**Simple woodland assessment: Leicestershire and Rutland**

**Section 1: General information**

1. Surveyor's name
2. Survey date
3. Site name
4. Site UID (Unique Identification Number shown on maps and Woodland spreadsheet)
5. Grid reference
6. Parish

**Section 2: Woodland access**

1. How did you access the wood?
	* Open to public
	* Crossed by public right of way
	* Viewed from public right of way
	* No public access (landowner permission)
2. Ownership (if known)
3. Source of ownership information
	* Signs and notices
	* Local/personal knowledge
	* Other

**Section 3: Type of woodland**

1. Description of tree cover (can tick more than one where cover varies across site)
	* Broadleaved
	* Conifer
	* Mixed conifer and broadleaved
	* Trees irregularly spaced
	* Trees in lines
	* Evidence of tree planting
	* Scrub/shrubs – no mature trees
	* Recently felled
2. Notes on tree cover

**Section 4: Woodland structure** (Variation in tree and shrub height)

1. What is the woodland structure (tick all which are applicable)?
	* Trees all the same height
	* Trees mixed height
	* Mature coppiced trees (multi-stemmed)
	* Trees with shrubs (bushes with woody stems) underneath
	* Trees with no shrubs beneath
	* Coppiced (multi-stemmed shrubs <4m high)
	* Ancient or veteran trees (large girth – can’t put your arms round it, hollow trunk, fungi and rot holes, reduced crown, ‘looks old’)

**Section 5: Woodland trees**

1. Can you name any of the main trees present?
	* Ash
	* Beech
	* Birch
	* Hawthorn
	* Hazel
	* Hornbeam
	* Lime
	* Maple
	* Oak
	* Poplar
	* Sweet Chestnut
	* Sycamore
	* Other
	* Unable to identify the trees
2. Any other tree species you have identified?
3. If you could identify them, which was the most common canopy trees?
4. What is your overall impression of the tree cover? (For instance, is it dense, even, irregular, open, patchy, sparse etc)?

**Section 6: Woodland plants**

1. Woodland plants (ground vegetation) - tick the commonest unless the vegetation varies greatly across the wood
	* Little or none, mainly bare ground or just dead leaves/needles
	* Patchy with bare ground in between
	* Dominated by nettles, cleavers, cow parsley, ivy or a mixture of these species
	* Many trees covered with ivy
	* Dominated by bramble
	* Dominated by bracken
	* Dominated by grass
	* Diverse flowering plants including bluebells
	* Open areas (rides and glades) with many flowering plants
2. What is your overall impression of the woodland ground vegetation (For instance is it highly varied and widespread, or uniform or confined to small areas such as site boundaries)?

**Section 7: Woodland features** (See guidance information)

1. Boundary features (may not be continuous - tick one or more)
	* Large bank (medieval banks may be shallow but several metres wide, exclude narrow banks)
	* Large ditch (medieval banks may be wide but shallow - exclude deep, steep sided drainage ditches)
	* Ditch and bank (see notes about medieval features above)
	* Old pollard trees (see guidance)
2. Internal features
	* Large bank
	* Large ditch
	* Sunken track
	* Signs of quarrying/former quarry pits
	* Buildings or ruins
	* Other
3. Notes on woodland features (for instance: extent of banks and ditches, former quarries; any other non-woodland features or activities which might impact on the woodland)?

**Section 8: Ancient Woodland Indicator Species**

This section need only be completed if you feel confident to do so or have sufficient time. Please indicate if you have seen any of the following Leicestershire and Rutland Ancient Woodland Indicator Species in the wood. **Take care to differentiate between Midland/Common Hawthorn, Sessile and Pedunculate ‘English’ oak, Small-leaved/Common Lime and Crab/cultivated Apple.**

1. Trees and shrubs
	* Aspen *Populus tremula*
	* Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris*
	* Field Maple, *Acer campestre* (**only if >45cm diameter or old coppice**)
	* Midland Hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata*
	* Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
	* Small-leaved Lime *Tilia cordata*
	* Wild Service-tree *Sorbus torminalis*
2. Flowering plants
	* Bird's-nest Orchid, *Neottia nidus-avis*
	* Bluebell, *Hyacinthoides non- scripta*
	* Broadleaved Bellflower, *Campanula latifolia*
	* Broad-leaved Helleborine, *Epipactis helleborine*
	* Common Cow-wheat, *Melampyrum pratense*
	* Common Valerian, *Valeriana officinalis*
	* Early Dog-violet, *Viola reichenbachiana*
	* Early Purple-orchid, *Orchis mascula*
	* Figwort, *Scrophularia nodosa*
	* Fragrant Agrimony, *Agrimonia procera*
	* Giant Bellflower, *Campanula latifolia*
	* Greater Butterfly-orchid, *Platanthera chlorantha*
	* Greater Stitchwort, *Stellaria holostea*
	* Herb Paris, *Paris quadrifolia*
	* Lily-of-the-valley, *Convallaria majalis*
	* Moschatel, *Adoxa moschatellina*
	* Nettle-leaved Bellflower, *Campanula trachelium*
	* Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage, *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*
	* Orpine, *Sedum telephium*
	* Pignut, *Conopodium majus*
	* Ramsons, *Allium ursinum*
	* Sanicle, *Sanicula europaea*
	* Slender St John's-wort, *Hypericum pulchrum*
	* Small Teasel, *Dipsacus pilosus*
	* Solomon’s Seal, *Polygonatum multiflorum*
	* Toothwort, *Lathraea squamaria*
	* Violet Helleborine, *Epipactis purpurata*
	* Wood Anemone, *Anemone nemorosa*
	* Wood Forget-me-not, *Myosotis sylvatica*
	* Wood Sorrel, *Oxalis acetosella*
	* Wood Speedwell, *Veronica montana*
	* Wood Spurge, *Euphorbia amygdaloides*
	* Wood Vetch, *Ervilia sylvatica*
	* Woodruff, *Galium odoratum*
	* Yellow Archangel, *Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp montanum*
	* Yellow Pimpernel, *Lysimachia nemorum*
	* Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem, *Gagea lutea*
3. Grasses, sedges and rushes
	* Bearded Couch, *Elymus caninus*
	* Great Wood-rush, *Luzula sylvatica*
	* Hairy Wood-rush, *Luzula pilosa*
	* Pale Sedge, *Carex pallescens*
	* Pendulous Sedge, *Carex pendula*
	* Purple Small-reed, *Calamagrostis canescens*
	* Remote Sedge, *Carex remota*
	* Smooth-stalked sedge, *Carex laevigata*
	* Thin-spiked Wood-sedge, *Carex strigosa*
	* Tufted Hair-grass subspecies parviflora, *Deschampsia cespitosa subsp. parviflora* (**Difficult! Please submit a specimen to confirm ID**)
	* Wood Meadow-grass, *Poa nemoralis*
	* Wood Melick, *Melica uniflora*
	* Wood Millet, *Milium effusum*
	* Wood Sedge, *Carex sylvatica*
4. Ferns and horsetails
	* Giant Horsetail, *Equisetum telmateia*
	* Hard Fern, *Blechnum spicant*
	* Hard shield-fern, *Polystichum aculeatum*
	* Lady Fern, *Athyrium filix-femina*
	* Lemon-scented Fern, *Oreopteris limbosperma*
	* Narrow-leaved Buckler-fern, *Dryopteris*

*carthusiana*

* + Scaly Male-fern, *Dryopteris affinis*
	+ Wood Horsetail, *Equisetum sylvaticum*
1. Other notable plants
2. How were the indicator plants spread out through the wood?
	* Widespread
	* Confined to only a part of the wood
	* Unable to tell
3. Any other information on plant distribution?

**Section 9 Additional information**

1. Any other information you may have about the wood including its history, sources of documentary evidence etc which might help to determine if it is ancient woodland
2. A photograph of a representative part of the wood would be helpful if possible. Please send images to andy.lear@wildlifebcn.org with the subject as 'Woodland Survey' and giving the woodland name and UID. Thank you.
	* Yes, I have taken photographs of this wood
	* No, I haven't taken photographs of this wood

***Email or return the form by post to:***

***Andy Lear*,** **andy.lear@wildlifebcn.org**

***The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Northamptonshire***

***The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne, CB23 6DH.***