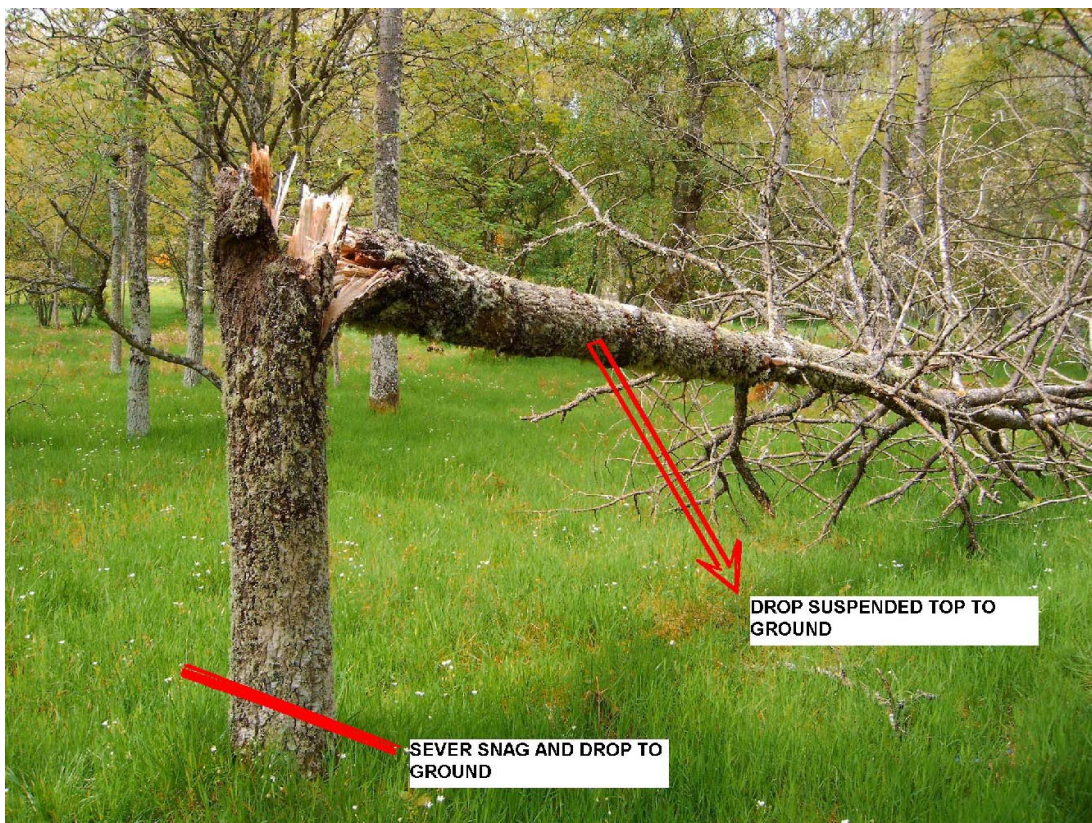


MANAGEMENT FOR THE ASPEN HOVERFLY

The aspen hoverfly is recognised by the UK Government as an important species which is in need of management and conservation. It is the largest of the twelve very rare dead wood insects which are associated with larger areas of aspen in northern Scotland. The following **THREE** simple management actions, if carried out in the spring of each year, will provide the best possible conditions to encourage these rare insects within aspen woodlands.

- SNAPPED OR FALLEN ASPEN TREES, WITH THE BARK STILL ATTACHED, ARE VERY IMPORTANT FOR RARE INSECTS.
- THE LARGER THE TREE THE MORE VALUABLE IT IS

1. DO NOT REMOVE FALLEN WOOD FROM THE SITE



- FRESHLY DEAD ASPEN LYING ON THE GROUND DECAYS MORE SLOWLY THAN A STANDING SNAG OR SUSPENDED TOP OR BRANCH. THIS SLOW DECAY IS MORE SUITABLE FOR THE ASPEN HOVERFLY.

2. FELL STANDING SNAGS AND DROP SUSPENDED TOPS



- IF A FALLEN TREE IS STILL CONNECTED TO THE GROUND BY ITS ROOTS FUNGI FROM THE SOIL WILL DESTROY THE LAYER UNDER THE BARK ON WHICH THE INSECTS DEPEND. SEVERING THE TREE AT THE BASE PREVENTS THIS HAPPENING

3. SEVER FALLEN TREES COMPLETELY AT THE BASE

- AND FINALLY – FOR THE LONG TERM SURVIVAL OF ASPEN AND ITS RARE INSECTS, LICHENS AND FUNGI CONSIDER PROMOTING REGENERATION IN AND AROUND THE EXISTING STANDS