

Date of Commencement of Plan: **5th December 2014**

 Approval Period: **5th December 2014 to 4th December 2024 (10 Years)**

Forestry Activity	Area (ha)			
	Conifer high forest	Broadleaf natural generation or replanting	Mixed natural regeneration or replanting	Open
Clearfell in period 2014-2024	26.9	-	26.9	-
Regeneration Felling in period 2014-2024	19.7	19.7	-	-
Area managed under a shelterwood system	996.7			
Coppice Management	40.5			
Management of permanent open space	14.6 (plus transitional open space created by Coppice Rotations,			
Natural Reserve	35.6			
Other (car parks etc)	6.3			
<b>TOTAL MAPPED AREA</b>	<b>1140.3</b>			

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.

**FOREST ENTERPRISE Application for Forest Plan Approvals**

Forest District: **South England Forest District**  
 FC Geographic Block No: **62, 63, 64, 65, 75**  
 Forest Plan Name: **Woodlands of the Forest of Bere**  
 FE Plan Reference Number: **304/03/13-14**  
 Nearest town or village: **Fareham, Hampshire**  
 OS Grid Reference: **SU 595 129**  
 Local Authority: **Eastleigh DC, East Hampshire DC, Havant BC, Winchester DC**

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: 8/12/14

Approved:   
 Forest Services Area Director

Date: 8/12/14

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 honorary 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coppicing in Whiteley Pastures</li> <li>• Riverine corridors and ponds</li> <li>• Small-Leaved Lime trees within West Walk</li> </ul>	4	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site Assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this Plan	OSA checks at implementation stage	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate
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 benefit 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

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

### Disclaimer

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

#### 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 re-planting 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.

#### 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.

## Amendments to Approved Forest Enterprise Plans

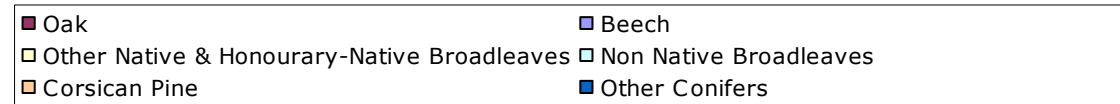
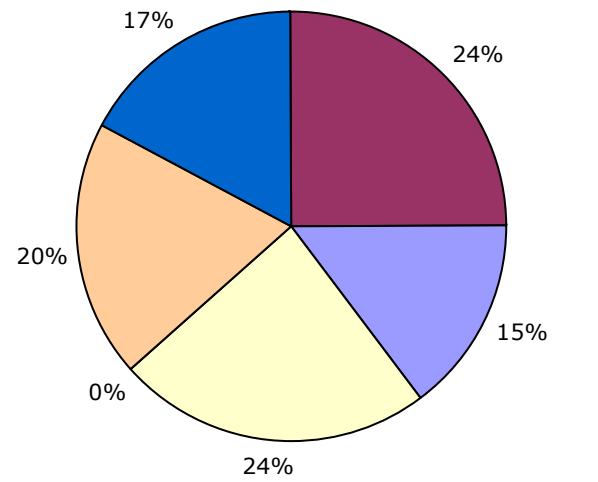
Forestry Commission (Forest Services and Forest Enterprise) should agree baseline tolerance thresholds for operations in each District beyond which exchange of letter/map or formal amendment is required. Unless otherwise specified or agreed by the Forestry Commission, amendment will be by formal revision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

	Adjustment to felling coupe boundaries (1)	Timing of Restocking	Changes to species	Windthrow clearance (2)	Changes to road lines (3)
<b>FC Approval normally not required</b>	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	
<b>Approval by exchange of letters and map</b>	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
<b>Approval by formal plan amendment</b>	> 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

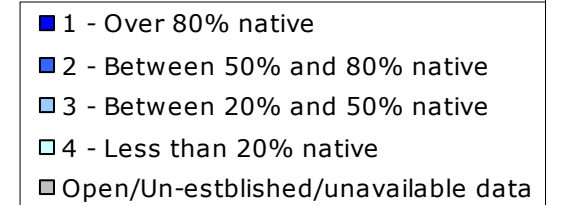
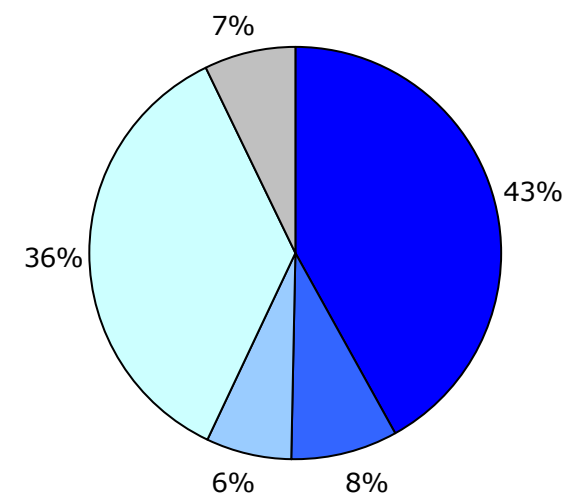
### Notes on Tolerance Table

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.

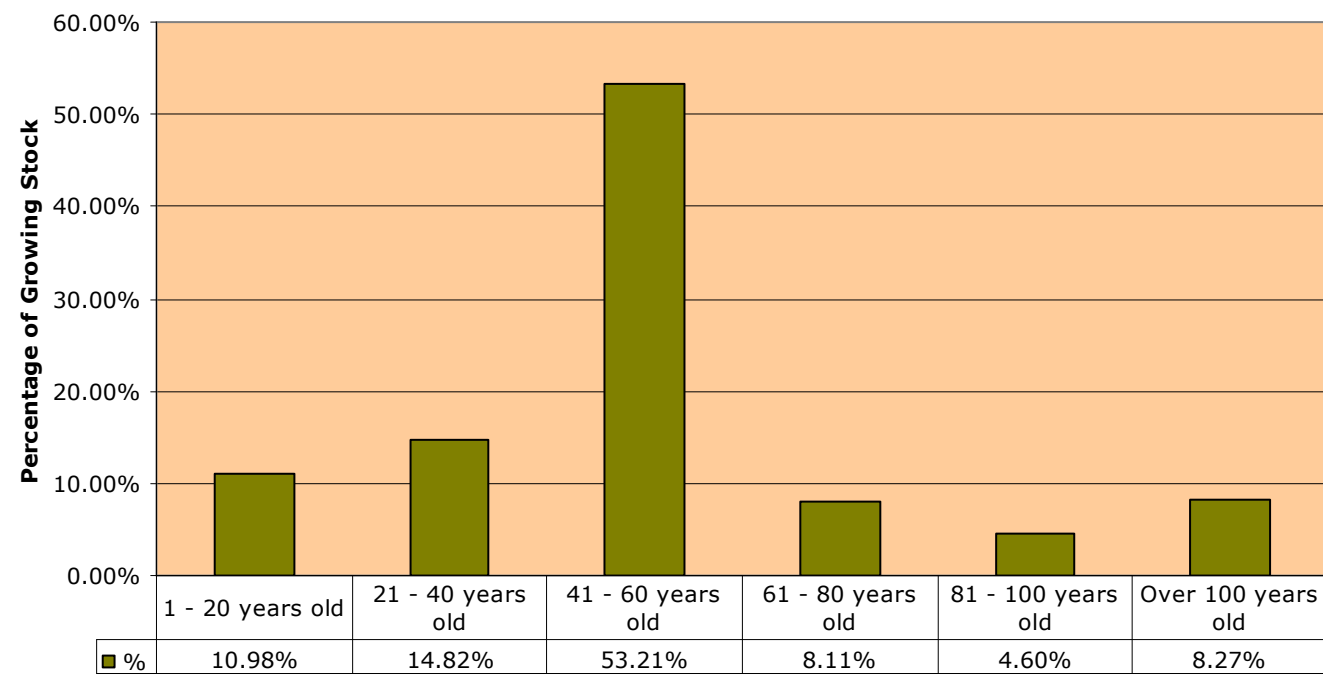
**Species Diversity**



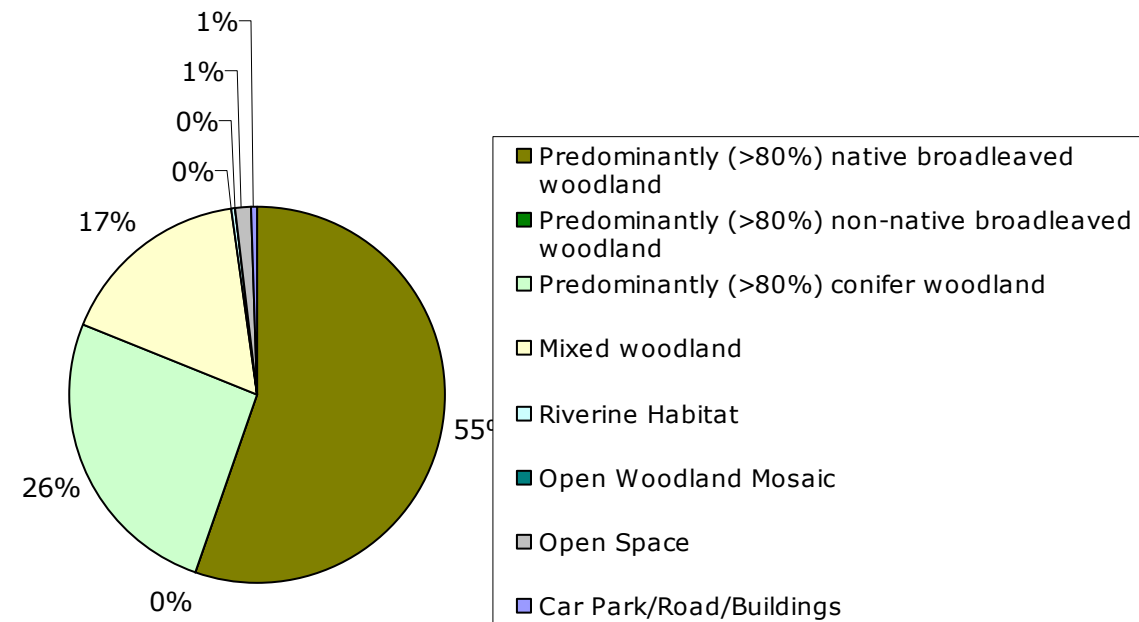
**Semi-Natural Scoring Within Ancient Woodland Areas**



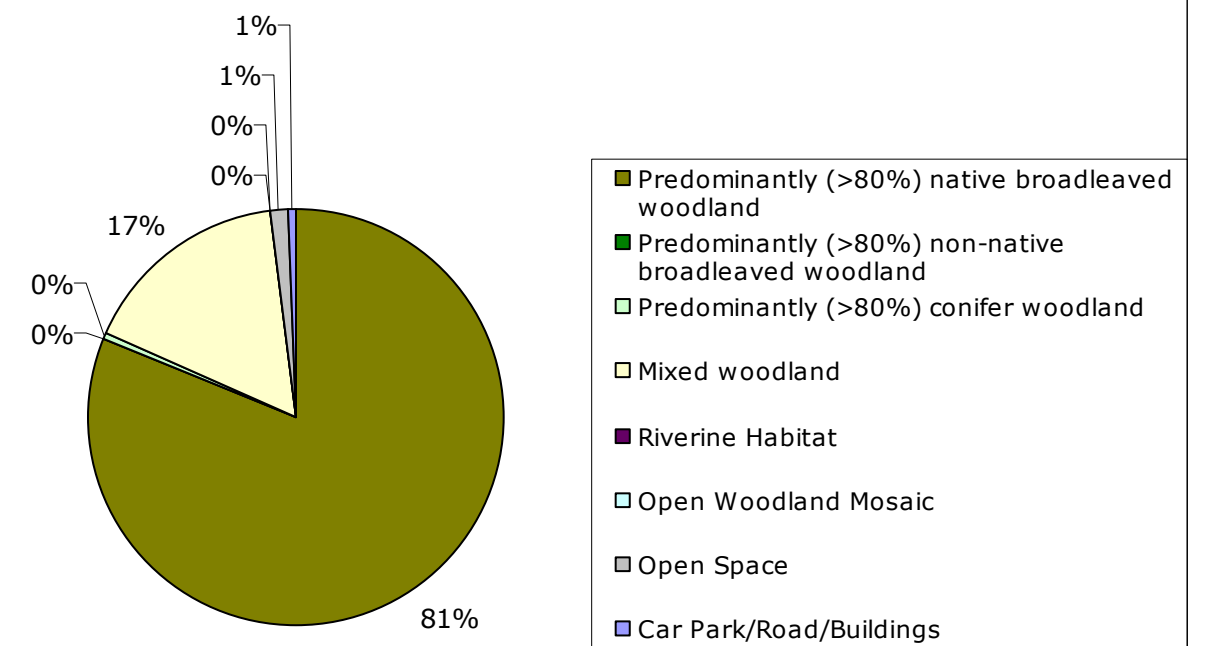
**Age Diversity**



### Current Structure



### Long Term Vision Structure



\*\*Transitional open space created by clearfells, coppice management and regeneration felling will account for an additional proportion of open space equalling approximately 7% in total. The road and ride network, which also provides additional permanent open space is not accounted for in these figures.\*\*



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 2020. 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**

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

### **Partnership Management Plan; Shaping the Future of the South Downs National Park 2014-2019. South Downs National Park Authority, 2014**

### **Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan**

### **Eastleigh Borough Biodiversity Action Plan 2012**

### **East Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2009**

### **Havant Biodiversity Action Plan 2011**

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