

Plan and evaluate for coppice management

Overview

This standard is about planning and evaluating for coppice management and monitoring the viability of the process against specific objectives.

These objectives could include: financial viability, potential markets for products, location, biodiversity, habitat management, sustainability.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. arrange permissions and relevant documentation with the landowner
3. identify the species mix and estimated age of the coppice
4. identify site features, constraints and parameters
5. identify markets and/or uses for coppiced materials
6. identify and evaluate characteristics of the coppice
7. determine and agree site objectives
8. identify and record the sustainable yield to meet the objectives
9. evaluate viability to meet the objectives
10. select appropriate terms and conditions for coppice management agreements
11. formulate production plans and forecasts against available data
12. plan and evaluate an effective work schedule against agreed objectives
13. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. how to identify commonly coppiced species both in summer and winter
4. good practice with regard to coppicing a stool
5. factors that affect coppice regeneration
6. different methods for measuring timber/coppice volume when the crop is standing and felled
7. methods for achieving a sustainable yield
8. the effects of retaining standard canopy trees and their impact on the coppice
9. the effects on yields of species mixtures
10. protection of coppice from damage by animals
11. devices that can aid/speed up the production of coppice product
12. the criteria for a felling licence
13. the importance of coppice management for biodiversity
14. habitat directives governing woodland operations
15. how to formulate production plans and work schedules
16. the importance of planning and evaluating effective work schedules against agreed objectives
17. the potential impacts of your work on the environment and how these can be minimised
18. methods of disposing of surplus materials and/or waste
19. your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	2
Date Approved	February 2017
Indicative Review Date	February 2021
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANTw51
Relevant Occupations	Coppicing; Park Ranger; Ranger; Horticulture and forestry; Conservation Officer; Estate Worker
Suite	Horticulture; Treework; Environmental Conservation
Keywords	coppice; evaluate; management