

BSW is the parent company of Tilhill Forestry. BSW is the most technologically advanced sawmill company in the UK employing over 1200 people. The Company's roots date back to 1848, and with seven sawmills in the UK and one in Latvia, has a production capacity of more than 1.2 million m³ of sawn timber which is distributed throughout the construction, fencing and landscape markets. Visit www.bsw.co.uk to find out more.

Together, BSW and Tilhill Forestry form the largest fully integrated forestry company – a strong partnership delivering quality from beginning to end – from creating new forests through to producing timber end products.

TILHILL FORESTRY

The UK's leading forestry management
and timber harvesting company

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INTRODUCTION

Established in 1948, Tilhill Forestry is the UK’s leading forestry and timber harvesting company. We are a national company operating from a network of offices across the UK.

We offer a full range of harvesting and marketing services to woodland and forest owners. We supply roundwood into all major UK processors and biomass energy markets.

Our people are our strongest asset. Combined with our audited systems and processes we ensure that we provide our valued clients with an extensive suite of sustainable solutions.

The Tilhill Forestry philosophy is to be professional, versatile, competitive and reliable, providing a service tailored to each client’s needs. To support these principles, we are fully ISO accredited with ISO 9001 (Quality), ISO 14001 (Environmental) and OHSAS 18001(Health and Safety).

The quality of our safety management processes and incident records have been regularly recognised at the highest level by the annual RoSPA Awards. We are proud to have won the prestigious Sir George Earle Trophy.



FORESTRY

Creating our future

A well-managed forest is a growing asset which enhances the environment. Tilhill Forestry utilise the most up-to-date expertise and technology on an 'as needed' basis providing a service tailored to our client's needs.



Tilhill Forestry undertake all aspects of woodland and forestry management in both rural and urban settings, helping our customers to achieve their objectives and maximise their property's potential. We manage a diverse variety of species from chestnut coppice to Sitka spruce and everything inbetween.

Our clients range from farmers, crofters and resident landowners to multi-national companies, NGOs, Forestry Commission, Natural Resources Wales, pension funds and financial investment vehicles.

Our service is tailored to each individual client's objectives.



Research and Development

We are actively involved in researching which species to plant in the future to provide the best resilience to pests, diseases and climate change.

This means we have the expertise to advise on which species to plant taking into consideration all the key potential threats to our trees.

Our specialist skills include:

- > Planting and woodland creation.
- > Protection and maintenance of young trees including deer management.
- > Planting design and species choice.
- > Development of short rotation forest and coppice.
- > Forest roading.
- > Environmental Impact Assessments.
- > Digital mapping and surveying.
- > Preparation of plans and production forecasts.
- > Grant aid applications.
- > Forest certifications and Growing Timber Insurance.



HARVESTING

Trees for timber

Getting the best possible return from a woodland or forest is vital. Timber harvested from well managed plantations can generate substantial income for the owner.

We have a countrywide network of professional harvesting managers able to deliver the full range of harvesting and marketing services whilst adhering to the highest standards of safety, environmental and quality assurance.

We work with a diverse range of contractors and hauliers who are able to provide the complete spectrum of harvesting and haulage equipment required to enable them to deal with every type of timber harvesting challenge they might encounter.

Tilhill is a key supplier of logs to BSW's sawmills across the UK with guaranteed offtake of logs and opportunity for growers to enter into long-term supply arrangements. In addition, we have the contract to source and manage the total supply of wood and biomass for UPM's UK mills.



Our specialist skills include:

- > Large scale mechanised harvesting of upland forest.
- > Small scale woodland harvesting.
- > Floating harvesters across peat bogs on brash bales.
- > Remote island harvesting and shipping.
- > Steep slope working.
- > Heli-logging.
- > Roundwood exports.
- > Heathland restoration.
- > Reaching forests that others cannot using landing craft.



BIOMASS

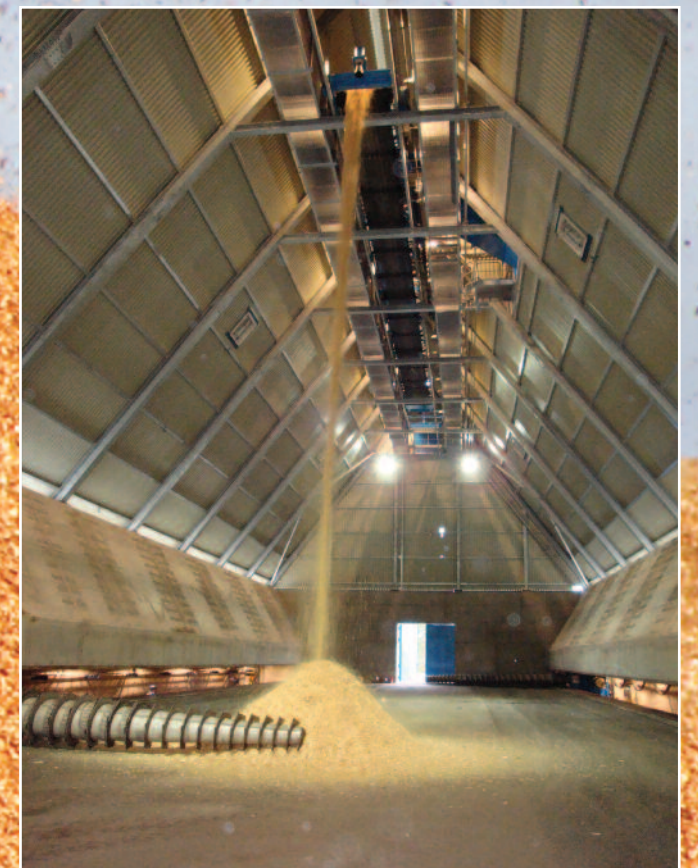
Wood for energy

Tilhill Forestry are key players in the supply of biomass within the UK. We are able to work with customers to provide solutions and opportunities for all types of wood and biomass resource.



We are in an unparalleled position within the forest industry to supply a wide range of commercial biomass demands from the large industrial scale to smaller, private installations. We have developed experience in both the virgin biomass and the recovered wood biomass business.

We also supply netted hardwood and softwood logs to distributors and outlets such as garage forecourts.



A secure supply

With commercial developments based around renewables and biomass, a quality assured feedstock supply is essential. Tilhill is well placed to provide this wherever you are in the UK.

FORESTRY INVESTMENT

A valuable asset

Forestry is viewed as a strong asset backed investment with long-term stability, green credentials and solid commercial viability.

With annual forest property sales in the UK now over £100 million and UK forestry consistently generating some of the highest returns of any UK investment class, it can be considered that money really can grow on trees.

Returns from UK forestry are driven by steady biological growth, with rotation lengths spanning decades. Traditionally considered a 'safe' investment, it is well-suited to long-term ownership, providing low correlation with other asset classes, a hedge against inflation and excellent tax advantages. If you want a long-term, 'green' investment, then UK forestry is hard to beat.



From commercial investment to the simple pleasure of owning a woodland, there are many reasons for deciding to invest in trees. Woodlands can offer opportunities for sensitive property development and tourism, sporting and leisure and even the commercial production of truffles.

The UK tax system provides valuable incentives to encourage investment in commercial forestry.

Three important advantages are:

Income Tax: There is no tax chargeable on income and profits arising from the occupation of commercial woodlands.

Capital Gains Tax (CGT): The increase in value attributable to timber crops is free from CGT.

Inheritance Tax (IHT): After two years of ownership/occupation the value of a commercial woodland is excluded from IHT as business property.

To promote woodland and forestry creation a range of grants are also available.



Support from our Investment Specialists

Tilhill Forestry employs an Investment & Property team who specialise in supporting clients to invest in forestry and woodland.

This is a full end to end service which starts with finding a suitable property, providing a full assessment of the potential of the property, and supporting clients through the purchasing process.

Our expert management services can then work with clients to help get the best possible return from their recent woodland purchase.

ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

The future of our environment

The environment is core to all our business activities. It is imperative that we take account of our environmental impact in all that we do. Tilhill Forestry takes full responsibility for consultancy, contracting and completing all ecological works to a high standard.

We also offer a range of ecological services all of which maintain and improve the integrity of our environment.

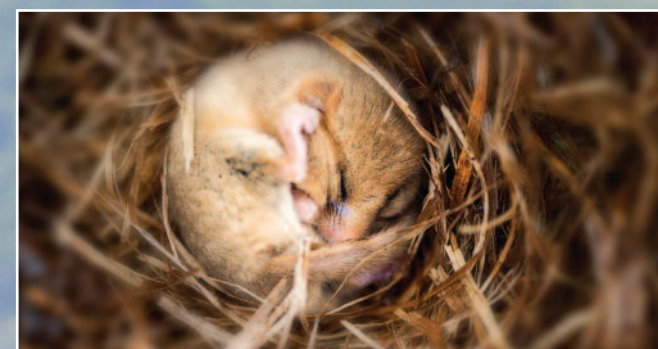


Wildlife Surveys and Assessments

Our skills and resources enable us to provide a single source service to survey, plan, design, build, mitigate and monitor projects.

We are unique in that we employ in-house ecologists who are experienced in carrying out Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA's) as well as holding a range of licences for protected species work.

Our ecologists help us understand the Natural Capital of our client's forests.



Habitat Restoration and Creation

Restoring lowland Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) is important for the overall improvement of woodland biodiversity.

Restoration projects aim to retain and encourage the sites native species whilst re-engaging with potentially neglected woodlands.

Tilhill Forestry's specialist skills include PAWS restoration, heathland restoration and woodland creation projects as well as other works including ride creation, ditch creation, maintenance and management.



Environmental Protection

Managing trees for water can help reduce flooding, run-off, soil erosion and pollution. Tilhill Forestry can create tailored management plans and offer specialist advice aimed at reducing the risks that water can pose.

We also carry out invasive species control such as rhododendron clearance to help mitigate the impacts of disease.

The importance of tree health and safety inspections

Owning trees, from one to a forest, brings responsibility. Landowners and managers have a duty of care to the public to safely maintain the trees on their land. In particular, where trees adjoin roads, public rights of way or other situations where trees could pose a danger to members of the public. Simply holding Public Liability Insurance is no longer sufficient.

Many insurers are now calling for tree surveys to be undertaken regularly and for any remedial action to be carried out promptly to minimise risk.

Tilhill Forestry offers a comprehensive tree inspection service. Our experienced tree surveyors and forestry teams will work with you to ensure that you are provided with a detailed survey using the latest technology. Any resulting remedial works are then scheduled and carried out quickly and efficiently.



Forest and Woodland Certification

We care that our customers can gain the best possible return from the timber from their woodlands and have run our own forest certification scheme (UKWAS) since 1999 in support of this.

Led by a dedicated Certification Manager we have a team of experienced forest managers across the country who help woodland owners maintain compliance to the UKWAS standards and so ensure access to timber markets and the price premium often paid for certified timber.



Wildflower Meadows

Wildflower meadows offer habitat for a variety of birds and invertebrates, particularly bees and butterflies. Meadows can be used to compliment woodland and add diversity and aesthetic value to an area.

The Countryside Stewardship Scheme offers funding to help landowners provide wildflower environments to help bees and pollinators as well as wildlife, woodland and rivers.

Tilhill Forestry are ideally placed to help you access this funding as well as advise, plan and implement the creation of wildflower meadows and marginal field planting.

Our specialist skills include:

- > Tree surveys.
- > Habitat restoration, creation, relocation.
- > PAWS restoration.
- > Protected species work.
- > Ecological surveys and reports.
- > Environmental Impact Assessments.
- > Wild flower seeding.
- > Heathland restoration.
- > Invasive species control.

LANDSCAPING

Shaping our surroundings

Understanding our customers' needs is fundamental to the successful delivery of projects on time and to budget.

Tilhill Forestry are multiple BALL award winners with a proven track record of delivering high quality large and small scale commercial landscaping schemes to a wide range of clients in both the private and public sectors.

Working closely with landscape architects and clients alike, we are committed to providing solutions and innovation to help exceed our client's expectations and deliver projects on time and within budget. We offer a wide range of services from landscaping associated with significant infrastructure works to high profile and complex public open space and restoration projects.

We draw on our in-house ecology team with their range of protected species licences and their ability to survey, plan, mitigate and implement ecological works associated with landscaping and construction projects. Our close relationship with our parent company BSW enables us to offer a wide range of timber and fencing products to our clients at beneficial prices.



We carry full ISO accreditation and are also members of appropriate, nationally recognised accreditation schemes. This enables Tilhill Forestry to consistently supply market leading standards to every project wherever it is completed throughout the UK.



Our specialist skills include:

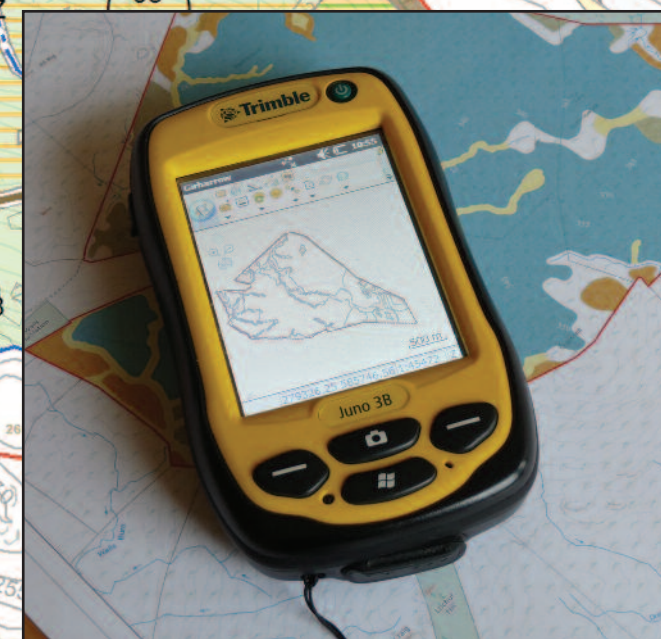
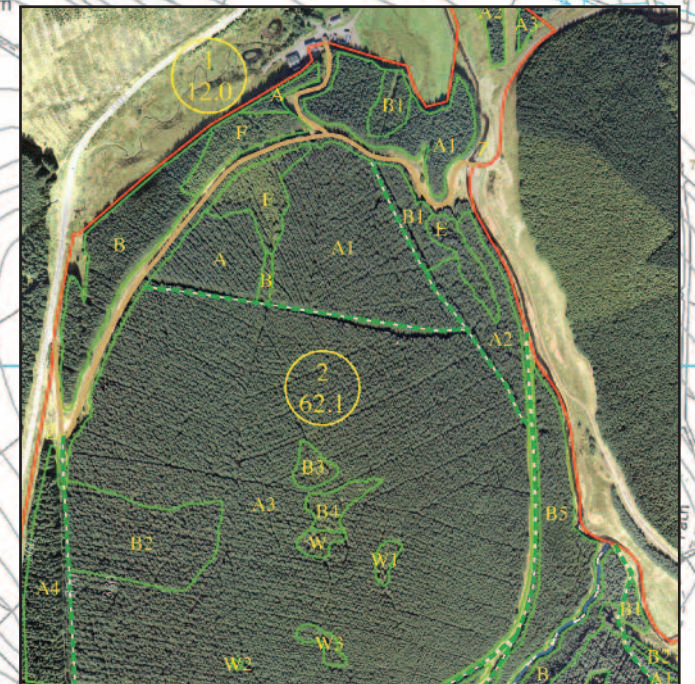
- > Tree planting.
- > Parkland trees.
- > Fencing works.
- > Grass seeding.
- > Hedging.
- > Drainage.
- > Pond creation and restoration.
- > Site clearance.
- > Paths and access works.
- > Maintenance.

SURVEYING AND MAPPING

Informed Decision Making

A good survey and map of your property is the first step to informed decision making. Tilhill Forestry use the latest technology to provide a bespoke surveying and mapping service to meet this need.

Producing an aerial photo-interpretation of the forest property using the latest photography is an important first step in the process. The subsequent analysis of this information on a Geographic Information System (GIS) allows the forest manager to add value to the data and thereby make key decisions on the future management of the woodland. This can be through visualising forest designs on a map with related statistics or the generation of 3D perspectives to show the development of the forest and how this will fit into the surrounding landscape over a period of time.



Our skills allow us to combine a whole range of data sources into the GIS to assist with this process. This can include such diverse technologies as ground-based GPS surveys through to remotely sensed data such as Airborne LiDAR Surveys (ALS) that can quantify tree growth and utilising UAV technology to capture images for assessing recent changes to the crop.

Our highly experienced team provide the client with a responsive, professional service to suit their particular mapping needs.

