**Simple woodland assessment: Bedfordshire**

Photographs of a representative part of the wood and any noteworthy features would be helpful if possible.

**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: Access**

1. How did you access the wood/wood-pasture?
	* Open to public
	* Crossed by public right of way
	* Viewed from public right of way/roadside
	* No public access (landowner permission)

If you surveyed only part of the site, please indicate the area (eg. North/area by road/exterior)

1. Ownership (if known)
2. Source of ownership information
	* Signs and notices
	* Local/personal knowledge
	* Other

**Section 3: Type of woodland/wood-pasture**

1. Description of tree cover (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
	* Wood pasture
	* Other
2. Would you consider this a plantation or a natural woodland?

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

1. What is the woodland structure? Tick all applicable
	* Trees all the same height
	* Trees mixed height
	* Trees with shrubs (bushes with woody stems) underneath
	* Trees with no shrubs beneath
	* Recent coppice (multi-stemmed shrubs <4m high)
	* Mature coppiced trees (multi-stemmed from near ground level)
	* Mature pollarded trees (single trunk, multi-branched above grazing height)
	* Ancient or veteran trees (large girth – can’t put your arms round it, hollow trunk, fungi and rot holes, reduced crown, ‘looks old’)
	* Open grown trees
2. Additional comments on woodland structure

**Section 5: Woodland trees**

1. Can you name any of the main trees present?
2. If you could identify them, which was the most common canopy tree?

**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
	* 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)?
3. If wood-pasture, did the area appear to be grazed, cut, or managed as lawn? If other, please describe

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

1. Boundary features (may not be continuous - tick one or more)
	* Large bank
	* Large ditch
	* Ditch and bank
	* Old pollard boundary 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**

Please indicate if you have seen any of the following Bedfordshire Ancient Woodland Indicator Species in the wood. Complete botanical knowledge is not required - just enter anything you recognisebut note that there is more than one species of some of these plants and we are interested specifically in the species listed.

1. Trees and shrubs
	* Crab Apple, *Malus sylvestris*
	* Field maple, *Acer campestre*
	* Hazel, *Corylus avellana*
	* Midland Hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata* (not Common Hawthorn)
	* Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea* (not Pedunculate ‘English’ oak)
	* Small-leaved Lime *Tilia cordata* (not Common Lime)
	* Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*
	* Whitebeam *Sorbus aria*
2. Grasses, sedges and rushes
	* Bearded Couch, *Elymus caninus*
	* Hairy Woodrush, *Luzula pilosa*
	* Pale Sedge, *Carex pallescens*
	* Pendulous Sedge, *Carex pendula*
	* Purple Small-reed, *Calamagrostis canescens*
	* Remote Sedge, *Carex remota*
	* Southern Woodrush, *Luzula forsteri*
	* Thin-spiked Wood-sedge, *Carex strigosa*
	* Wood Barley, *Hordelymus europaeus*
	* Wood Melick, *Melica uniflora*
	* Wood Millet, *Milium effusum*
	* Wood Sedge, *Carex sylvatica*
3. Ferns
	* Lady Fern, *Athyrium filix-femina*
	* Scaly Male-fern, *Dryopteris affinis*
4. Flowering plants
	* Bird's-nest Orchid, *Neottia nidus-avis*
	* Bitter Vetch, *Lathyrus linifolius*
	* Bluebell, *Hyacinthoides non- scripta*
	* Broad-leaved Bellflower, *Campanula latifolia*
	* Broad-leaved Helleborine, *Epipactis helleborine*
	* Common Cow-wheat, *Melampyrum pratense*
	* Common Spotted-orchid, *Dactylorhiza fuchsia*
	* Crested Cow-wheat, *Melampyrum cristatum*
	* Early Dog-violet, *Viola reichenbachiana*
	* Early Purple-orchid, *Orchis mascula*
	* Fly Orchid, *Ophrys insectifera*
	* Goldilocks Buttercup, *Ranunculus auricomus*
	* Greater Burnet-saxifrage, *Pimpinella major*
	* Greater Butterfly-orchid, *Platanthera chlorantha*
	* Hairy St. John's-wort, *Hypericum hirsutum*
	* Herb Paris, *Paris quadrifolia*
	* Lily-of-the-valley, *Convallaria majalis*
	* Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea, *Lathyrus sylvestris*
	* Nettle-leaved Bellflower, *Campanula trachelium*
	* Orpine, *Sedum telephium*
	* Oxlip, *Primula elatior*
	* Primrose, *Primula vulgaris*
	* Ramsons, *Allium ursinum*
	* Slender St John's-wort, *Hypericum pulchrum*
	* Three-veined Sandwort, *Moehringia trinerva*
	* Trailing St John's-wort, *Hypericum humifusum*
	* Violet Helleborine, *Epipactis purpurata*
	* Water Avens, *Geum rivale*
	* Wild Daffodil, *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*
	* Wood Anemone, *Anemone nemorosa*
	* Wood Sorrel, *Oxalis acetosella*
	* Wood Speedwell, *Veronica montana*
	* Wood Spurge, *Euphorbia amygdaloides*
	* Wood Vetch, *Vicia sylvatica*
	* Woodruff, *Galium odoratum*
	* Yellow Archangel, *Lamiastrum galeobdolon*
	* Yellow Pimpernel, *Lysimachia nemorum*
5. Other notable plants
6. How were the indicator plants (excluding Bluebells) spread out through the wood?
	* Widespread
	* Confined to only a part of the wood
	* Unable to tell
7. Any other information on plant distribution? (For example which areas the indicator species were confined to)

**Section 9 Additional information**

1. If the site has a specific question in the spreadsheet, please answer that here if it has not been covered above
2. 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
3. A photograph of a representative part of the wood would be helpful. Please send images to Katharine.flach@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:***

***Katharine Flach*,** **katharine.flach@wildlifebcn.org**

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

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