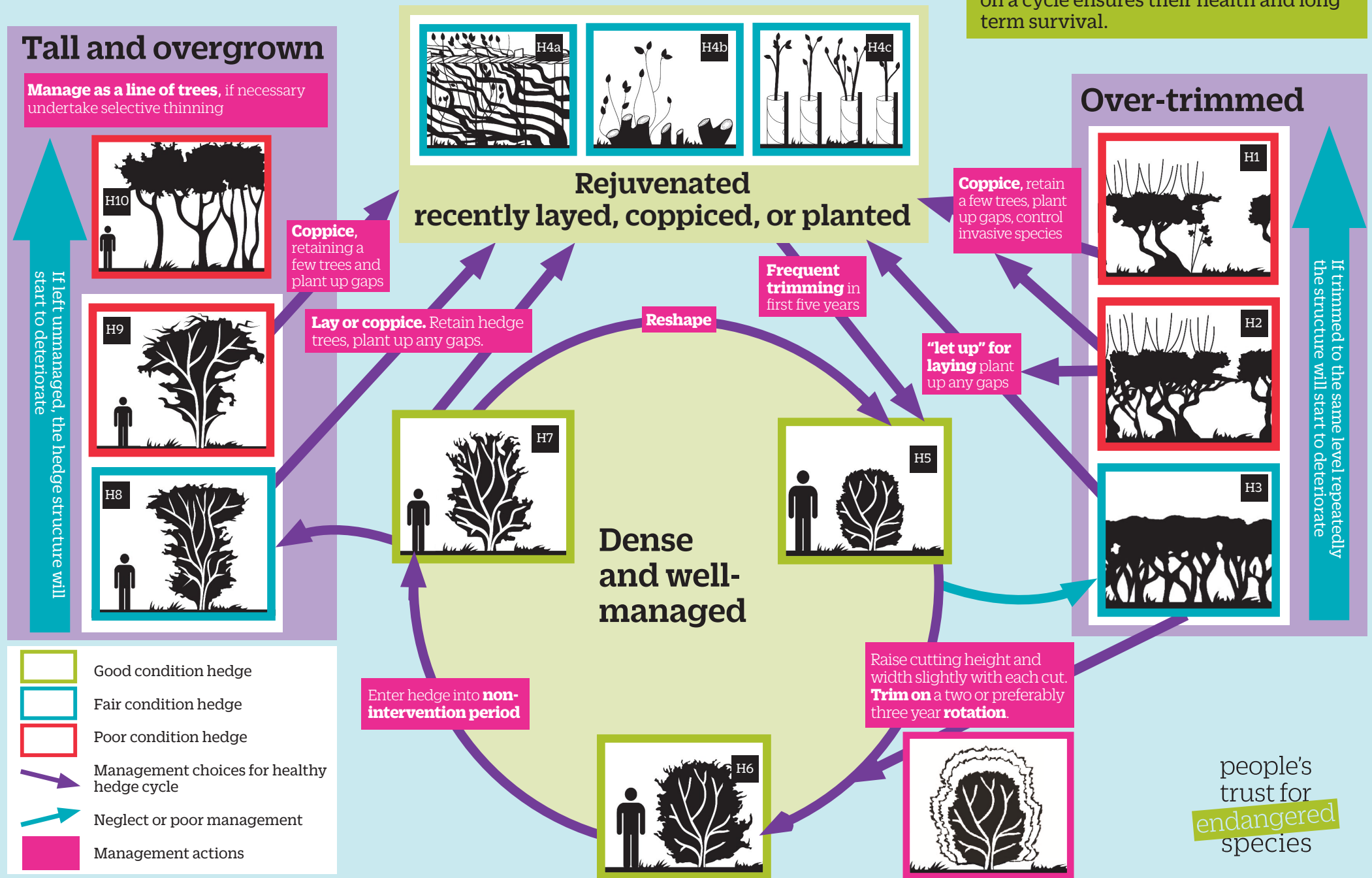
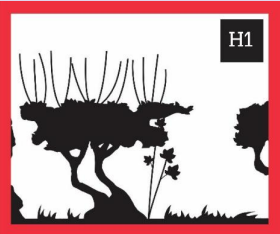


Hedgerow management cycle

Hedgerows are a dynamic system - it isn't possible to keep them at exactly the same point indefinitely. Managing them on a cycle ensures their health and long term survival.



Over-trimmed



H1

H1 Over-trimmed

- Heavily over-trimmed, hard knuckle at trim line
- Many gaps, sparse stems
- Bases may be gnarled or rotting
- Usually low and narrow
- May be invaded by elder, sycamore or other invasive sp.
- Lacks branches and foliage in the lower parts
- Closely and frequently flailed to the same line



H2

H2 Over-trimmed

- Over-trimmed, hard knuckle at trim line
- Infrequent stems
- May be developing mushroom shaped growth form
- Often low and narrow
- Closely and frequently flailed to the same line
- May lack branches and foliage in the lower parts
- Base canopy may or may not extend to the ground



H3

H3 Over-trimmed

- Over-trimmed, hard knuckle may be starting to form
- Still has frequent healthy stems
- Base canopy may or may not extend to the ground

Structurally managed



H4a

H4a Rejuvenated - Recently laid

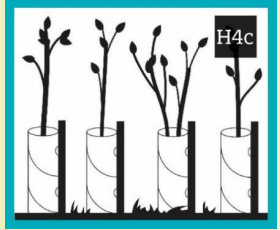
- Hedge stems cut at base and laid on their sides.
- Depending on time since being laid, significant re-growth may have grown from the base. The horizontal stems (alive or dead) should still be visible
- Approximately laid within the last 5 years



H4b

H4b Rejuvenated - Recently coppiced

- Stems all cut at ground level, stumps may be visible
- Significant regrowth may be visible from cut bases
- Approximately coppiced within the last 5 years



H4c

H4c Rejuvenated - Recently planted

- Approximately planted within the last 5 years
- Stems may still be protected by tree guards

Dense and managed



H5

H5 Dense and Managed

- Healthy dense hedgerow
- Have obviously been trimmed in the fairly recent past. (May have shoots protruding but retains basic shape)
- Frequent healthy stems
- Dense amongst most of their length
- About 2m or more in height



H6

H6 Dense and managed

- Healthy dense hedgerow not recently trimmed.
- May have 'straggly' appearance with protruding woody branches
- May be in a non-intervention stage of management
- May be on a longer trim rotation, e.g. 3 year cut
- About 3m or more in height



H7

H7 Dense and managed

- May have a straggly appearance with numerous long woody branches protruding from the main body
- Usually still quite dense, but increasing volume may start to shade the lower branches
- Has frequent healthy stems, about 4m high.
- This is an unmanaged, overgrown version of H6



H8

H8 Tall or overgrown

- Over-mature hedgerow, tall and leggy
- May have spreading tops
- Not been trimmed for many years
- Lacks significant foliage in the lower parts
- Stems still healthy, but may be infrequent and getting too large to lay



H9

H9 Tall or overgrown

- Over-mature hedgerow, tall and leggy
- Spreading tops might be dying back
- Collapse possible
- No significant woody foliage in the lower parts
- May be developing gaps



H10

H10 Tall or overgrown – line of trees

- Hedgerow has developed into a line of trees
- Very little, if any, woody undergrowth