

3 Woodland Creation



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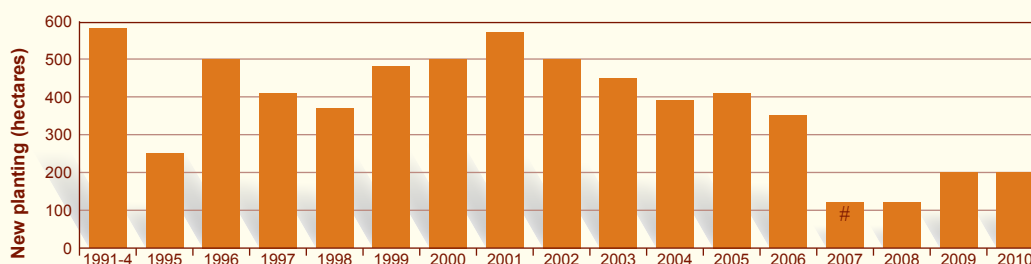
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The National Forest Company's unique contribution to land use change is through multi-purpose woodland creation. This is transforming the landscape and biodiversity of the area, creating a new recreation resource and developing a new woodland economy – all improving the quality of life of local residents and visitors.

- The aim is to increase woodland cover from 6% (1991) to around a third. By 2010 woodland cover had risen to 18.4%, with approximately 7.8 million trees planted¹.
- 6,229ha¹ of woodland creation has been achieved – through the National Forest Changing Landscapes Scheme and other grants to landowners, land acquisition*, restoration of mineral workings and derelict land and development-related tree planting.

*The NFC only holds up to 300ha of land at any one time.

National Forest planting 1991 – 2010



#The new Changing Landscapes Scheme was introduced in 2008/9 and new approaches continue to be developed in a challenging environment for further large-scale planting.

- Management of existing woodlands continues to be a high priority – for their biodiversity, landscape and recreation value and to stimulate the Forest's woodland economy. Of the woodlands which existed prior to the creation of The National Forest, 47% (1,415ha) were reported as being under management in 2010².

* ACTION:

- 1) Maintain woodland creation and management activity to meet the objectives set out in the National Forest Strategy 2004-14 and Delivery Plan 2009-14.
- 2) Monitor activity annually.

DATA SOURCES:

- 1) NFC annual monitoring [2010].
- 2) NFC research [2006] and Forestry Commission woodland management monitoring data [2010].

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