Forestry Commission England

Woodlands of Bury Hill and Redlands Forest Plan

South England Forest District

Forestry Commission England

Woodlands Included Within This Forest Plan

Bury Hill

Redlands

Forestry Commission England

Approval

Date of Commencement of Plan: **April 2016**

Approval Period: **1st April 2016 to 31st March 2026 (10 years)**

Summary of Activity within Approval Period:

A separate felling license provides approval for standard silvicultural thinning across the South Forest district estate as a whole.

Forestry Activity	Area (ha)			
	Broad-leaf high forest	**Broadleaf natu-ral regeneration or replanting**	**Mixed natural regeneration or replanting**	**Open**
Regeneration Felling in period 2016-2026	0.3	0.3		
Area managed under a adoptive silviculture sys-tem	255.2			
Management of wet woodland restoration	12.7			
Management of permanent open space	(plus transitional open space created by Coppice Rotations, Regeneration Fellings and Clearfellings) 5.7			
Open - newly planted & to be replanted	6.2			
Clearfell in period 2014-2026	32.6			
Clearfell in period 2027-2036	17.4			
Clearfell beyond 2037	58.9			
Clearfell in total	108.9			
Other (car parks etc.)	1.0			
TOTAL MAPPED AREA	**390**			

FOREST ENTERPRISE Application for Forest Plan Approvals

Forest District: **South England Forest District**

FC Geographic Block No: **93**

Forest Plan Name: **Woodlands of Bury Hill and Redlands**

FE Plan Reference Number: **304/09/15-16**

Nearest town or village: **Dorking, Surrey**

OS Grid Reference: **TQ 153 453**

Local Authority: Mole Valley District Council & Surrey County Council

I apply for Forest Plan approval for the property described above and in the enclosed Forest Plan.

I undertake to obtain any permissions necessary for the implementation of the approved Plan.

Signed:

Bruce Rothnie, Deputy Surveyor, South England FD

Date:

Approved: .....

Forest Services Area Director

Date:

Forest Planning

The Forest Plan defines the long term vision for a woodland or a collection of woodlands, usually looking 50 to 100 years ahead. It sets objectives and illustrates how management will move towards achieving this vision over the initial 10 to 30 years.

This plan represents a review of the Forest Design Plan previously approved in 2004. The revised Plan has been prepared following a review of the original plans undertaken by Forestry Commission staff, and in consultation with stakeholders and the public. It has incorporated developments in policy and local initiatives that have occurred in the intervening years.

Consultation and Approval Process

At key points throughout the Forest Planning process, we will seek the views of external stakeholders, including; local communities and organisations involved with nature conservation, public recreation and the timber industry. Through this consultation process we can ensure that an appropriate balance of objectives is achieved. Details of the Consultation Strategy for this Forest Plan can be found within this document.

Approval of the Forest Plan is granted by the regulatory arm of the Forestry Commission, known as Forest Services. This regulatory approval is usually valid for 10 years and grants a 10 year felling license.

The approved Forest Plan will be reviewed at year 5 to ensure proposals are still relevant, suitable and in line with current policy and guidance. This will also be an opportunity to evaluate the success of management over the 5 year period and engage any amendments to the Forest Plan that may be required.

Context

Each section contains site specific details of location, tenure, landscape and historical context, current woodland structure, biodiversity and conservation, people, historic environment, soils, water and timber production.

This contextual information supports our decision making, both through the production of the Forest Plan and when planning operational interventions designed to implement the proposals on the ground.

Objectives for the Woodlands

- **Maintain and increase the native composition of ancient semi-natural woodland.**
- **Restore planted ancient woodland sites to native and honorary native woodland.**
- **Maintain sustainable access and the provision for recreation within the woodlands, taking opportunities to enhance the experience where appropriate.**
- **Take opportunities to increase the nature conservation value of other existing habitats.**
- **Maintain and take opportunities to increase the resilience of the woodlands by diversifying age structure and appropriate species mix within the woodland.**
- **Provide a regular supply of quality timber to support local employment and local timber processing industries.**
- **Maintain the landscape character in respect to the important external topography often referred to as 'Little Switzerland'.**

Forestry Commission England

Contents

Context

Location
Reference: Location Map

Bury Hill and Redlands Wood is located South West of Westcott, approximately three kilometres South of Dorking in Surrey. The forest forms a larger woodland complex with adjacent Wotton Common, managed by the National Trust as well as Leigh Hill under joint management of the National Trust and the Surrey Wildlife Trust. Whilst collectively known as Abinger Forest the FC managed area includes the woods of Redlands and Bury Hill. The minor county road that leads to Coldharbour from Dorking bisects the forest.

The forest falls within South East England Forest District and is managed by Forest Enterprise.

Tenure
Forestry Commission is a freehold owner of Bury Hill woodland (240ha) and manages the Redlands wood (~150ha) under a long term lease (999-year) from the Barclay and Heath Estates. Sporting rights lie with the Forestry Commission and are let to a local sporting tenant, the oil well is leased to Europa Gas and Oil and the land at Wolvens lane to The Plough is also managed under a lease agreement.

Public access is limited to the network of public rights of way within the woodland.

Landscape
The wood described in this design plan comprises of 390 hectares.

The escarpment in Redlands wood with 226m asl at the highest point is clearly visible from the A24 and forms a significant landscape feature from Dorking and from the village of South Holmood. From Redlands the land drops quickly away to form a valley before rising again to 250m asl in the west at Coldharbour Common. The step valley sides and wet valley bottoms limit the use of machinery within the wood, which has resulted in problems actively managing some areas. The woodland is part of an important external landscape, referred to as 'the Little Switzerland' of Surrey due to its hilly topography.

The forest falls within the Countryside Commissions Wealden Greensand character area typified by an irregular undulating landform with a mix of conifer woodland, heathland and agriculture.

There are major internal landscaping issues due to the mix of conifer and broadleaves combined with a range of age classes and open space resulting in diverse woodland. However, of particular note is the characteristic sunken lane with old beech pollards that runs through the forest from Coldharbour towards Dorking. The lanes poor access and character helps to add to the sense of seclusion within a heavily populated part of the country. The trees on the side of the lane are a risk to public safety when they become unstable or start to suffer die-back.

The climate is typical of south-east England with rainfall below 700mm per annum and temperatures ranging from a mean 14.2^{o}C for the warmest month and 5.3^{o}C for the coldest month.

Current Woodland Structure
Bury Hill and Redlands Woods are classed as predominantly (~70% or 276 hectares) Ancient Woodland, where approximately 236 hectares of the Wood (~60%) is classed as Plantation on Ancient Woodland.

The woodlands of Bury Hill and Redlands have a very diverse structure, with over 25 tree species recorded on the subcompartment database. Predominately a conifer forest (over 60%) with Corsican Pine, Scots Pine, Douglas Fir and Western Hemlock that are all well suited to the site. Of the broadleaved species Beech and Birch are dominant. Birch readily colonises open ground as a pioneer species with individual and small groups of Oak and Sweet Chestnut occurring along woodland boundaries and roadsides.

The age class of canopy trees ranges from 0 to around 145 years old. The woodland of Bury Hill and Redlands was largely planted in the 1950's and 1960's. The Great Storm in 1987 and further windblow in 1990 resulted in the clearance of blow areas and an increase in planting during the 1990's.

Biodiversity and Conservation

The adjoining Leith Hill SSSI has been notified due to its diverse range of habitats, from former heathland to ancient semi-natural woodland and springline wet woodland. The SSSI is of considerable ornithological importance supporting all three species of British Woodpecker, Wood Warbler Phylloscopus sibilatrix and Redstart Phoenicurus phoenicurus. In addition the site supports an outstanding invertebrate population with numerous nationally rare species.

Whilst the Bury Hill & Redlands blocks covered by this Forest Design Plan (FDP) are only adjacent to the above protected area, many of the habitats and species listed in the citation can be found within our adjoining woodland. Dry heathland species occur along many of the edges of internal corridors particularly at higher elevations on the freer draining sandy soils. The vast majority (some 236 hectares) of the Bury Hill & Redlands complex is classified as Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) with 40 hectares being classified as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW).

Of particular interest are the areas of semi natural woodland that are dominated by wet woodland. Birch and alder dominate with a number of ancient woodland species present. Ferns are abundant including the rather local Narrow Buckler-fern Dryopteris carthusiana.

There are also areas of White Climbing Corydalis Corydalis claiculata and Marsh Violet Viola palustris both of these being uncommon in lowland England. Due to the high humidity bryophytes flourish, including a few Sphagnum species and the moss Hookeria lucens. These areas provide valuable habitats for a range of invertebrates.

Unfortunately Rhododendron Rhododendron spp. has invaded many parts of the wet woodland which is scattered across the Bury Hill & Redlands complex. The removal of rhododendron over some 8.5ha at Great Squires Wood was completed in 2013 in tandem with the creation of a new wildlife pond (completed in 2014) to complement an existing water body lost to natural succession). This work was intended to benefit a wide range of forest wetland species associated with wet woodland and it is intended that wet woodland restoration be progressed each year at the site with a view to the eventual eradication of rhododendron (The Surrey Hills Wet Woodland Restoration Project: Delivery Report to Biffa Award, Jay Doyle, Forestry Commission, March 2014).

The ancient and native woodland resource at Bury Hill & Redlands contains a significant proportion of wet woodland located in clusters around springlines and wet flushes. This resource will be more accurately mapped as ancient woodland restoration progresses and future plans will zone this habitat as Natural Reserve to be managed as near-natural woodland.

The Surrey Biodiversity Working Group have developed a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) Policy Statement for the Leith Hill, Wooton, Abinger & Holmwood Greensand Ridge environs which takes in the public forest estate managed Bury Hill & Redlands Blocks. Heathland, Acid grassland, Mixed deciduous woodland and Wet woodland are identified as 'Habitats of Principal Importance' or 'Priority' habitats and all four habitat types have been prioritised for habitat restoration and creation. A wide range of 'priority' species are identified with Nightjar Caprimulgus europaeus, Woodlark Lullula arborea, Marsh tit Poecile palustris, Adder Vipera berus and Common dormouse Muscardinus avellanarius being flagged up as priorities for species recovery effort in the local landscape (SBWG 2014). In future closer collaboration with the neighbouring National Trust team will help to progress trans-boundary biodiversity conservation at the local level.

People

The general public does not have access to the leased area, as the Forestry Commission does not have the Rights of Way over it. In comparison to other FE woodlands, people do not heavily use this wood due to restricted access. The greatest numbers of visitors come to the adjacent Leith Hill managed by the National Trust which provide a number of small car parks. Recreation within the forest is dominated by local use, particularly dog walkers and mountain bikers who are often travelling through the wood on route to Leith Hill.

In recent years the increase in off-road driving by 4 x 4 vehicles has lead to problems on a number of tracks due to the unauthorised access from Wolvens Lane (BOAT). The length of the BOAT and the difficulty of policing the area have made this a particularly difficult problem to resolve.

There is a network of statutory rights of way and numerous informal footpaths created by local walkers. There are no restrictions placed on responsible woodland users other than for safety reasons during forest operations when access maybe restricted.

Historic Environment

There are no scheduled ancient monuments within the forest although there are a number of archaeological features and finds that are of interest.
Just to the south of the forest is the hillfort 'Anstiebury,' at Coldharbour, and there have been a number of sites where axe heads and Saxon coins have been found within the forest. Two of these are recorded in the Forest Districts conservation plan; a Saxon coin find in C418b and a find of axe heads in C414c, neither sites require any specific management for the archaeological interest.

Of local interest is Mag's Well (C 415g) a 17th century well the water of which reputedly has healing powers. The reason why it is called Mag's well stems from the story of a poor wench, whose name was Meg that was troubled by an itch that was cured after washing in the well. The supply of water has never known to fail and the site is well recorded as having frequent use during the 17th and 18th centuries. Today the well is somewhat ruinous with a covered brick basin and the outline of the former more extensive brick structure.

To the east in Redlands wood is the line of the former Roman Road 'Stane Street' but this is difficult to locate on the ground.

Current Context

Water
The springline wet woodland is a focal feature of the Bury Hill & Redlands blocks. It occurs both on wet flushes emanating from slopes spread across the complex as well as flanking the Pipp Brook which flows North eastward towards the village of Westcott near Dorking (the Pipp Brook in turn connects with the River Mole beyond). An extensive network of forestry drains many of which pre-date the Forestry Commission presence in the landscape provide a significant opportunity to explore sustainable drainage opportunities in the future (in tandem with ongoing activity to restore ancient and native woodland and remove invasive rhododendron). As discussed above, in 2014 a new wildlife pond was created at Bury Hill to complement a historic pond that had been lost to natural succession. As ancient and native woodland restoration is progressed and rhododendron is brought under control there may be scope to expand the pond resource across our holdings to provide a series of stepping stones for forest wetland species.

Climate Change
Climate change presents one of the greatest long-term challenges facing the world today. Conventional forest management systems have developed in a climate that has undergone fluctuations but remained relatively stable since the end of the last ice age (around 10 000 years ago). However, the average global temperature is now rising and there is evidence that rainfall patterns are changing. There is also likely to be an increase in the incidence of extreme weather and the frequency and severity of summer drought. This is likely to represent the greatest threat to woodlands from climate change in the UK over the coming decades. UK forest management needs to respond to these threats through mitigation, ensuring management is sustainable and adaptation, including species diversification.

Soils
The majority of the forest is underlain by the Hythe Beds of the Lower Greensand ridge with Weald clay present in the stream valleys and at lower elevations as you drop off the ridge. The soils are strongly acid, permeable and free draining. The soil types range from podzolic brown earth's to typical podzols with more neutral gleyed soils in the valley bottoms.

The semi-natural vegetation reflects the acidic nature of the soils with Birch and Scots pine dominating with bracken on cleared areas. Billberry and dry heathland species occur on ride sides reflecting the heathland vegetation that occurs across much of the Greensand ridge.

Tree Diseases and Pests
Throughout southern England, established and newly recognised tree pests and diseases have been causing significant concern in recent years. Of particular concern at the present is the spread of Dothistroma (red band) Needle Blight on Corsican Pine, Phytophthera ramorum on Larch and Hymenoscyphus Fraxinea (Ash Dieback). Where affected species are extensive, woodlands are at a fairly high risk of unplanned and undesirable structural change. Guidance and action plans regarding plant health are constantly evolving to adapt to plant health threats. The sudden emergence of a disease can result in the need to clear fell a coupe earlier than planned or alter restocking plans. We will continue to monitor for diseases as required and take any action required. Any changes to the Forest Design Plan will be notified or agreed with Forest Services in accordance with relevant guidance.

Regeneration
Unless otherwise stated, the preferred method of regeneration will be through the adoption of natural regeneration. It may be necessary to enrich such restocking with some planting.

Statistics
The plan is supported by charts showing how management proposals contained within the Forest Plan may affect the habitat and age structure of the woodlands over time.

Forest Plan Maps
Maps are presented for Bury Hill and Redlands within this Forest Plan. Where appropriate the maps are annotated to describe issues on the site and include the following (other maps may be included where appropriate):

Location

Aerial

Ancient Woodland and Native Species Scoring
Illustrates the Ancient Woodland status of the woodland and the percentage of native species within various parts of the woodland.

Indicative Species Diversity
Gives an indicative illustration of the number of different species within sub-compartments (including open space).

Indicative Age Diversity
Gives an indicative illustration of the age range within sub-compartments (including open space).

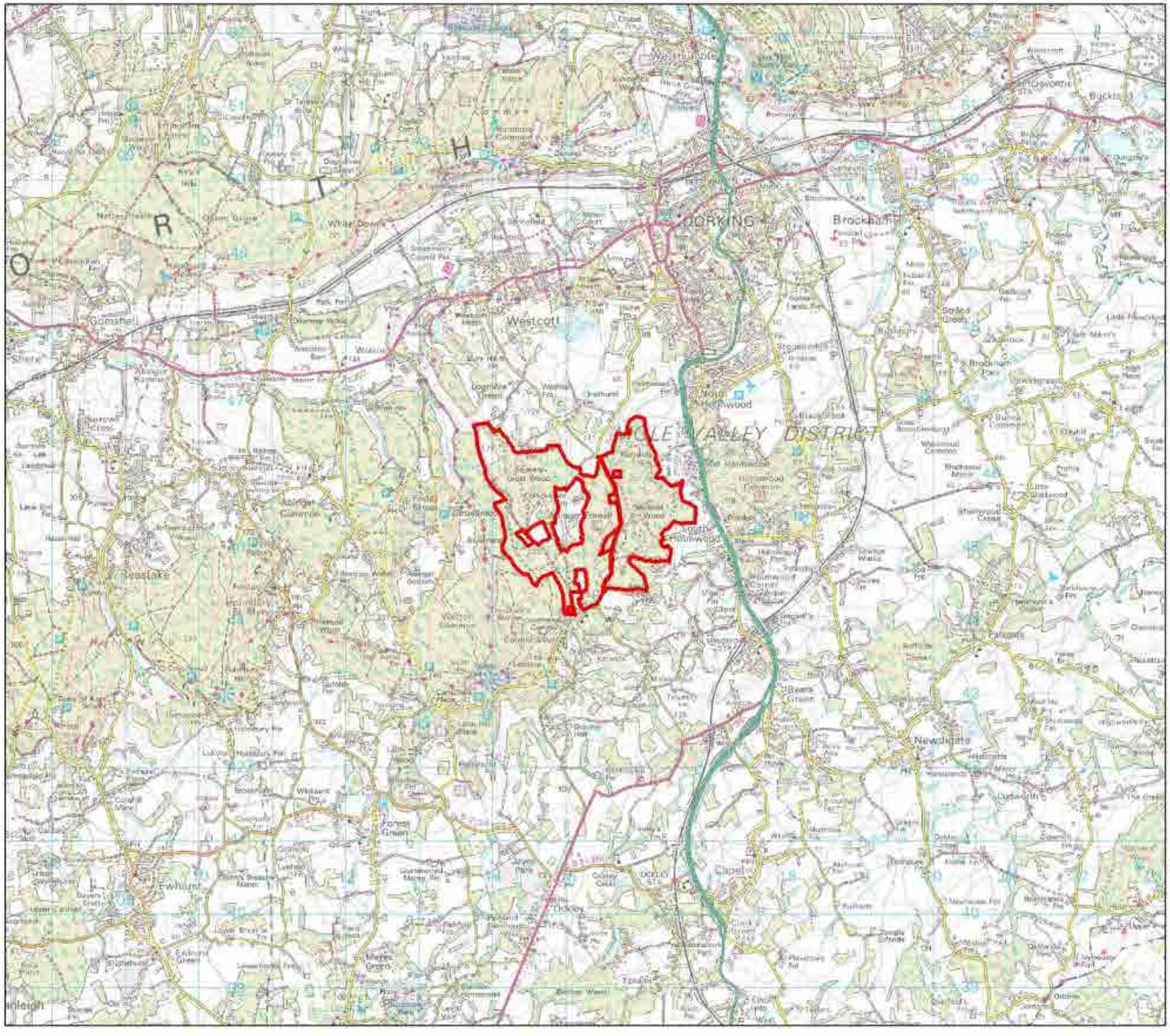
Long Term Vision
Illustrates the long-term structure of the woodlands and other habitats consistent with the Forest Plan objectives. While there is no fixed time scales for the habitat transformations depicted, an indicative term of 10 to 100 years depending on the habitat objectives is assumed.

Current Structure
An overview of the current makeup of the woodland.

Habitat Restoration and Felling
Shows the timing and shape of individual felling areas (coupes). These will either be replanted or restored to important non-woodland habitats. It also identifies areas not to be clear felled, but managed using less impactful management systems where natural regeneration or open habitat management techniques will be employed.

Tolerance thresholds for adjustments to felling coupe boundaries, timing of restocking, change of species, wind blow clearance and changes to road lines will be as per those recorded in Forestry Commission Countryside Services Memorandum 6.

Statistics Intended Medium Term Structure
What the woodlands may look like after 20 years based on our proposals.



Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Location

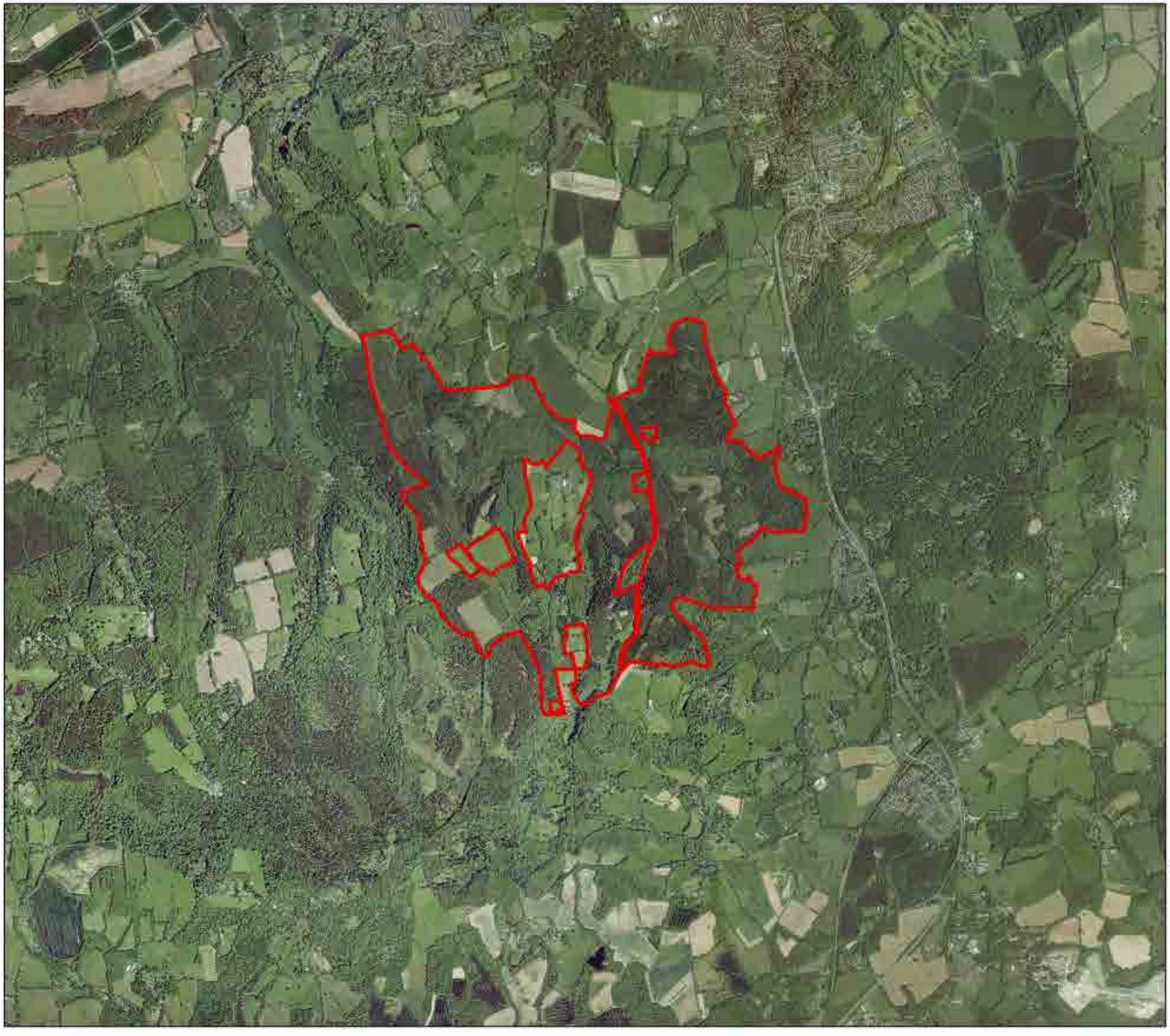
Legend

Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 26/08/2015

N

Scale: 1:50,000



Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Aerial

Legend

Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 26/08/2015

N

Scale: 1:25,000

Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

FC Landholding

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area

FC landholding

- Freehold
- Leasehold

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 26/08/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Contour Map

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- Compartments
- Road Segments
- contours

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 08/09/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Digital Elevation Model

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- Compartments
- Sub-Compartments
- Road Segments
- Window Size: 0.000

Elevation [m]

- 259.836 - 292.315
- 227.356 - 259.836
- 194.877 - 227.356
- 162.397 - 194.877
- 129.918 - 162.397
- 97.438 - 129.918
- 64.959 - 97.438
- 32.479 - 64.959
- 0 - 32.479

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 08/09/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Indicative Species Diversity

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area

Number of components species within the canopy (including open space)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 - 9

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 28/08/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Indicative Age Diversity

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- over 100 Years Old
- 81 - 100 Years Old
- 61 - 80 Years Old
- 41 - 60 Years Old
- 21 - 40 Years Old
- 1 - 20 Years Old

Gaps illustrate actual or indicative open space, areas covered by recent natural regeneration, or wet woodland restoration.

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 30/10/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Ancient Woodland

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- 1 - Over 80% native
- 2 - Between 50% and 80% native
- 3 - Between 20% and 50% native
- 4 - Less than 20% native
- Currently open, built or un-established
- Not Ancient Woodland

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 24/09/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Long Term Vision

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- Predominatley (>80%) native and honourary-native woodland.
- Wet Woodland
- Mixed Woodland. No species type (broadleaf or conifer represent more than 80% of the canopy.
- Predominatley (>80%) coniferous woodland.
- Open space (Grassland/Meadow/Arable)
- Other - built areas.

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 03/05/2016

N

1:10,000

Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Current Structure

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area

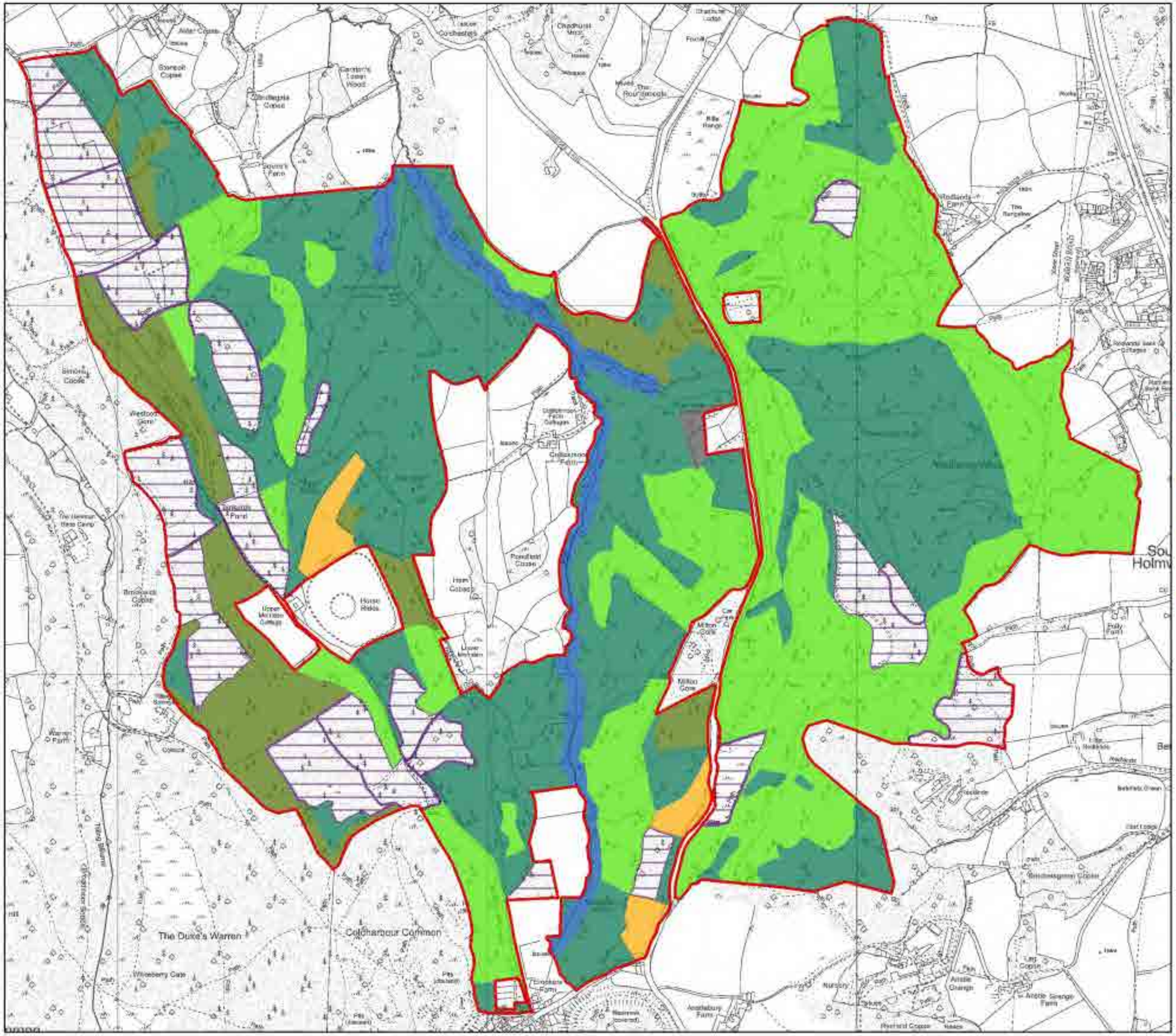
Current Structure

- Predominantly (>80%) native and honourary-native broadleaf woodland.
- Predominantly (>80%) coniferous woodland.
- Mixed woodland. No species type (broadleaf or conifer) represents more than 80% of the canopy.
- Non-native broadleaf woodland
- Open land
- Other - built areas

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 30/10/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000



Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Intended Medium Term Structure in ~ 20 years

Legend

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- Predominantly (>80%) native and honourary-native broadleaf woodland.
- Mixed woodland. No species type (broadleaf or conifer) represents more than 80% of the canopy.
- Predominantly (>80%) coniferous woodland.
- Wet Woodland
- To be clearfelled after 2037
- Other - built areas
- Open space (Grassland/ Meadow/ Arable).

Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 06/11/2015

N

Scale: 1:10,000

Forestry Commission
England

South England Forest District

Bury Hill & Redlands Forest Design Plan

Habitat Restoration & Felling

- Bury Hill & Redlands Management Area
- Compartments
- Sub-Compartments
- Road Segments
- Native Broadleaved Woodland Restoration. Manage under an appropriate shelterwood system. Favour best native tree, non-native species to 20% of the canopy or less.
- Native Broadleaved Woodland Management. Manage under an appropriate shelterwood system. Favouring best native tree and focussing on the production of timber.
- Native Broadleaved Woodland Management. (Mature Oak)
- Wet Woodland Restoration. Thinning and group felling to maintain and enhance wet woodland characteristics.
- Mixed Woodland Management. Manage under an appropriate shelterwood system. Favour best native tree, focussing on the production of quality timber and species diversity.
- Restocking
- Agricultural
- Other - building
- Clearfell 2014-2016
- Clearfell 2017-2021
- Clearfell 2022-2026
- Clearfell 2027-2031
- Clearfell 2032-2036
- Clearfell beyond 2037

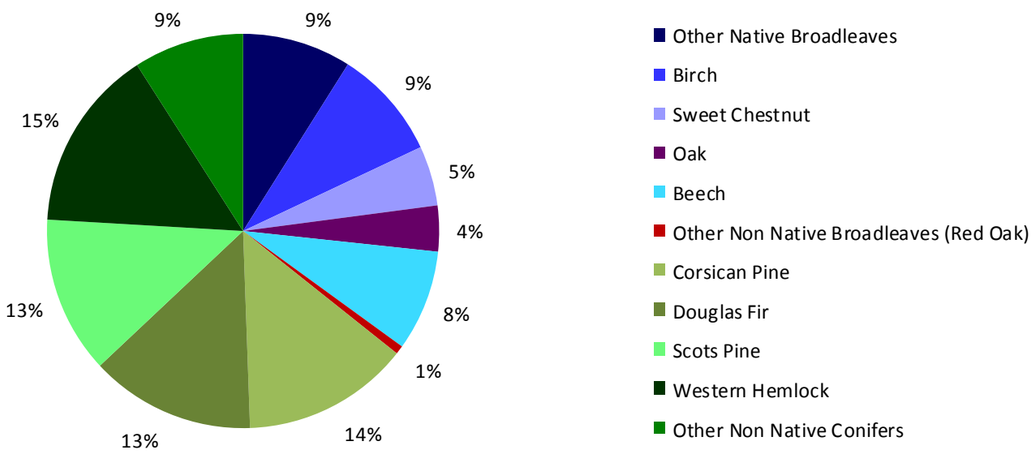
Produced by the Planning Team
Date: 04/05/2016

N

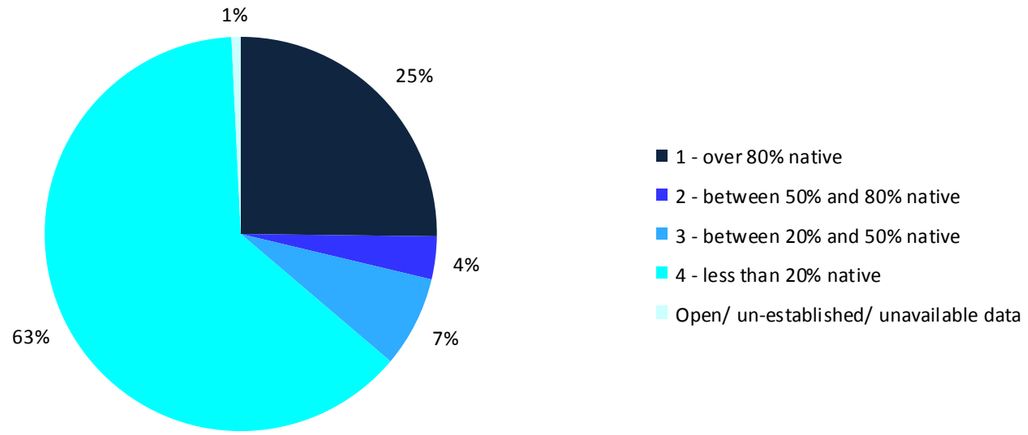
1:10,000

Declaration by FC as an Operator. All timber arising from the Forest Enterprise estate represents a negligible risk under EUTR(No 995/210).

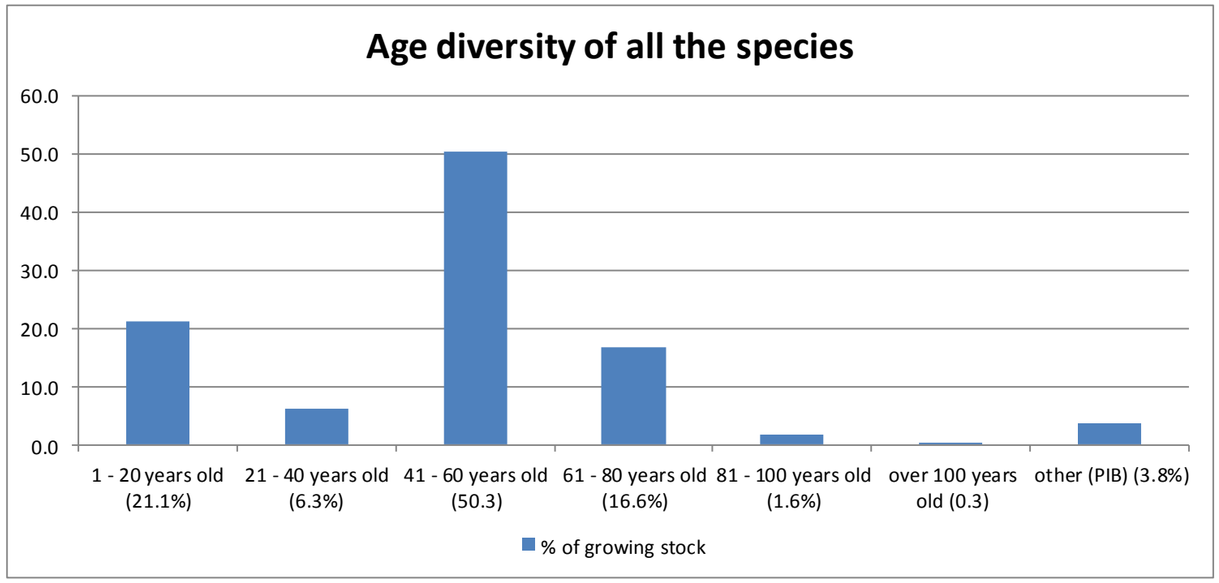
Species distribution 2015

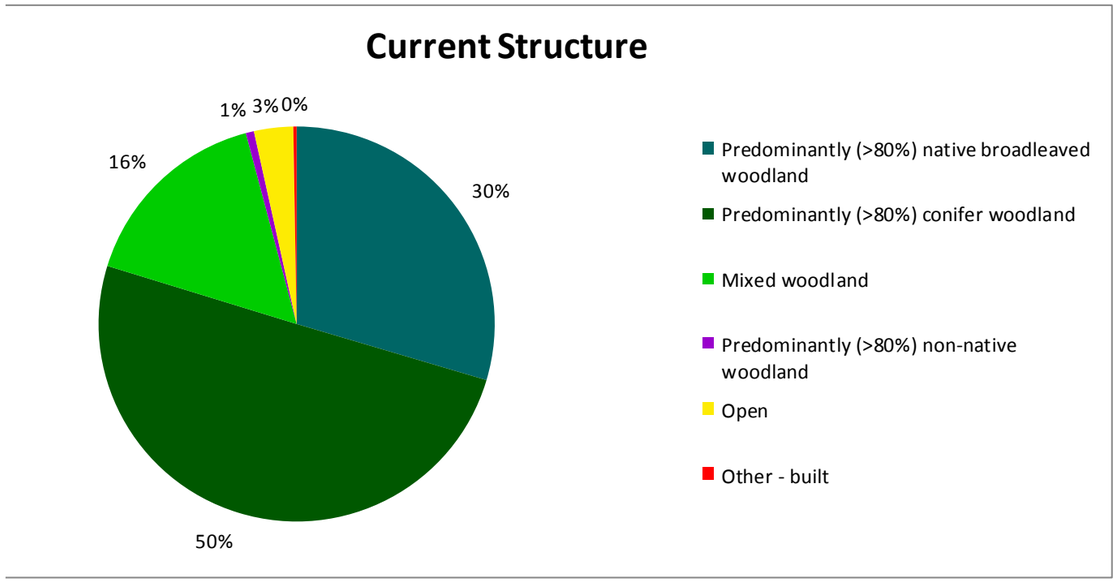


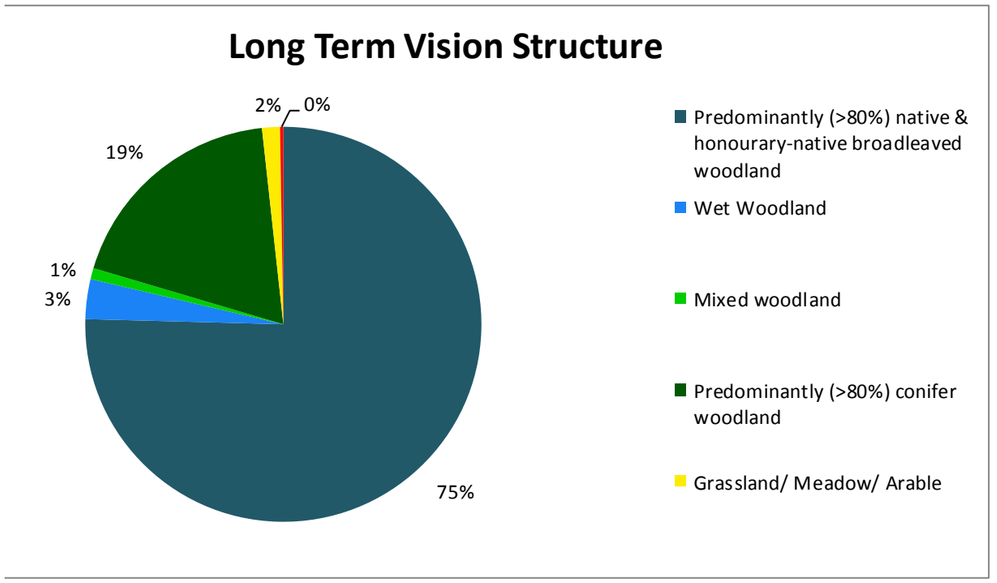
Semi Natural Scoring Within Ancient Woodland Areas



Age diversity of all the species







Transitional open space created by clearfells, coppice management and regeneration felling will account for an additional proportion of open space. The road and ride network, which also provides additional permanent open space is not accounted for in these figures.

Forestry Commission England

Monitoring and Indicators of Success

Objective	Proposed Actions to Meet Objective	Ref.	Output by year 10	Monitoring	Indicators of Success
Maintain and increase the native composition of ancient semi-natural woodlands.	Favouring native broadleaves during management and the use of shelterwood systems will maintain ASNW. Invasive and non-native species will be monitored and managed accordingly to ensure the quality of ASNW is not degraded.	1	Maintained percentage of native tree species within ancient woodland sites	Semi-natural scoring via subcompartment database at years 5 and 10	Ancient semi-natural woodland areas will show a more native semi-natural score at years 5 and 10
Restore planted ancient woodland sites to native and honourary native woodland.	Managing PAWS areas under a shelterwood system, favouring the retention of native broadleaves will increase nativity of these areas as well as increase opportunities for natural expansion of associated ground flora.	2	Increased percentage of native tree species within ancient woodland sites	Semi-natural scoring via subcompartment database at years 5 and 10	Planted ancient woodland areas will show an increasingly native semi-natural score at years 5 and 10
Maintain or increase sustainable access and the provision for recreation within the woodlands, taking opportunities to enhance the experience where appropriate.	Management will offer opportunities for public engagement in forest management as well as varying the internal structure of the woodland. Regular management also provides some financial assistance to the maintenance of tracks and roads within the woodland.	3	Record of recreational improvement opportunities that have arisen with analysis of decision making process leading to their adoption, delay or rejection.	Records	A strategic approach to decision making can be seen over time.
Take opportunities to increase the nature conservation value of other existing habitats.	Opportunities are to be identified at the Operation stage of management. Specific examples would be: • Identifying and mapping wet-woodland corridors	4	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site Assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this Plan. • Wet woodland areas mapped and embedded within GIS	OSA checks at implementation stage. • Check progress at Year 5	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate. • Wet woodland fully mapped.
Maintain and increase the diversity of age structure and appropriate species mix within the woodlands.	Managing non-ancient woodland areas as mixed woodland allows the woodland to support a greater diversity of species. This will benefits disease and climate resistance as well as adding to the aesthetic variation. The development of natural regeneration at various stages, will break up the current lopsided age structure.	5a	Maintained number of tree species	Query subcompartment database at years 5 and 10	At least the same number of different tree species present at year 10
		5b	Increased age diversity	Query subcompartment database at years 5 and 10	Improved age diversity at year 10
Provide a regular supply of quality timber to support local employment and local timber processing industries.	Regular management will provide a sustainable supply of wood products to industry. This production will drive the changes necessary to fulfil objectives 1 to 5.	6	Wood products supplied sustainably to industry in line with the production forecast	Query Sales Recording Package at year 5 and year 10	Wood products supplied to industry in line with production forecast while fulfilling other objectives as well
Take opportunities to increase other conservation opportunities.	More comprehensive mapping of wet woodland will be completed over the next 10 years.	7			
Maintain the landscape character in respect to the important external topography often referred to as 'Little Switzerland'.	Identify individual conifer trees of particular landscape value and retain them where appropriate.	8	Identify conifers of particular value—track record of landscape. Considered at OSA stage.	• OSA process • Forest Design Plan— Medium Term revision	Opportunities to retain landscape character taken.

Forestry Commission England

Monitoring and Indicators of Success

Reference	Comments Year 5	Success?	Comments Year 10	Success?
1				
2				
3				
4				
5a				
5b				
6				
7				
8				

Forestry Commission England

Appendix A - Consultation

Disclaimer

To comply with General Data Protection Regulations, the consultation pages have been removed from this document.

Forestry Commission England

Amendments to Approved Forest Enterprise Plans

Forestry Commission (Forest Services and Forest Enterprise) should agree baseline tolerance thresholds for operations in each District beyond which exchange of letter/map or formal amendment is required. Unless otherwise specified or agreed by the Forestry Commission, amendment will be by formal revision of the plan.

	Adjustment to felling coupe boundaries (1)	**Timing of Restocking**	**Changes to species**	**Windthrow clearance (2)**	**Changes to road lines (3)**
FC Approval normally not required	0.5 ha or 5% of coupe - whichever is less	Up to 2 planting seasons after felling	Change within species group e.g. evergreen conifers; broadleaves	Up to 0.5ha	
Approval by exchange of letters and map	0.5ha to 2ha or 10% of coupe - whichever is less			0.5ha to 2ha - if mainly windblown trees > 2ha to 5ha in areas of low sensitivity	Additional felling of trees not agreed in plan Departures of >60m in either direction from centre line of road
Approval by formal plan amendment	> 2ha or 10% of coupe	Over 2 planting seasons after felling	Change from specified native species Change between species groups	> 5ha	As above, depending on sensitivity

Notes on Tolerance Table

1. There are circumstances in which changes - of less than 0.5 ha for example - could have a dramatic visual effect. The above model does require a sensible approach to be taken by Forest Enterprise in notifying Forestry Commission when such cases arise. Local staff need to be sensitive to issues which may influence the situation (bearing in mind that small adjustments to felling coupes will not appear on the Public Register).
2. It is important that Forest Enterprise keep the FC informed about windblow clearance, which can be problematic in cases of public complaint, and in FC compliance monitoring. In some cases a modification of the proposals for the remaining area of the Plan may need to be submitted and approved. Clearance of blow should not require approval but will be needed for related standing trees.
3. It is recognised that roading proposals as marked on Road Plans are necessarily somewhat indicative, in that actual roading operations require to take account of features not always apparent at the time of roadline planning. Accordingly some leeway is acceptable to account for this.

Forestry Commission England

Glossary

Ancient Woodland Site
The site appears to have been woodland for several centuries (and thus probably for millennia), and is certainly unlikely to have been converted to farmland in the last couple of centuries.

Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland
The trees and other plant species within an ancient woodland site appear to have arisen naturally rather than having been planted and are predominantly (>80%) native to the site and surrounding area.

Clearfell
Woodland management system where tree cover is removed. This traditionally occurs when the growing canopy reaches its point of maximum mean annual increment, i.e. the trees' rate of growth then starts to decline. The management area is then prepared for either replanting or allowed to regenerate naturally using the seed source already present in the soil.

Mixed Woodland
Woodland consisting of a fairly even mixture of broadleaf and conifer species.

Native (and honorary-native)
The trees making up the woodland are part of England's natural (or naturalised) flora. Determined by whether the trees colonised Britain without assistance from humans since the last ice age (or in the case of 'honorary natives' were brought here by people but have naturalised in historic times); and whether they would naturally be found in this part of England.

Natural Regeneration
The process of allowing a cleared area of woodland to regenerate naturally through the germination and development of seeds found within the soil on site. These areas may still require some protection from overbearing plant species and mammal browsing. Some enrichment planting may also be necessary or desirable in areas where natural regeneration is showing limited success or in order to diversify the species range of the woodland.

Natural Reserve
Area not to receive formal management intervention unless specific health & safety risks or a threat to the SSSI condition arises or a specific opportunity for biodiversity enhancement is identified.

Plantation on an Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)
The trees within an ancient woodland site appear to have been planted. These species may or may not be native to the site and surrounding area.

Regeneration Felling
Felling of an area of woodland in order to progress the establishment of natural regeneration. Felled areas must be large enough to allow enough light to satisfy the environmental requirements of the desired regenerative species; e.g. to allow enough light to aid light-demanding species, such as oak.

Shelterwood System
Woodland management system whereby the forest canopy is maintained at one or more levels without clear felling, generally being no single interruption of tree cover of more than 0.25 hectares with a maximum of 2 interruptions of this size per hectare. Opportunities to enhance existing areas of natural regeneration will be taken along with increasing woodland edge habitat by scalloping ride and road edges for the benefit of biodiversity.

Yield Class
The maximum average rate of volume increment which a particular stand can achieve per hectare.

Forestry Commission England

References

This Forest Plan has been influenced by various key policy statements and guidance documents as highlighted below.

Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement – January 2013

This document sets the direction of travel for forestry policy within England and is the reference point around which main aims and objectives of forestry and woodland management are designed.

The Statement sets out the following key objectives, in priority order:

Protecting the nation's trees, woodlands and forests from increasing threats such as pests, diseases and climate change.

Improving their resilience to these threats and their contribution to economic growth, peoples' lives and nature.

Expanding them to increase further their economic, social and environmental value.

Strategic Plan for the Public Forest Estate in England

This Plan sets out the direction and goals for the Public Forest in England and indicates the actions we will be taking to achieve these between now and 2025. Our ambitions are long term and we will use a normal cycle of review over 5 years to embed these in local Forest Plans and ways of operating.

Our Mission for the Estate

To work with others to keep the Public Forest Estate as a special place for wildlife, people to enjoy and businesses to thrive - and achieve this by adopting a strategy that integrates all the three drivers of sustainable land management; economy, people and nature.

Our Vision and Overall Goal

"To secure and grow the economic, social and natural capital value of the Public Forest Estate for the people of England"

South England Forest District Strategic Plan

The Strategic Management Plan is a Forest Enterprise District level document that informs local Forestry Commission staff about the management direction of the Public Forest Estate and the associated policies. The Forest Plans are a key mechanism for delivering policies on the ground.

Open Habitat Policy

This is Government policy on how to decide when to convert woodland to open habitat in England.

Keepers of Time

This Policy Statement celebrates the importance of our native and ancient woodlands and sets out a basis on which to achieve the following vision.

"Ancient woodlands, veteran trees and other native woodlands are adequately protected, sustainably managed in a wider landscape context, and are providing a wide range of social, environmental and economic benefits to society."

United Kingdom Forestry Standard

The UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) is the reference standard for sustainable forest management in the UK. The UKFS, supported by its series of Guidelines, outlines the context for forestry in the UK, sets out the approach of the UK governments to sustainable forest management, defines standards and requirements, and provides a basis for regulation and monitoring.

UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)

An independent certification standard for verifying sustainable woodland management in the United Kingdom.

Managing ancient and native woodland in England: Practice Guide

This Practice Guide has been produced to help practitioners translate what measures and practical action can be taken to protect and enhance our ancient and native woodlands and guides implementation of the approaches to management and restoration trialled in woods around the country.

European Landscape Convention

As a reflection of European identity and diversity, the landscape is our living natural and cultural heritage, be it ordinary or outstanding, urban or rural, on land or in water. The European Landscape Convention - also known as the Florence Convention, - promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues.

The Identification of Soils for Forest Management

Forestry Commission Field Guide produced by Fiona Kennedy in 2002.

Managing deadwood in forests and woodland, 2012

Forestry Commission practice guide on management of deadwood in respect to sustaining biodiversity and delivering ecosystem.

Choosing stand management methods for restoring planted ancient woodland sites, 2013

Forestry Commission guide providing a framework for selecting a method of stand management and advice on good practice appropriate for a particular site and related to the quality of the remnant features present.

The Management of Semi-Natural Woodlands: Forestry Practice guide 1: Lowland Acid Beech & Oak Woods; Forestry Commission

Forestry Commission England

Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-2019

This it is the Plan for the conservation and enhancement of the Surrey Hills designated landscape, setting out the policy framework for the Surrey Hills AONB and making important connection between people and nature. It aims at sustainable management of woodlands, intensifying the landscape, ecological, archaeological and recreational value of the wider Surrey Hills scenic beauty.

Surrey Biodiversity Partnership

This is an initiative aiming at the protection of wildlife in Surrey, England, UK.

Surrey Biodiversity Action Plan

This document highlights biodiversity value across Surrey.

Surrey Road Verge Habitat Action Plan 2008-2013

This document sets up recommendation on management of road verges in respect to their biodiversity value in Surrey.

Forestry Commission England

Approval

Date of Commencement of Plan: **April 2016**

Approval Period: **1st April 2016 to 31st March 2026 (10 years)**

Summary of Activity within Approval Period:

A separate felling license provides approval for standard silvicultural thinning across the South Forest district estate as a whole.

Forestry Activity	Area (ha)			
	Broad-leaf high forest	Broadleaf natu-ral regeneration or replanting	Mixed natural regeneration or replanting	Open
Regeneration Felling in period 2016-2026	0.3	0.3		
Area managed under a adoptive silviculture sys-tem	255.2			
Management of wet woodland restoration	12.7			
Management of permanent open space	(plus transitional open space created by Coppice Rotations, Regeneration Fellings and Clearfellings) 5.7			
Open - newly planted & to be replanted	6.2			
Clearfell in period 2014-2026	32.6			
Clearfell in period 2027-2036	17.4			
Clearfell beyond 2037	58.9			
Clearfell in total	108.9			
Other (car parks etc.)	1.0			
TOTAL MAPPED AREA	**390**			

FOREST ENTERPRISE Application for Forest Plan Approvals

Forest District: **South England Forest District**

FC Geographic Block No: **93**

Forest Plan Name: **Woodlands of Bury Hill and Redlands**

FE Plan Reference Number: **304/09/15-16**

Nearest town or village: **Dorking, Surrey**

OS Grid Reference: **TQ 153 453**

Local Authority: Mole Valley District Council & Surrey County Council

I apply for Forest Plan approval for the property described above and in the enclosed Forest Plan.

I undertake to obtain any permissions necessary for the implementation of the approved Plan.

Signed: Bruce D Rothnie

Bruce Rothnie, Deputy Surveyor, South England FD

Date: 8/4/16.

Approved: .....

for Forest Services Area Director

Date: 8/4/16