer varies according to the underlying soil type and degree of grazing, from bluebell-bramble-fern communities through grass and bracken dominated ones to heathy moss-dominated areas.

The term upland mixed ashwoods is used for woods on base-rich soils in most of which ash is a major species, although locally oak, birch, elm, small-leaved lime and even hazel may be the most abundant species.

Wet woodland occurs on poorly drained or seasonally wet soils, usually with alder, birch and willows as the predominant tree species, but sometimes including ash, oak, pine and beech on the drier riparian areas. It is found on floodplains, as successional habitat on fens, mires and bogs, along streams and hillside flushes, and in peaty hollows.

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Many alder woods are ancient and have a long history of coppice management that has determined their structure, and in some situations it appears that this practice has maintained alder as the dominant species and impeded succession to drier woodland communities.

Upland birchwoods in Scotland are dominated by stands of downy birch (Betula pubescens) and/or silver birch (Betula pendula) with constituents such as rowan, willow, juniper and aspen. On more acidic soils, rowan is a prominent component. Except on the most acid soils, birch influences the soil to allow development of a grass-herb flora on sites previously dominated by dwarf shrub heath. As birchwoods senesce, the ground flora eventually returns to heath as tree cover is lost. Where grazing pressure is high the ground flora tends to be grass and moss dominated.

Lowland mixed deciduous woodland includes woodland growing on soils from very acidic to base-rich and includes most semi-natural woodland in lowland Scotland and complements the ranges of upland oakwoods and upland ashwoods. It occurs largely within enclosed landscapes at relatively low altitude, though altitude is not a defining feature. Often there is evidence of past coppicing on moderately acid to base-rich soils; on very acid soils the type may be represented by former wood-pastures of oak and birch.

The biodiversity of Borders native woodland

Much of the native woodland of the Borders woodland is characterised by its small size and fragmented nature, with few significant ancient semi-natural woodlands and with large distances between the woodland fragments. The majority of these woodlands are long and thin, and as a result of exposure to the influence of 'drying' winds, are not as humid and shady as less linear native woodlands. This lack of woodland conditions e.g. humidity and shade, means that the range of woodland plant and animal diversity in many Borders native woods is low.

Although scattered, small and often poor in numbers of plants and animals, native woodlands in the Borders are significant in nature conservation value. The most apparent features of this conservation value can often be seen in the ground flora. Examples of LBAP species associated with native woodland include species listed in Box 2.

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Box 2. **Some Species of Conservation Concern associated with native woodlands in the Scottish Borders**

Group	Species	Habitat
Lichens	*Cyphelium inquinans*	Epiphytic on oak and other tree species
Bryophytes	*Fossombronia fimbriata*	A liverwort which can grow in woodland rides
Higher Plants	Chickweed wintergreen *Trientalis europeaus*	Locally abundant in native woodlands, often on acid soils
	Green figwort *Scrophularia umbrosa*	Damp woodland, often by burn sides. Thought to be increasing in the UK
	Herb Paris *Paris quadrifolia*	Strong ancient woodland indicator species
	Juniper *Juniperus communis*	Can be an understorey species in open woodland
	Aspen *Populus tremula*	Component of oak and birch woodland
	Tussock sedges *Carex spp*	Associated with wet woodland
	Twinflower *Linnaea borealis*	Associated with coniferous woodland
Lepidoptera	Dark bordered beauty *Epione paralellaria*	Larva feeds on low re-growth of aspen in Scotland, but associated with Salix repens in the Scottish Borders
Hymenoptera	A sawfly *Nematus monticola*	Information on host plant not known although related species occur on willow
Birds	Black grouse *Tetrao tetrix*	Can be associated with open woodland, woodland margins and woodland glades
	Spotted flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*	Associated with woodland and woodland margins
	Tree sparrow *Passer montanus*	Associated with woodland margins and hedgerows as well as open fields
	Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*	Associated with woodland and woodland margins
	Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*	Can be associated with riparian woodland
	Willow Tit	Prefers wet woodland

A full list of the species associated with Native Woodland Habitats and other woodlands in the Scottish Borders can be found at **http://www.scottishborders.gov.uk/life/environment/naturalheritage/2715.html**

Indicator species

The following lists are a first attempt to characterise typical species that are either restricted to or characteristic of UK Priority Habitats within the Scottish Borders. No attempt has been made at this stage to include bryophytes, lichens, fungi or invertebrates other than lepidoptera. The intention is to use these indicative lists to identify priority habitats.

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Upland Oakwood
Sessile Oak *(Quercus petraea)*
Common Cow-wheat *(Melampyrum pratense)*
Common Figwort *(Scrophularia nodosa)*
False-Brome *(Brachypodium sylvaticum)*
Redstart *(Phoenicurus phoenicurus)*
Pied Flycatcher *(Ficedula hypoleuca)*
Wood Warbler *(Phylloscopus sibilatrix)*
Jay *(Garrullus glandarius)*

Upland Ashwood
Ash *(Fraxinus excelsior)*
Hard Shield Fern *(Polystichum aculeatum)*
Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem *(Gagea lutea)*
Herb Paris *(Paris quadrifolia)*
Rock Whitebeam *(Sorbus rupicola)*
Lesser Hairy-Brome *(Bromopsis benekenii)*

Wet Woodland
Alder *(Alnus glutinosa)*
Bay Willow *(Salix pentandra)*
Tea-leaved Willow *(Salix phylicifolia)*
Wood Stitchwort *(Stellaria nemorum)*
Coral-root Orchid *(Corallorhiza trifida)*
Greater Tussock-Sedge *(Carex paniculata)*
Dark Bordered Beauty *(Epione parallelaria)*

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Upland Birchwoods
Downy birch *(Betula pubescens)*
Silver birch *(Betula pendula)*
Rowan *(Sorbus aucuparia)*
Wood anemone *(Anemone nemorosa)*
Slender St John's-wort *(Hypericum pulchrum)*
Greater stitchwort *(Stellaria holostea)*
Black grouse *(Tetrao tetrix)*
Redpoll *(Carduelis flammea)*

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland
Penduculate oak *(Quercus robur)*
Ash *(Fraxinus excelsior)*
Ivy *(Hedera helix)*
Dog's Mercury *(Mercurialis perennis)*
Primrose *(Primula vulgaris)*
Tufted-hair grass *(Deschampsia cespitosa)*
Wavy-hairgrass *(Deschampsia flexuosa)*

Some of our native woods are rich in dead wood and associated fauna and flora - a few are known to have internationally important populations of fungi and invertebrates that make a living from feeding on dead wood. It is perhaps the collections of plants rather than the presence of individual species that give Borders native woodland a distinct identity. In a Scottish context, some of the woodland types found in the Borders have species compositions more akin to woodlands in the north of England and the Midlands e.g. ash-elm woodland on base rich soils.

The biodiversity value of existing native woodlands in the Scottish Borders is highly variable and depends on the ecological 'condition' of the woodlands. It will be important to prioritise action on those sites where management is likely to have a significant impact or is urgently required to prevent further decline of biodiversity. PAWS are an example of the kind of sites where restoration management is a high priority and will have the greatest impact on biodiversity. The appropriate restoration of PAWS will facilitate the return of native species to these sites.

Factors causing loss or decline of native woodland in the Scottish Borders

Impacts

Historical loss of woodlands
Most of the original native woodland cover was lost through clearance in the bronze and iron ages, leaving relatively small and isolated fragments of native woodlands, primarily on steep slopes in the riparian zone.

Loss of traditional management of native woodlands
Many native woods in the Borders that were previously managed for wood pasture, charcoal, firewood, hazel sticks and oak bark (used for tanning in Borders towns such as Selkirk) have become neglected and have lost their cultural and economic importance. This change in management has resulted in relatively few people working in native woodlands, and a subsequent diminishing of their value and role in the lives of Borders people.

Coniferisation
In the 1950's and 1960's foresters were encouraged to under plant 'scrubby' native woodlands with fast growing conifers and to ring bark or fell the

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native trees. These new forest blocks were regarded as commercially lucrative and also provided shelter for game birds such as pheasants. This practice has ceased, but there is a legacy of native woodlands with little in the way of ground flora through excessive conifer shading, and this shading will in time kill off the native trees present in the wood.

Overgrazing
Grazing by sheep, deer and rabbits has probably had the most significant impact on the remaining native woodlands in the Borders. As native woodlands lost their traditional roles and farming became more financially rewarding, the remaining areas of native woodland were used as shelter for farm stock with little thought to continuing the tree cover, as had been practiced in earlier times. High levels of grazing has led to the loss of a defined shrub layer and field layer in many of our woodlands. Medieval systems of managing woodlands with stock in them were quite sophisticated and relied on the continuation of the woodland.

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Threats

Grazing levels

Modern agriculture has placed little value on the remaining native woodland remnants, save for the 'first bite'. This flush of grass growth appears underneath tree canopy at lambing time and makes farmers reluctant to remove stock in order to allow natural regeneration of trees. High grazing levels of woodlands continues to present a problem for native woodlands. This could be controlled through appropriate grazing management or exclusion where necessary.

Other agricultural practices and habitat fragmentation

In more recent times, intensive agricultural practices, such as pasture improvement through drainage and reseeding, have led to the disappearance of semi-natural habitats. Additionally, local nutrient enrichment from spray drift or run-off from agricultural land has led to a decrease in the diversity of soil fauna and ground flora.

Non-native species

Ancient woodland, long established woodland, and semi-natural woodland in the Borders may have high percentages of non-native species present, such as is the case of Plora Wood, opposite Walkerburn in Tweeddale where beech and non-native conifers are present.

These non-native conifers, beech, and sycamore are not native to the Borders; these tree species are able to regenerate within native woodland, and have in many instances taken the place of the once common Wych elm in woodlands affected by Dutch elm disease.

Beech (native to the south of England) and sycamore (naturalised in the UK) have long been a feature in the Borders landscape (for over 300 years) and arrived as a result of trends in landscape fashion amongst landowners and as timber trees and as such have a biodiversity value in their own right. However, these species have changed the species composition of many native woodlands particularly in the wake of Dutch elm disease, so that many will have lost their distinctive plant and animal communities. Beech casts a heavy shade and where dominant, effectively shades out the plant communities on the forest floor. Other exotic species affecting native woodland in the Borders include a garlic species, the few flowered leek and Leopard's-bane now dominating a number of woods in the central Borders such as Newtown St Boswells Wood. Rhododendron, japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and Himalayan balsalm are also prevalent in Borders woods.

A major invasive element of native woodlands stems from the regeneration of non-native conifers such as sitka spruce. This can be dealt with, though management is likely to be expensive.

Climate change

Climate change would appear to be having some effect on plant and animal communities through seasonal changes e.g. early flowering of woodland plants, changes to the nesting patterns of woodland birds and early emergence of insects leading to lack of synchronisation with nesting migrants.

Current action being taken with respect to native woodlands in the Scottish Borders

Current Action

Borders Forest Trust (BFT) *Ancient woodlands project* - conservation and expansion of native woodland by fencing, regeneration and planting (95 ha). Riparian woodlands project - conservation and expansion of native riparian woodlands by fencing, regeneration and planting (178 ha). *Ettrick Floodplain project* - conservation and expansion of native woodland by fencing, regeneration and planting (90 ha). Biodiversity conservation project - juniper establishment on sites across the Borders (7.4 ha). *Community woodlands project* - establishment of native community woodland by fencing, planting and regeneration (27 ha). Promotion of woodland culture in 21 community groups. *School Grounds and Education* - educational and promotional project working in schools and communities to promote native woodland culture (30 plus schools).

Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) Delivering grants, advice and felling controls aimed (amongst other things) at protecting, enhancing and creating new native woodlands. Over the past 5 years an average of about 100ha per year of native woodland has been fenced and/or enhanced under the Woodland Grant Scheme (WGS). A further area of about 100ha per year has been planted (inc. replanting after conifer felling) or regenerated under WGS. (These figures include most NGO and private ownerships but exclude FE). Encouraging understanding, involvement in and use of native (and other) woodlands through grants, advice and partnerships such as Treefest and Forest Education Initiative (FEI). GIS based study to develop a practical method of identifying priority areas for the restoration and expansion of native woodlands in line with Forest Habitat Network principles. In 2005, to support

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implementation of the Scottish Borders Woodland Strateg
Locational Premium for native and ripanian woodland. This will lead to the creation of 500ha of native woodland by 2008.

FCS Scottish Borders Forest District 70ha of PAWS and 8ha of ASNW have been identified within Forestry Commission Scotland land in the Scottish Borders as being priorities for management action. Work began in 1999, and is ongoing, with management categories within PAWS of either to enhance biodiversity interest (e.g. thinning to reduce shading of ground flora) or to restore to the native woodland type appropriate to the site. (*Area of native woodland created 2000 - 2005:)*
year (through the Forest Design Plan process) = 150 - 175ha (*Area of native woodland being restored 2000-2005)*
8ha ASNW 70ha PAWS.

Scottish Natural Heritage *Woodland Habitat Restoration*
for a Forest Habitat Network. Funded by EU LIFE Nature Programme and many Scottish funders the major ones being FCS and SNH. Project addresses 3 kinds of European woodland habitats in Scotland's Special Areas of Conservation. Borders Woods SAC (composed of 3 SSSIs) habitat type is 'Tilio-Acerion forest of slopes and screes' known as Gorge Woodland. The aim is to restore to the woodlands to favourable conservation status; to remove or mitigate the major threats to the habitat; to contribute to the Forest Habitat Network.

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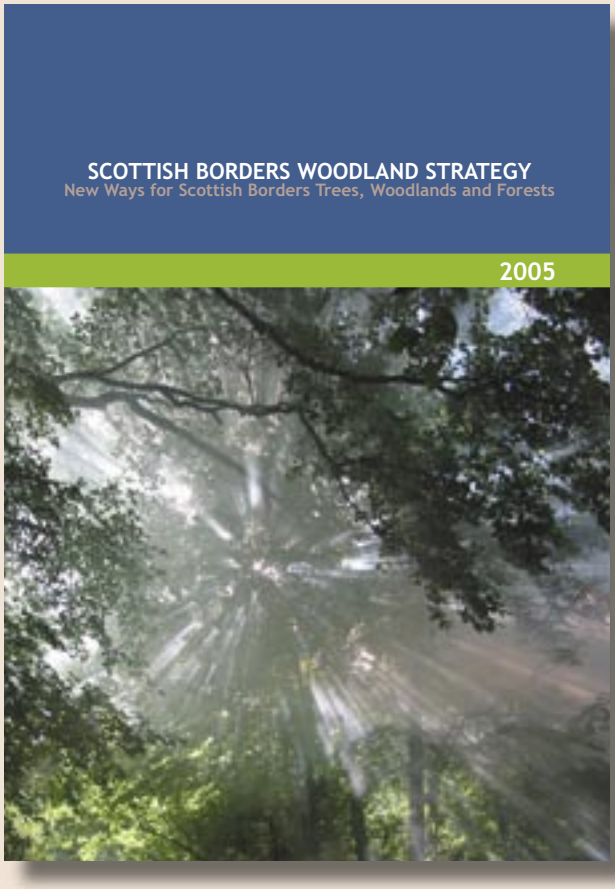
Private Estates Private landowners, including Buccleuch, Wemyss and March, Philliphaugh and farms such as Sundhope (Yarrow) and Cossarshill (Ettrick) have worked with BFT, covering some 500ha since 1995, involving 25 year management agreements between BFT and landowners. The bulk of future restoration and woodland nature conservation activity will be on private landholdings supported by statutory schemes.

Woodland Trust Scotland Plora Wood SSSI represents 50% percent of the total area of ancient native woodland in Tweeddale and one of only five blocks of native oak wood over 30 ha in the Scottish Borders. Woodland Trust Scotland is restoring those parts of the woodland which have been planted with conifers, beech and sycamore through a programme of thinning, selective felling, control of non-native regeneration and the encouragement of oak, ash, rowan and other native tree species regeneration.

Scottish Wildlife Trust Native Woodland restoration undertaken at Pease Dean SWT Wildlife Reserve (includes part of Pease Bridge Glen SSSI) to selectively fell non-native
larch & spruce) and native broadleaf planting funded by the Woodland Grant Scheme (WGS), and control of few flowered garlic and himalayan balsalm. Whitlaw Wood SWT Wildlife Reserve, part of Lynnwood-Whitlaw Wood, Slitrig SSSI and the Border Woods SAC, has had areas of beech and sycamore removed to allow natural regeneration of native tree species, this work was funded by the LIFE Core Forest Sites Project.

Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) Prescriptions for native and semi-natural woodland are available under the Rural Stewardship Scheme, for woodland areas under 0.25ha. The Farm Business Diversification Scheme offers grants for sheep and cattle sheds, that may assist with controlling grazing in native woodlands.

Scottish
indicative strategy
Woodland Strategy, was launched in 2005. This provides the strategic framework for sustainable forestry in Sc
focused on economic, social and environmental benefits.



Objectives of the native woodland HAP for the Scottish Borders

Four broad objectives have been identified for the native woodland HAP. These objectives form the context within which targets and recommendations for action relating to native woodland in the Borders have been framed. The objectives are:

1. To maintain the extent of existing native woodland
2. Enhance the condition of existing native woodland
3. Expand native woodlands through planting and regeneration
4. Promote native woodlands as a resource of biodiversity, cultural and socio-economic importance

Targets for native woodlands in the Borders

Targets for native woodlands are useful to measure the progress of the Habitat Action Plan and to give those involved in native woodland work milestones by which they can measure the success (or otherwise) of their work. The Borders region has the potential to hold a significant component of the overall native woodland potential in Scotland, particularly for upland oakwood (12%) and lowland mixed deciduous woodlands (12%) (Jones et al. 2002).

Targets for the native woodland HAP are set for the medium term taken over a 10 year period (2006 - 2015). Recent research by the Forestry Commission has yielded some general figures for different actions, related to the HAP objectives, and referring to different woodland types in the Borders. These figures have been modified to take into account the existing native woodland resource of the Scottish Borders and the current rate of native woodland establishment.

Box 3. **Targets for native woodland in the Borders**

Medium-term (10 years) 2006 - 2015

Maintain the extent of existing native woodland

- Maintain existing Upland Oakwoods
- Maintain existing Upland Mixed Ashwoods Oakwoods
- Maintain existing Wet Woodlands
- Maintain existing Upland Birchwoods
- Maintain existing Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodlands

Enhance the condition existing native woodland

- Restore 50ha of Wet Woodlands by 2015
- Restore 20ha of Upland Ashwoods by 2015
- Restore 40ha of Upland Oakwoods by 2015
- Restore 100ha of Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodlands by 2015
- Restore 200ha of Upland Birchwoods by 2015

Expand native woodlands through planting and regeneration

- Expand 100ha of Upland Mixed Ashwoods by 2015
- Expand 400ha of Upland Oakwoods by 2015
- Expand 200ha of Wet Woodlands by 2015
- Expand 800ha of Upland Birchwoods by 2015
- Expand 250ha of Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodlands by 2015

Promote native woodlands as a resource of biodiversity, cultural and socio-economic importance

- Hold event by 2008 to promote the value of native woodlands to the public, emphasising the links between biodiversity, aesthetics and amenity
- Produce an information pack by 2008 to raise awareness of the importance of native woodlands within local communities and schools

ACTIONS

1. Policy & Legislation	Partners	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015	Meets Objective
1.1 Ensure implementation of the Scottish Forestry Strategy	**FCS**	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3,4
1.2 Ensure co-ordinated implementation of the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme and replacement grant scheme	**FCS**	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3
1.3 Implement the Scottish Borders Woodland (SBWS) (revised Indicative Forestry Strategy)	**SBC** FCS, SNH, BFT, SEB	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3,4
1.4 Implement Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Rural Implementation Plan	**All** Woodland HWG	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3,4
2. Site and Species Safeguard	**Partners**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2015**	**Meets Objective**
2.1 Maintain the genetic integrity of existing and new native woodlands	FCS,FRS, Private landowners, SBC, BFT, nursery owners	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
2.2 Develop individual Species Action Plans for priority species associated with native woodlands in the Borders	SNH, RSPB, FCS, GCT, SUP, BFT, SBC, SBBRC					*		4

2.3 Administer SFGS and link native woodland expansion to FC Long Term Forest Plans (private sector) and Design Plans (FCS)	FCS	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3
2.4 Plan native and riparian woodland expansion through funding mechanism and link to SFGS and SBWS including Forest Habitat Network	FCS, BFT, SNH, WTS, SBC	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
2.5 Encourage the maintenance and enhancement of ancient woodland and planted ancient woodland sites through the targeting of resources	FCS, BFT, SNH, WTS, SBC	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2
2.6 Ensure forestry proposals are assessed against the IFS, Landscape Assessment, LBAP and to FC Forest & Water Guidelines / UK Woodland Assurance Standards	FCS, SBC, SNH	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3
2.7 Where appropriate encourage the restoration and expansion of upland cleugh & scrub woodland within or adjacent to upland woodland	FCS, BFT, SNH, WTS, SBC	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3

2.8 Ensure that management and expansion of native and riparian woodland considers the requirements of other non-woodland priority LBAP Habitats	FCS, BFT, SNH, WTS, SBC	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3
2.9 Implement co-ordinated control of deer at key native woodland sites	DCS, FCS, Private landowners	*	*	*	*			1,2,3
2.10 Develop a programme of works to improve the conservation status of native woodland classified as being not in Favourable or Unfavourable but Recovering condition	SNH, FCS, BFT	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2
2.11 Promote awareness of importance of using local provenance native woodland species and ensure local nurseries meet FC guidelines	**All**	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
2.12 Incorporate native woodland creation and enhancement into Scottish Borders Councils flood prevention programme	SBC, FCS, BFT, Private landowners	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,3,4
2.13 Develop a programme to control non-native species in key native woodland sites	**All** oodland HWG			*	*	*	*	2

3. Advisory	Partners	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015	Meets Objective
3.1 Advise landowners, institutions and government agencies on native woodland maintenance, restoration and expansion	FCS, SNH, SBC, BFT, WTS	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3,4
4. Research & Monitoring	**Partners**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2015**	**Meets Objective**
4.1 Conduct an audit of the native woodland resource through analysis of the Borders Woodland Inventory to assess number, distribution and area (ha) of native woodlands in the Borders	FCS, SBBRC, SNH, BFT, WTS		*					4, (1)
4.2 Assess the condition of all native woodland SSSIs and Ancient native woodlands through Site Condition Monitoring	SNH, BFT	*				*	*	1,2
4.3 Collate information on the genetic resource of native woodland within the Borders	FRS, BFT, FCS, SNH	*	*	*	*	*	*	4, (2)
4.4 Report on Site Condition Monitoring of native woodland SSSIs	SNH	*				*	*	1,2

4.5 Continue the next phase of Forest Habitat Network study	FRS	*	*					4
4.6 All relevant species and habitat survey information to be copied to SBBRC	**All**	*					*	1,4
4.7 Encourage surveying and monitoring of Native Woodland sites through SBBRC Recorders' Group and BSBI	SBC, SBBRC, BSBI	*	*	*	*			
	Partners	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2015**	**Meets Objective**
5.1 Identify opportunities for publicity and awareness raising in relation to native woodland: e.g. 'Environment Fairs', shows, Ranger-led events, media coverage	SBC, FCS, BFT, SNH	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
5.2 Utilise resources for the ongoing educational and outreach programmes that publicise native woodland values	SBC, FCS, BFT, Bridging the Borders, Treefest	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
5.3 Produce a map showing good examples of native woodland with public access for local communities and tourists	FCS, BFT SNH SBC, SBBRC		*					4

5.4 Demonstrate the timber and non-timber product opportunities from native woodlands through the Scottish Borders Woodland Strategy	BFT, FTA	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
5.5 Give talks, guided walks, etc and develop community-run projects for native woodland	BFT, SBRP, SBC, SNH, FCS, SBBRC	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	Partners	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2015**	**Meets Objective**
6.1 Review progress of HAP on an annual basis. Revise HAP every 5 years	Woodland HWG	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,2,3,4

Linkage to other key plans and programmes:

Scottish Borders Woodland Strategy 2005
Scottish Forestry Strategy
Scottish Biodiversity Strategy
Tweed Catchment Management Plan
Scottish Borders Structure Plan 2001-2011
Scottish Borders Local Plan
Scottish Borders LBAP
Scottish Borders LBAP Information Action Plan

Abbreviations

BFT	Borders Forest Trust
DC	Deer Commission
FCS	Forestry Commission Scotland
FWAG	Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group
GCT	Game Conservancy Trust
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAC	Scottish Agricultural College
SBC	Scottish Borders Council
SBBRC	Scottish Borders Biological Records Centre
SBRP	Scottish Borders Rural Partnership
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SUP	Southern Uplands Partnership
Woodland HWG	LBAP Woodland Habitat Working Group
WTS	Woodland Trust Scotland

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This document and other Habitat Action Plans can be viewed at
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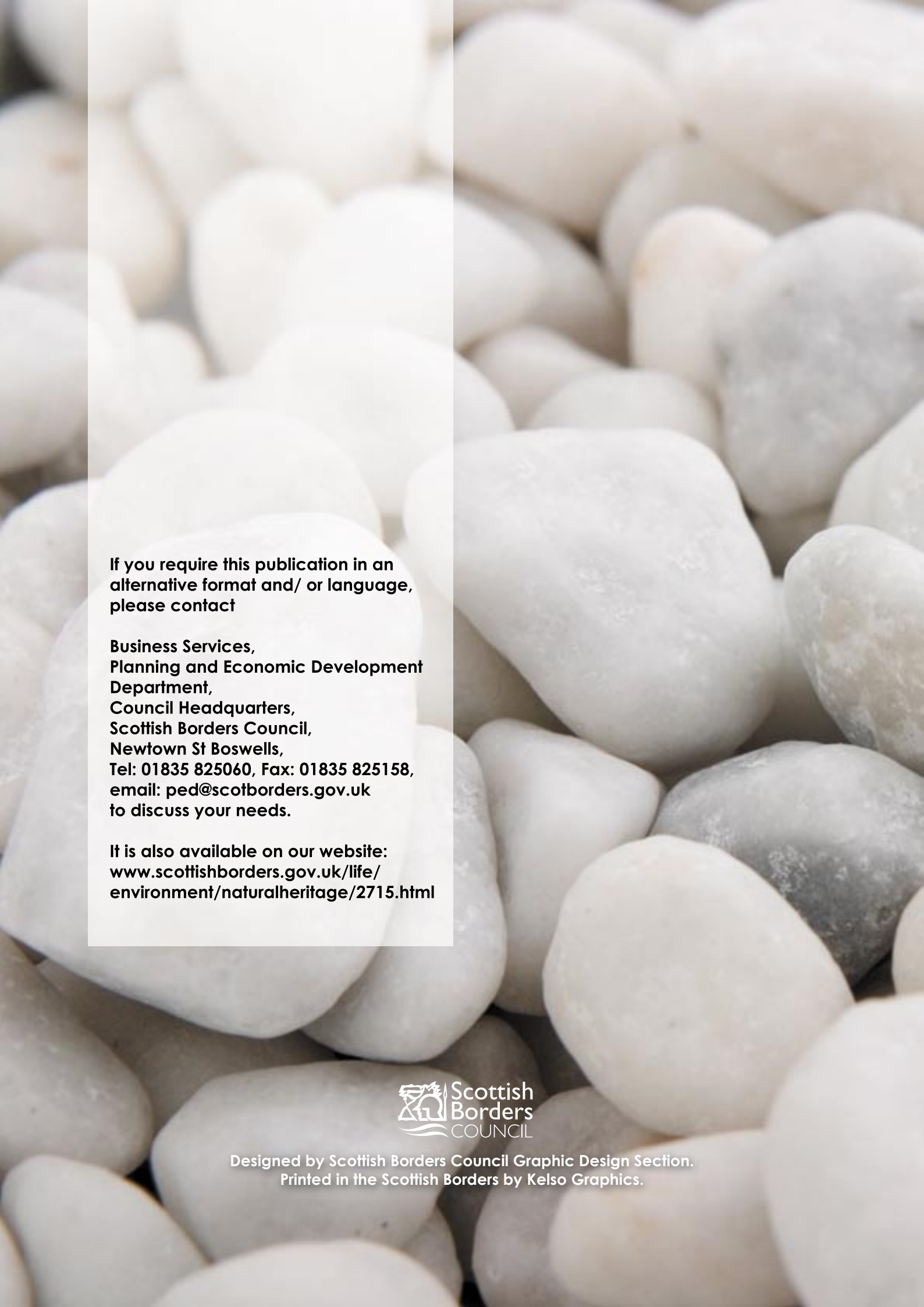
Notes



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