

Table 1 Summary of the main ecological and silvicultural characteristics of the eight semi-natural woodland types

Semi-natural woodland type	Ecological characteristics		Silvicultural characteristics	
	NVC communities	Peterken stand types	Main historic management	Emphasis in future management
South and East Britain				
1. Lowland acid beech and oak woods*	W15, W16	6C, 6D, 8A, 8B	C or WP	HF
2. Lowland beech–ash woods*	W12, W13, W14	[1A], [3C], 8C, 8D, 8E	C or HF	HF
3. Lowland mixed broadleaved woods	W8 (A–D), W10	1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 7C, 9A, 9B, 10A, 10B	C	C or HF
North and West Britain				
4. Upland mixed ashwoods	W8 (E–G), W9	1A, 1C, 1D, 3C, 3D, 7D, [8A–E]	C or HF	HF(C)
5. Upland oakwoods	W11, W17 (Oak dominant)	6A, 6B, [8A–B]	C or HF grazed	HF(grazed)
6. Upland birchwoods	W11, W17 (Birch dominant)	12A–B	HF grazed	HF(grazed)
7. Native pinewoods**	W18, W19	11A–C	HF grazed	HF(grazed)
All regions				
8. Wet woodlands	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5, W6, W7	7A–B, 7E	C neglect	Minimum intervention

NVC: National Vegetation Classification C: Coppice WP: Wood Pasture HF: High Forest

*Restricted to zone where beech is native (SE Wales and S England) **Restricted to zone of native pine (Scottish Highlands)