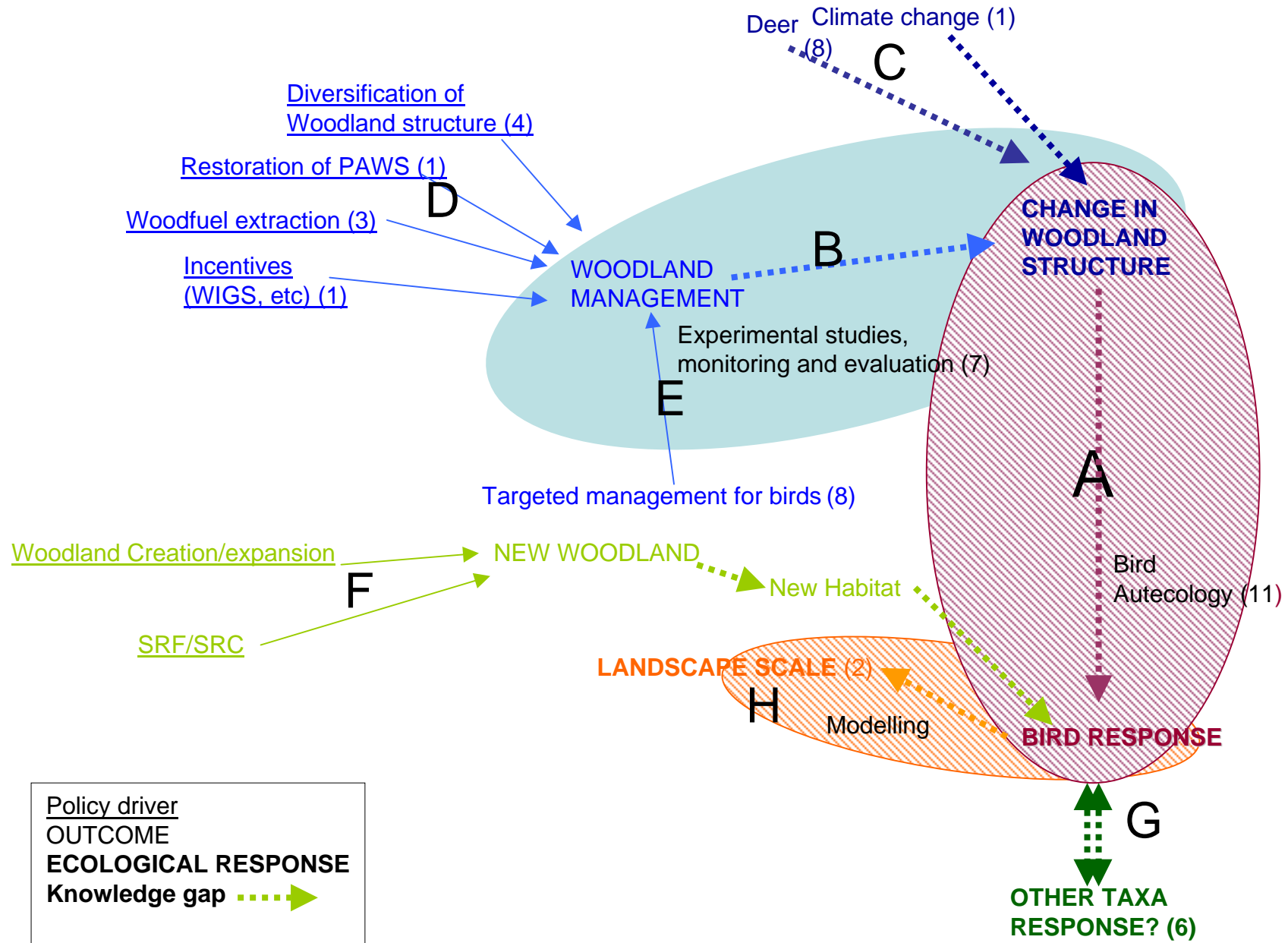


Synthesis of knowledge gaps and potential research pathways and approaches



Analysis of flow diagram

Change in woodland structure that elicits a positive change in woodland birds appears as the key ecological response required (A), also knowledge on bird response to changes in woodland structure needs to be supported by autecological studies.

Change in woodland structure results from woodland management (B) or other drivers of woodland change (C).

Woodland management is influenced by policy (D) or may be specifically carried out to benefit woodland birds (E).

Bird response resulting from the provision of new woodland habitat is another key line of enquiry and the drivers of SRC/SRF and woodland creation incentives were identified as important (F).

Responses of other taxa in addition to birds was identified as another key area for study (G).

Scaling-up stand or wood scale bird responses to the landscape scale was seen as important and modelling methods were identified as the study approach here (H).

Experimental studies, monitoring and evaluation were identified as the methods of studying the link between woodland management impacts and woodland structure changes.

Counts of delegates' votes have been shown on the diagram. These can be used to provide the workshop view on level of priority for each research pathway. For example the impact of targeted management for birds on woodland structure, as assessed by experiment, monitoring and evaluation, received the highest number of votes (8 plus 7). Other examples of priority research pathways are: woodland management resulting from policy aims to diversify woodland structure and the resulting changes in woodland structure (4 plus 7), and bird responses to woodland structure changes as supported by bird autecological studies (11 votes).

Questions for delegates:

- Had you intended that 'Experimental studies, monitoring and evaluation' was also to be used in the study of bird response to change in woodland structure?
- Do you think it is valid to sum votes by research pathway as a means to determining priority?