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Ufd136. Pounce Wood (13.6 ha) TL 559387

This large ancient wood has been almost entirely replanted with Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), Spruce (*Picea* sp.) and other conifers. The native broadleaved canopy of Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Field Maple (*Acer campestre*), Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) is restricted to a narrow boundary strip. The ground flora is very restricted under the dense canopy, with only scattered Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*) under the Beech. The main rides support a reasonable marshy grassland flora, with frequent Wood Sedge (*Carex sylvatica*) and Remote Sedge (*Carex remota*). A primary management aim should be the replacement of the exotic species with native trees.

LoWS Selection Criteria: HCr1(a)

Condition and Management Issues: The ground flora is limited by the generally dense shade cast by the planted canopy. Replacement with a semi-natural broadleaved canopy and understorey would be highly desirable.

Date of first designation: 1994

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