



Centre for
Forest Protection

Introduction to the Centre for Forest Protection

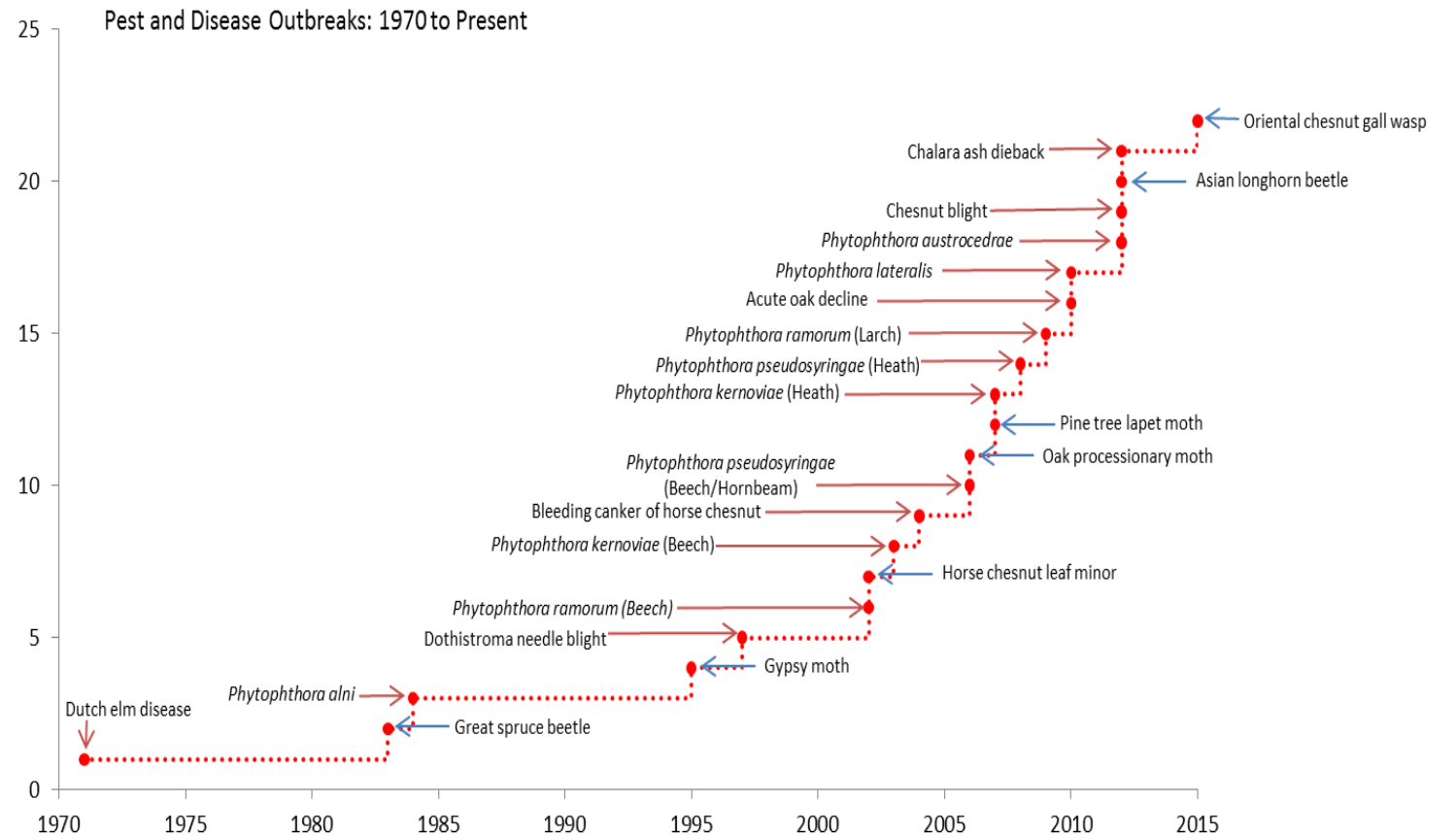
Louise Gathercole



Royal
Botanic
Gardens **Kew**

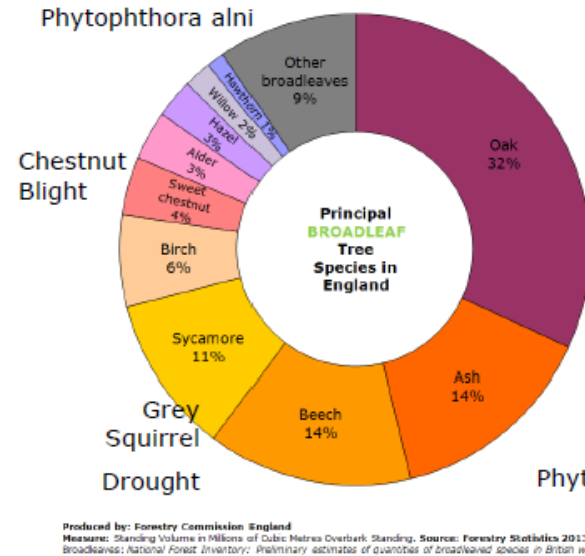
Why a Centre for Forest Protection?

- Climate change and human activities, have altered global ecosystems
- International travel and trade has tripled in volume in the last decade
- Across Europe, 168 (42%) native tree species are regionally threatened with extinction¹. 34 are UK natives.



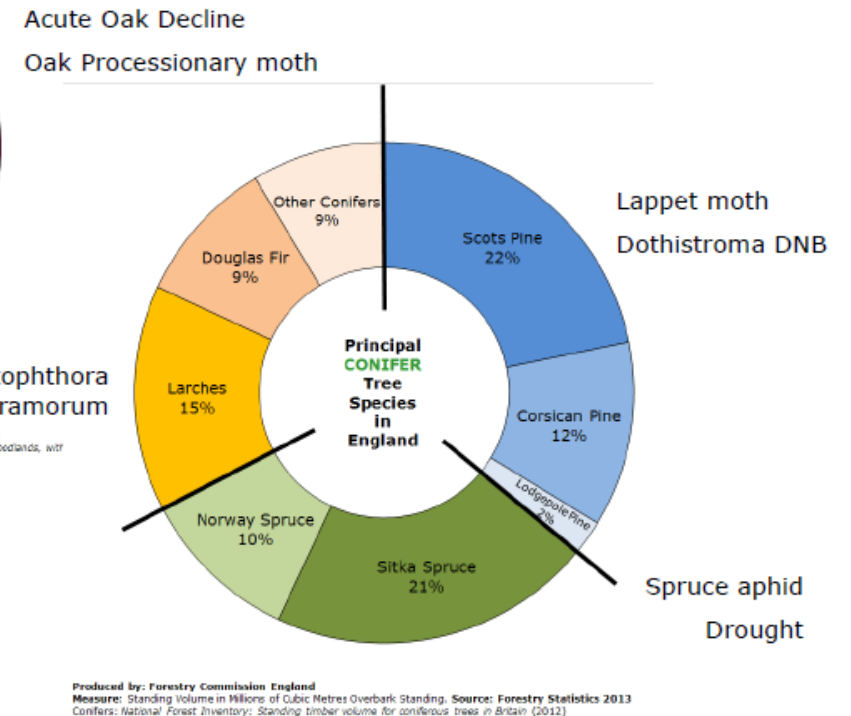
Existential threats to trees are increasing

- Our palette of tree species is limited and reducing with every P&D
- Ash dieback is predicted to kill over 100 million ash trees and cost the UK economy £15bn over 100 years
- 4 of the major conifer species are now at threat



Conifers...6 species makes up 89% of the total

Broadleaves ... 5 species make up 77% of the total

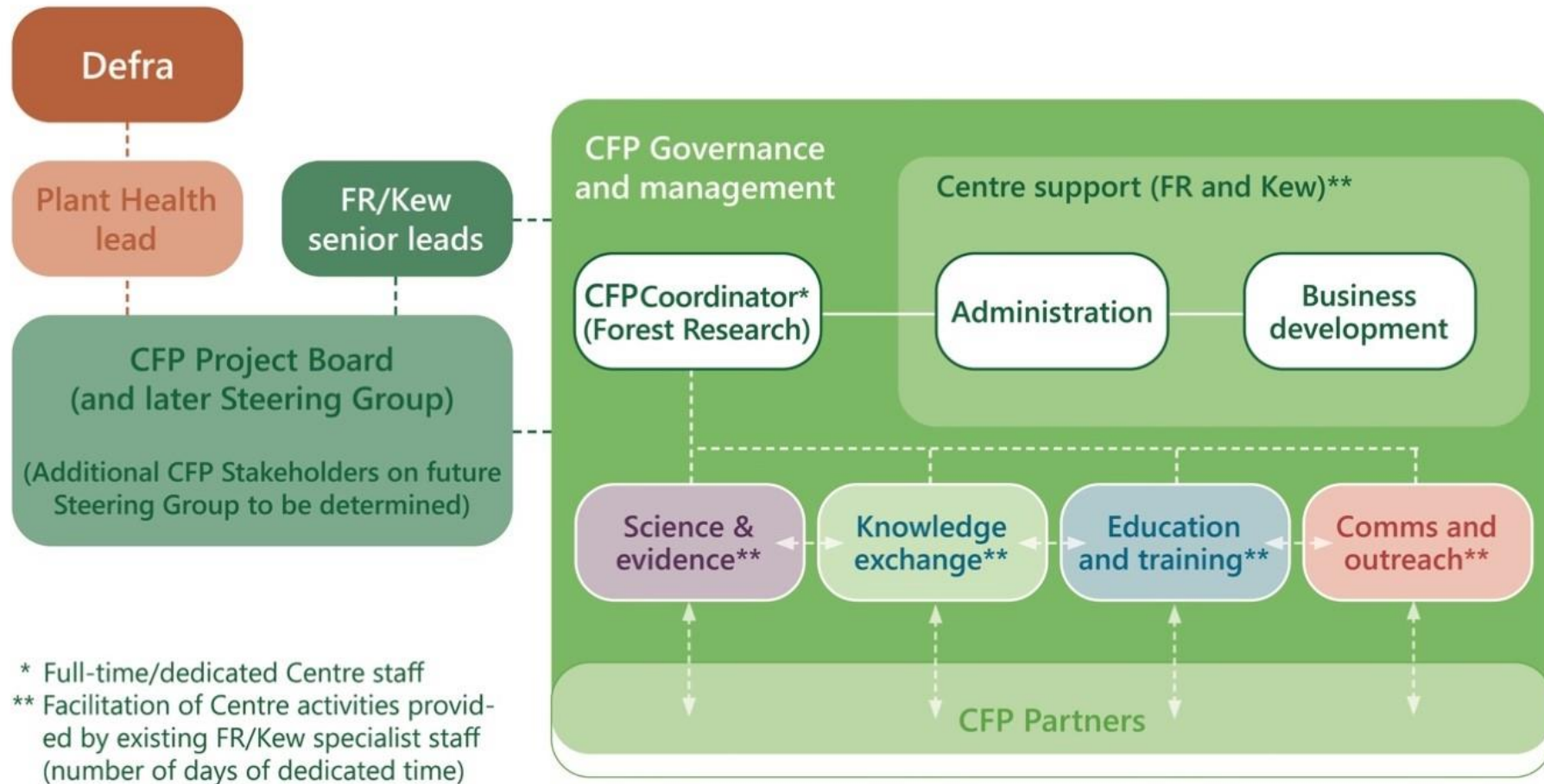


The Mission of the Centre for Forest Protection

The mission of the Centre for Forest Protection is to enhance the resilience of the UK's forests, woodlands and trees and protect them from environmental and socioeconomic threats, through the provision of evidence, interdisciplinary research, expert advice, and training.



Centre for Forest Protection Structure



Partnership, Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange



- Identifying and establishing further partnerships and collaborators, including researchers and funders
- Identifying stakeholders and promoting Knowledge Transfer and Exchange
- Demonstrating Impact

Education and Training

- Academic (MSc in Forest Protection)
 - Professional
 - Technical
- 

Research Projects

Project	Duration	FR	Kew	External
Horizon scanning for tree health	24			
Genetic basis of silver birch adaptation to local environments and disease	36			
Predicting risk to non-native tree species from potential threats in the UK	18			
Dothistroma needle blight resilience into the Scots pine breeding population	36			
Identifying proxies for drought tolerance in Sitka spruce to enhance forest resilience	36			
A pan-genome resource for understanding ash-dieback resistance	36			
Distribution and diversity of existing UK elms	27			
Evaluating genetic bottlenecks in planted and naturally colonised young woodlands	36			
Oak genome-wide association study	36			
Abiotic predisposing factors and pests and diseases – spatial risk modelling	33			
PhD - Reassessing the threat posed by pinewood nematode to UK Forestry	48			
PhD – restoration of ‘lost’ tree species	48			
PhD – understanding grey squirrel damage in UK woodlands	36			
PhD – Potential impact of Xylella on UK trees	36			

Projects involving oak

- GWAS AOD
- Genetic diversity in planted v naturally colonised young woodlands
- Environmental predisposition to pests and diseases
- Xylella risks



www.forestprotection.uk

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