SNOWBAL FACTSHEET

# RESTORATION OF WOODED GRASSLANDS







When trees and bushes are grouped, large sunny spaces are created. Here flowers and insects thrive.



Sallow flowers in early spring and are important for early insects such as wild bees. Make sure you save old sallows and also some sallow and willow bushes.



Waxwings like Rowanberrys. A lot of insects and birds find food among bushes and trees that have flowers, fruit and berries. Traditionally these trees and bushes have also been left in meadows and pastures.



Old coppiced ash that previously has had its branches cut close to the ground. Over time, a wide base is formed with many trunks. These old trees should be preserved with all their trunks.

### WHY RESTORE WOODED GRASSLANDS?

By restoring an overgrown pasture or meadow you contribute to increasing the biodiversity, preserve our cultural heritage and keep the landscape open and attractive.

### HOW SHOULD I CARRY OUT THE RESTORATION?

Every pasture and meadow is unique and needs a unique approach. Here are some general recommendations:

**Free old** deciduous trees with wide tree crowns from younger trees and bushes.

**Group trees** and bushes by widening existing openings. Do not thin trees out as done in forestry!

**Leave** trees and bushes that have flowers and carry fruit and berries such as rowan trees, wild apples and rose bushes. If you are working during winter, be sure to distinguish between brush and valuable bushes.

**Spruce trees** should be taken away, a few larger trees can be left.

**Old pines** and pine trees with wide tree crowns are to be left. Also leave small "crooked" pine trees.

**Leave older aspen** trees, preferably in smaller groups.

**Leave** dead tree trunks, standing or lying, except for dead spruce trees that can be taken away. Smaller scattered piles of wood can be left in the pasture.

**Do not take away** (dead) branches on the trees that are left

**Cultural heritage** remains, including remains from houses, barns, old stone walls etc, should be free from bushes and trees. But leave old trees and some trees or bushes that have flowers, fruit or berries.

**Clean the restored area** from twigs. Piles of twigs can be burned or if large amounts sent for chipping (bio-energy use).

**Do not clear away** all small trees and bushes as done in forestry. Young spruce, young pine and brush can be cleared, but save most of the bushes.

**If you are using heavy machines** only use these in winter when the ground is frozen or in summer when the ground is dry.

### Let the restoration take time!



Pollarded trees and trees with wide crowns have grown up in an open environment. These trees usually grow very old and house a large biodiversity. Save the trees by removing brush.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

- If entrepreneurs are contracted make sure that you state that the tree felling is for nature conservation and the goal is a pasture/meadow. Twigs are to be taken away, no tracks from machines are to occur, bushes are to be left.
- If you have endangered species on your land get information about what kind of habitat these species require.
- If you are managing grasslands in nature reserves, it is the administrating organisation that is responsible for the restoration. You need to consult them.
- Do not hesitate to turn to a nature conservation organisation to help you plan the restoration and mark trees to be saved.





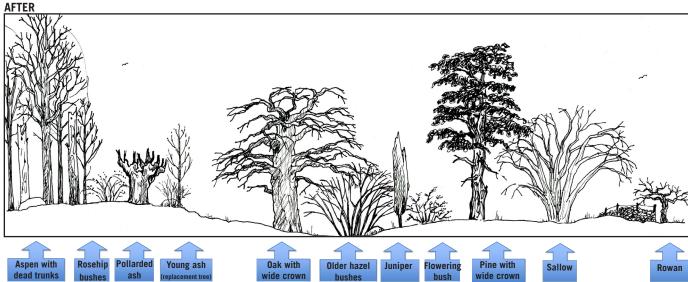


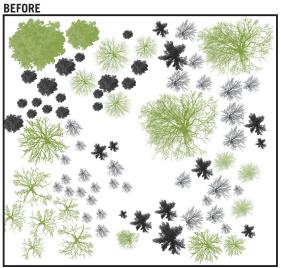




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# **AFTER**

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