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Ufd147. Mollpond Wood (2.8 ha) TL 56393

This ancient wood has been extensively replanted with Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Pine (*Pinus* sp.), with only scattered remnants of the native broadleaved canopy remaining. This comprises Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) with a thin scrub layer of Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Midland Hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) and Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*). The maturing plantation has an increasingly dense canopy that allows a restricted ground flora to flourish, with typical species being Wood False Brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*), Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), Hairy St. John's-wort (*Hypericum hirsutum*) and Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*).

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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