

Woodland Creation Design Workshops – June 2018

Programme / Agenda

09:30 Registration & Refreshments

09:50 ***Welcome & Introduction from the FC Area Director***

Where to begin with Woodland Creation

10:00 ***Choosing an Appropriate Site (Mark Broadmeadow, FC)***

- Mark will cover how to use and interpret the low risk maps for woodland creation, guiding you through what they tell you and importantly what they don't. Furthermore there will be information on the support that is available to design new woodland and an introduction to key considerations under the UK Forestry Standard, for example: species mix, open space and designing the woodland edge.

10:20 ***Design Principles (Richard Hellier, FC)***

- Richard will cover the main points to consider for ensuring integrated design, combining the objectives for the site with the information collected through the survey and analysis. The stages of the design process will be worked through leading up to the workshop sessions that will take place later in the day.

10:40 ***Understanding EIA (Ewan Calcott, FC)***

- Ewan will talk through the EIA thresholds; the information required; how and where this can be accessed; and how to determine whether it is of significance. Understanding Environmental Impact Assessment for afforestation is key for successful new planting proposals.

11:10 Refreshment Break – Tea & Coffee

Site Appraisal Plans

11:25 ***Preparing a Site Appraisal Plan (Samantha Neck, FC)***

- Sam will deliver an introduction to the first workshop via a short presentation that will set out what is included in a Site Appraisal Plan (SAP) and how they are produced.

11:40 ***WORKSHOP 1 – Preparing a Site Appraisal Plan (Delegate activity)***

- In groups, delegates will be asked to produce a Site Appraisal Plan.
- The SAP will build on the information collected through the preparatory exercise completed prior to attending the training day.
- Each group will have a facilitator from the Forestry Commission on hand to offer help, advice and support through the process.

12:20 **Lunch**

Concept Design Plans

13:05	<p><i>Preparing a Concept Design Plan (Samantha Neck, FC)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sam will provide an introduction to the second workshop by delivering a short presentation. Information will be given on producing a Concept Design Plan (CDP) and how a CDP can support consultation.
13:20	<p><i>WORKSHOP 2 – Concept Design Plans (Delegate Activity)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Again in groups, delegates will be provided with fictitious stakeholder feedback for a Concept Design Plan produced for the same site used in both the preparatory exercise and in WORKSHOP 1. The task will be for the groups to amend the CDP in light of the comments received. As with the first workshop each group will have a facilitator from the Forestry Commission on hand to offer help, advice and support.
14:00	<i>Group Feedback & Summing Up (Chaired by Neville Elstone MICFor)</i>
14:30	Refreshment Break – Tea & Coffee
<u>Woodland, Species and Operations</u>	
14:45	<p><i>Woodland Creation Example (TBC, Local External Agent)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A forestry agent will talk through their own experience of designing new woodland, giving top tips and pragmatic advice. The guest speaker will be different at each event to provide localised information.
15:15	<p><i>Species Selection (John Weir FICFor, FC)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John will cover the importance of soil type and how this links with species selection. Part of this will be using and interpreting the Environmental Site Classification tool (ESC).
15:35	<p><i>The Importance of Operational Plans (TBC, Local External Agent)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The day will conclude with a talk on the consideration of operational plans. In particular ground preparation, maintenance and monitoring. The guest speaker will be different at each event to provide localised information.
15:50	<p><i>Final Questions and Plenary (Neville Elstone MICFor)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions will be taken throughout the day with a final opportunity before the meeting closes to raise any last queries.
16:00	Delegates Depart

Meet the presenters:

Mark Broadmeadow, Principal Adviser for Climate Change, Forestry Commission



Mark is currently leading the Forestry Commission's woodland creation programme. His role covers the development of policy and its application to delivery for both climate change mitigation and adaptation. Prior to transferring to Forestry Commission England in 2006, Mark led Forest Research's Environmental Change Research Group, covering forest monitoring and climate change adaptation/mitigation research programmes. He is a plant physiologist by training.

Richard Hellier CMLI, Landscape Advisor, Forest Services



Richard is a Chartered Landscape Architect and has worked in the Policy Advice Team in Forest Services National Office for almost 5 years. He is passionate about woodland creation and forestry and the significant range of benefits they can deliver for the local economy, people and wildlife across the English landscape. With over 30 years' experience in integrated design across a variety of organisations Richard believes that good design process including effective site appraisal is key to the efficient development of high quality schemes. He believes it is possible to create outstanding new and sustainable productive landscapes across England and is heavily involved in a number of Forest Design training programmes. His training approach is to upskill through engaging communication focussing on the key forest design principles.

Ewan Calcott, Regulations Team Manager, Forest Services

Ewan has 30 years' experience in forestry, he started out as a harvesting and fencing contractor in the West of Scotland with Scottish Woodlands before joining the Forestry Commission as a Beat Forester in Suffolk, restocking the post 1987 hurricane damage. He then moved into Private Woodlands as a Woodland Officer in 1997, covering the West Midlands conurbation, Warwickshire and the early days of the National Forest with a promotion to Field Manager for the West Midlands in 2007 before heading up the Regulations team in 2016.

Samantha Neck, Incentives Development Team Manager, Forest Services



Sam is responsible for the delivery of grants that sit outside the Rural Development Programme. Her team have a focus on woodland creation running the Woodland Carbon Fund, Woodland Creation Planning Grant and HS2 Woodland Fund. Sam has worked for the Forestry Commission for five years covering both incentives and regulations for private woodlands. Prior to joining the FC she worked for the environmental consultancy RPS, producing Environmental Statements for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. This experience is underpinned by a degree in Biology and Master's in Environmental Management.

John Weir FICFor, Adviser for Woodland Creation and Resilience, Forest Services



John started working within the forest industry in the mid 1970's, he has worked as a forester in Scotland, England and Wales. Most recently after 7 years as Director of the National Arboreta (Westonbirt and Bedgebury Pinetum) he took on the role as Climate Change Programme Manager for Forest Enterprise England and is author of the Climate Change Action Plan for the Forestry Commission estate in England. In his current job for Forest Services England the purpose of his job is: ' Provide expert advice and facilitate knowledge transfer, to facilitate 'anticipatory adaptation' within England's woodlands'.

Neville Elstone MICFor, Director, Cumbria Woodlands



Neville is a passionate advocate for forestry, the environment and rural development. His career spans 34 years in the sector and has been wide-ranging; starting in a very hands-on way, working on the forest floor, before moving into arboriculture and management. A degree in forestry at the National School of Forestry followed, including a year's work for the Forestry Commission and a period of study in Northern California. While doing post-graduate studies at the University of Edinburgh he worked in woodland management, writing management plans and developing large scale native woodland creation schemes. He then moved on to work for the Institute of Chartered Foresters, developing forest policy, before coming to Cumbria Woodlands. During his time with Cumbria Woodlands he has focused on rural development, wood for heat, the use of woodlands in Natural Flood Management and the management of Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites.