Forestry Commission England

Isle of Wight Forest Plan

South England Forest District

Forestry Commission England

Areas Included Within This Forest Plan

Bouldnor Forest

Brighstone Forest

Burnt Wood

Combley Great Wood

Firestone Copse

Parkhurst Forest

Date of Commencement of Plan: **10/10/2017**

Approval Period: **2017—2027**

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	Habitat Type (ha)			
	Conifer high forest	**Broadleaf natural regeneration or replanting**	**Mixed natural regeneration or re-planting**	**Open**
Silvicultural Thinning	722.3 (Conifer, Broadleaf, & Mixed Woodland).			
Clearfell	6.1			
Low impact silvicultural system	235.5			
Coppice		33.5		
Open space management				47.3
Natural Reserve	102.1			
Other (Non forestry)	3.7			
TOTAL MAPPED AREA	1150.5			

Forestry Commission England

FOREST ENTERPRISE **Application for Forest Plan Approvals**

Forest District:	**South England Forest District**
FC Geographic Block No:	**57,58,59,60**
Forest Plan Name:	Isle of Wight Forest Plan
FE Plan Reference Number:	**304/57,58,59,60**
Nearest town or village:	Newport
OS Grid Reference:	SZ50288934
Local Authority:	Isle of Wight 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: 10/10/2017

Approved: .....

Forest Services Area Director

Forestry Commission England

Forestry Commission England

Forest Planning

Forest Plans define the future 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. Forest plans largely deal with silvicultural management and not the management of non forestry activities which may arise during the plan period.

This plan represents the first major review of the Isle of Wight Forest Plan that was originally consulted upon and approved in 1999. The revised Forest Plan has been prepared following a review of the original plan undertaken by FC staff, and in consultation with stakeholders, 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 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 in Appendix A.

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 licence.

The Approved 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.

Objectives for the IOW Forest Plan

- Maintain and increase the native composition of ancient semi-natural woodland.
- Initiate restoration of planted ancient woodland sites to native and honorary native woodland.
- Maintain and enhance the favourable conservation status of a nationally important wildlife sites.
- Maintain and enhance where possible the recreational capacity of the woodland.
- Maintain and increase the species and age diversity of the woodland.
- Provide a regular supply of quality timber to support local employment and local timber processing industries.

Location

Reference: Location Map

The Isle of Wight contains 6 woodlands managed by the Forestry Commission. These are Parkhurst Forest, Bouldnor Forest, Burnt Wood, Firestone Copse, Combley Great Wood and Brighstone Forest.

Landscape and Historical Context

Combined the woodlands cover a total area of 1152.ha and help to connect other areas of woodland and open space, protecting vulnerable habitats and increasing their resilience.

Many of the woodlands fall under or are adjacent to statutory designations which include

- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protection Area's (SPA's)
- Ramsar Site— a wetland site designated of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. (RAMSAR)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)
- The Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

These designations provide important direction on the current and future management of the woodlands. The plans that support these designations have been consulted when deciding upon the most appropriate management prescription for the woodlands.

The woodlands lie in an area which historically has been a dynamic and changing landscape for hundreds of years. Many have archaeological sites occurring within the woodland. Some such as bronze age burial mounds and prehistoric/Romano—British field systems, predate the planting of woodland. Others such as wood banks, saw pits or charcoal burning platforms are associated with woodland activities.

The climate is typical of South England with rainfall below 700mm per annum and temperatures ranging from a mean 14.2oC for the warmest month and 5.3oC for the coldest month.

The forest falls within South England Forest District and is managed by Forest Enterprise an agency of the Forestry Commission.

Tenure

Reference– Tenure Map

The woods comprise a mixture of freehold and leasehold areas and provide a challenging and dynamic background to the successful management of the blocks. Management can be influenced by sporting rights and public access restrictions depending on the details within the lease agreement.

Current Woodland Structures and Site Characteristics

Reference—The statistics section in the appendices.

The introduction of continuous cover management systems aims to develop a much more varied age structure and a more resilient woodlands in the long term. Across areas with lighter canopy cover, some significant natural regeneration of multiple broadleaved species and conifer species already occurs although this is mixed throughout the blocks. Depending on specific stands, supplemental planting may be used.

Bouldnor Forest

- The dominant tree species is Corsican Pine (32%) with assorted broadleaves making up 22% of the block.
- The age of the trees in the canopy ranges from 100 plus years to up to 10 years old. However up to 60% of the area accounts for just 2 age classes (60-70 years old).
- Ancient woodland makes up 12.4 % of the block of which can be further broken down into 11% Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and 89% Plantation on Ancient Woodland.

Current woodland structures and site characteristics continued

Burnt Wood

- The dominant species are Western red cedar and Oak species (55%).
- The age of the trees in the canopy is fairly uniform with nearly 60% deriving from 1 age class (51-60) years.
- Ancient woodland makes up 73% of the block which can be further broken down into 84% Plantation on Ancient Woodland and 16% Ancient Semi natural woodland.

Brighstone Forest

- The dominant species are Beech (57%) and Ash (12%).
- The age of the trees in the canopy is fairly diverse reflecting a history of active management.
- There is no recorded ancient woodland in the Brighstone Forest Area.

Parkhurst Forest

- The dominant species are Oak (38%) and Corsican Pine (25%).
- The age of the trees in the canopy is fairly diverse reflecting a history of active management. Significantly 28% of the woodland contain trees over 100 years old.
- Ancient woodland makes up 40% of the forest of which 77% is classified as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland.

Firestone Copse

- The dominant species are Oak (24%) and Corsican Pine (18%).
- The age ranges of the trees in the canopy are in 3 stages, 81-90 (23%) 51-60 years (26%) and 21-30 (17%).
- Ancient woodland makes up 65% of the block of which 98% is classified as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site.

Combley Great Wood

- The dominant species are Oak (52%), 10% Corsican Pine, 9% Lawsons Cypress and 11% classified as Mixed Broadleaf.
- Combley has a fairly diverse age range of trees reflecting a history of active management.
- Ancient woodland makes up 85% of the block of which 97% is classified as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site.

Silvicultural Systems

The forest plan favours the use of continuous cover forestry systems. This 'close to nature' approach has been deemed appropriate because of the large amounts of semi natural woodland across the forest blocks and the freely regenerating nature of the understory. Management will look to transform where appropriate even aged plantations to an irregular forest structure over the long term. These lower impact systems aim to provide a balance of objectives, a sustainable timber resource as well as safeguarding important habitats and improving the woodlands resilience into the future. Large areas of coppice also exist in many of the woodlands and management will seek to utilise this resource under an appropriate rotation. For more specific prescriptions please see the felling table and habitat restoration maps.

Open Habitat

Open habitat is an important feature of a forested environment and this plan revision aims to provide a minimum of 10% in the woodlands at any one time. Due to the nature of the harvesting operations this will be rotational in nature and consist in many cases of areas between 0.25—2ha in size depending on the species looking to be regenerated. Additional to this many of the woodlands will have permanent areas created through a managed ride and road network. Specific prescriptions will be determined at the operational stage of management and could include a scalloped and graded structure providing pinch points, box junctions, forest glades etc for a variety of key flora and fauna. These will also serve to improve the connectivity throughout the forest blocks.

Veteran Tree's and Deadwood

Veteran trees are an important feature of a forested environment. The UKFS classifies a veteran tree as 'a tree of considerable age that is of interest biologically, culturally or aesthetically because of its age, size or condition, including the presence of deadwood micro habitats'. Management interventions will aim to leave a proportion of standing and fallen deadwood in areas of high ecological value and create linkages where appropriate. Existing veteran trees will aim to be retained where appropriate and management will focus on selecting individuals to eventually take their place. The use of the continuous cover silvicultural systems further advocates the retention of a proportion of trees beyond the rotation length and specific prescriptions in the felling table imply a interconnecting area of old growth woodland creation.

Biodiversity and Conservation

The Red Squirrel

The IOW is a stronghold for *Scirrius vulgaris* (red squirrel) in the south of England despite the lack of large connected woodland blocks. To further the interests of this protected species, woodland management will continue to maintain the Red Squirrel reserves as set out in the last Forest Plan revision. We will also aim to diversify the tree species in the woodlands through wide spread use of low impact continuous cover forestry systems and the restoration of ancient woodland sites where appropriate. A variety of woodland types both broadleaf, mixed and coniferous are important in providing habitat for the squirrel (IOW BAP, 2003). Habitat fragmentation is considered to be an important factor in the decline of the red squirrel population on the Island although recent research from the University of Reading suggests that this may not be as large an issue as it was in previous years (Grey, 2016). The Forest Plan revision will aim to work in tandem with Forest Services and Natural England in further reducing habitat isolation. The existing reserves combined with grants and incentives to private landowners have been strategically placed to aid the dispersal of the squirrel in the wider landscape. The Red Squirrel Reserve network will be reviewed ahead of the next Forest Plan revision using a combination of expert opinion and ecological modelling to account for historic and pending changes across the Forestry Commission managed forests and woodlands

Heathland and Acid Grassland

Heathland and Acid grassland have both been identified as priority habitats in the Isle of Wight Biodiversity Action Plan and on the island these habitats tend to occur in close association. They provide habitat for many species of local and national importance including 5 national priority BAP species, together with 9 national and 46 species of local conservation concern (Heathland and Acid Grassland Habitat action plan 2008). In this plan existing areas of heathland and acid grassland will be assessed at the operational stage of management and opportunities will be identified to both maintain and enhance these areas where appropriate. The woodlands most likely to benefit from this management will be Bouldnor, Brighstone, and Parkhurst Forests where these habitats occur on deposits of gravel and clay soils. At both Bouldnor Forest and Brighstone Forest significant areas of lowland heathland have been restored using external funding as part of historic landscape restoration and enhancement projects.

Pasture Woodland

The ancient woodland within the north of Parkhurst Forest has a very different history to that of most of the other woods on the Island. The woodlands here once formed part of the extensive Royal hunting forest of Parkhurst which extended westwards as far as Porchfield and southwards to the edge of the downs. Until its enclosure in 1812 (Chatters, 1993) the forest contained over 1,200 ha of heathland, grassland, bog and pasture woodland. This was grazed by deer, sheep and ponies to create a complex of habitats similar to that still found in the New Forest (Natural England, 2016).

Pasture woodland is a priority habitat identified under the IOW Biodiversity Action Plan. Parkhurst Forest contains the most extensive area of former wood pasture on the island, however this has not been grazed for many years and would require extensive restoration to bring back its specialist habitat structure and the biodiversity that this would support (Woodland Habitat Action Plan 2009). This corresponds largely with a site of special scientific interest which has been designated for its lichen interest. Although it is worth noting from a survey in 2013 that the Wessex Lichen Group found that the western area of the SSSI had a greater concentration of lichens than the area denoted for pasture woodland restoration in the previous plan revision (Sanderson 2013). The management aims in the current plan recognise the significance of this and part of the SSSI area and has been designated as a Natural Reserve. The rest will be managed sympathetically using low impact silvicultural systems to maintain and enhance where possible the existing wood pasture derived habitats. Consideration will be given to the reintroduction of conservation grazing across the historic extent of this nationally important habitat during the duration of this plan but this will be subject to sufficient resources and the development of a supporting partnership project

Biodiversity and Conservation Continued

Bouldnor Forest

Before the Forestry Commission afforested the wood, the majority of the site was open heath/grassland and small pasture fields with hedgerows and scrub shelterbelts across them. The old hedgerows that cross the site contained mature veteran Oak trees, many of which are still present on the hedgerow banks. In areas along the cliff edge that have been cleared in the past 10 years, heather and other heathland plants have regenerated well on slightly more acidic soils.

There are two PAWS areas in the woodland. Non native trees planted in the area at the western end of the woodland include Sycamore that is spreading rapidly. The eastern PAWS area contain no mature native broadleaf trees but has a native understory below the mature pine plantation. These two areas of PAWS are isolated from each other but are linked by a small stream.

There is one, year-round natural pond in the wood and three seasonal ponds caused by WW2 bombs. The flooded part of the SAM site retains water all year round. Three seasonal streams through the wood and one of these drains into a small area of freshwater marsh. There are temporary streams and ponds on the SSSI landslip. There is also a clay and gravel beach. The woodland has also been selected by the Freshwater Habitats Trust as being one of 70 flagship ponds sites.

Of the 105 ha of Bouldnor Forest, 27ha form part of 96ha which makes up the Bouldnor Cliff SSSI. The cliffs are of great geological importance because of the complete succession which they provide through the series of rocks of the Oligicene age (some 30 million years old) known as the Hamstead Beds. Within the site is also the type section of the Bouldnor formation , the youngest tertiary strata developed in the Hampshire basin. The combination of this wild variety of particular interests makes the SSSI one of the most important localities for rocks of this age anywhere in Britain.

As well as being of great geological importance the cliffs are ecologically rich displaying a wide range of habitats associated with cliff recession and are some of the most naturalistic woodlands in Britain. The habitats range from broadleaved woodland through a variety of scrub communities to a variety of early pioneer plant communities. All of these habitats are strongly associated with cliff instability, acidity and the availability of water. This range of plant communities from almost bare ground to mature woodland shows examples of all these stages in a primary succession and is of great ecological interest.

Burnt Wood

The almost wholesale clearance of the Ancient and Semi-natural Woodland in Burnt wood during the 1950's and 60's was very successful in its desired goal of converting a low yielding scrub wood into a more productive reserve of timber. The introduced non-native tree species have now grown and shaded out most of the native ground flora. The shade tolerant non native trees however, have managed to regenerate under their own canopies particularly the sycamore. Norway Maple and Red Oak are now spreading out throughout the wood. This vegetation type will, if unchecked, become part of the landslip and hence part of the SSSI. It would considerably alter the native quality of the SSSI.

Individual surviving native trees that were not felled when the wood was cleared have survived and spread through the wood. They are potential seed trees that could help colonise the site with site native vegetation.

There are 4 permanent ponds in the fields and a seasonal one in the wood. A seasonal stream runs through the wood and there are temporary streams and ponds found on the SSSI landslip. There is also a clay and gravel beach.

Ten hectares of Burnt Wood is designated as a Special Site of Scientific interest. (SSSI). 37 Hectares is designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). The coastline is designated as a Heritage Coast and the area lies within the IOW Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The SSSI is also designated as part of a wider Special Protection Area (SPA) under the European Directive on the conservation of wild birds and as part of a wider RAMSAR site, the convention on wetlands of international importance.

The more stable parts of the SSSI represent the only remnant of the wood's previously extensive ASNW habitat and consist of areas of Oak with Hazel and also include some wild service trees. Due to their location on the landslip, their open-grown character and their deadwood, the older oaks provide valuable veteran tree habitats. In all other respects, the value of the SSSI is as found at Bouldnor. Future management of Burnt Wood will seek to enhance internal woodland corridors and better connect the woodland and adjoining field which will be managed through periodic mowing as a Lowland meadow.

Biodiversity and Conservation Continued

Brighstone Forest

The forest is predominantly beech plantation on the southern downs. With 20-50% native trees on old heathland and chalk grassland. The Isle of Wight Red Squirrel Strategy identifies Brighstone Forest as a satellite area for red squirrel management and the revised plan will continue with the areas marked out in previous years. Parts of Brighstone Forest have also been recognised as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Open space is an important component of the woodland and an area of managed open heath exists, a relict from an old fire site. The wide use of continuous cover management systems will aim to provide rotational open space across the forest through small coupe felling's. The woodland also has areas of coppice woodland that will be managed under a suitable rotation. The road and ride network will be managed in a sympathetic way to create a scalloped and graded structure that will benefit multiple species. Along the southern edge of Brighstone Forest a belt of nationally important chalk scrub occurs in transition to open habitats on external land further south. A habitat mosaic consisting of scrub and grassland will be maintained by periodic mechanised interventions providing benefit to a variety of woodland birds and invertebrates.

Parkhurst Forest

Parkhurst Forest is one of the principal forested sites on the Island and is home to number of important habitats and their associated species. Key features include large areas of SSSI designated for acid sessile oak, beech and ash-hazel pedunculate oak woodland interspersed with conifer plantations and crossed by a network of wide grassy rides rich in heathland plants and insects. The broad-leaved woodland retains a high forest structure with features characteristic of the ancient royal hunting forest from which its derived. Many of the older trees also support a rich epiphytic lichen flora as well as important dead wood habitat. In this plan revision a significant part of the SSSI area has been designated as a Natural Reserve where natural process will be left to run their course, allowing a transition to old growth woodland. This is a particularly important measure given the = significance of Parkhurst Forest for woodland bats which supports some 16 species. 62% of the SSSI has been classed as favourable and 38% as unfavourable recovering. Ongoing PAWS restoration throughout the duration of the plan period aims to further increase the favourable status and reduce the non native component to <5%. Open space within the woodland will be created on a cyclical basis via management interventions and the ride and road network will provide connectivity throughout the woodland, as well as being important habitats in their own right. Existing areas of coppice will be managed under an appropriate rotation and a number of red squirrel reserves marked out in the previous plan will continue to provide a long term retention of conifer species. Great Crested Newts have also been recorded in relation to a number of ponds which occur in the forest.

Firestone Copse

Key features of Firestone include significant proportions of ancient woodland the majority of which has been classified as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). There are also areas of coppice which will be managed under an appropriate regime to provide successional open space. Veteran trees are also an important feature and operational planning prior to interventions will look to conserve and enhance this valuable resource. Specific prescriptions are also included to increase veteran tree cover these include the wide use of continuous cover principles and an area along a stream to the south that will managed towards natural reserve status after the selective removal of non native components where appropriate. Parts of Firestone have been designated a SSSI and SAC and these designations also cover large areas in Combley Great Wood. Together they form a complex of woodlands that represent the most varied, structurally diverse and species-rich cluster of ancient broadleaved woodland on the island. They also support a nationally important breeding population of the rare Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii*. 73 hectares of the woodland are also designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). In south west corner the woodland edge grades into the Wotton Creek salt and freshwater marsh and provides important habitat for a range of species.

Combley Great Wood

Almost all of the woodland is classified as ancient with the western side being predominantly PAWS. 32 ha of the wood is covered under the same SSSI and SAC designation as Firestone copse. Sympathetic restoration and management of the broad-leafed woodland will be a key theme of activities during this plan period. Throughout the woodland areas hazel understory exists and will be managed under an appropriate system providing successional open space. An area of ash woodland and the Chillingwood brook will form a natural reserve along the western edge. This will be a minimum intervention area where natural processes are left to run their course providing principal benefit to woodland bats. The road and ride network is limited throughout the blocks and management interventions will look to improve this and provide increased habitat connectivity in the block. A number of areas have been provided as core habitat for the red squirrel and management will look to retain conifer species in these areas. They are 2 small sub compartments which contain coastal redwoods *Sequoia sempervirens*, operational planning prior to an intervention will take account of any feature trees and act appropriately.

People

The woodlands on the Island are an important recreational resource and whilst the forest plan does not deal specifically with the provision of recreation facilities and infrastructure where possible operational planning prior to management interventions will look to safeguard and enhance the woodlands recreational offer in an appropriate manner. Activities include the widening of the forest road/ride and footpath network allowing easier access to the woodlands to opening up viewpoints both externally and internally.

Historic Environment

The woodlands on the island are home to a wide variety of historic features. Operational planning before management interventions will look to safeguard this important resource in-line with guidelines set out in the UK forestry standard. All scheduled features are also covered by an individual management plan. For further information see the historic environment map. Opportunities will be sought to re-naturalise historic drainage where feasible in order benefit forest wetland habitats and contribute to sustainable drainage in the vicinity of a given forest block and the wider landscape.

Water

Water is an important feature in a forested environment. All forest management operations follow the guidance set out in the UKFS regarding good practice when working with waterbodies. These deal with issues such as acidification, sediment delivery and nutrient enrichment. Water bodies are mapped within the forest plan as a reference to inform operational planning. Many of the woodlands are criss-crossed by a network of permanent and seasonal streams together with forest drains and a scattering of important wildlife ponds.

Tree Diseases, Pests and Invasive Plants

The main diseases of concern currently are Dothistroma Needle Blight on Corsican Pine (*Pinus Nigra)*, *Phytophthora ramorum (Larix* species) and *Hymenoscyphus Fraxinea* (Ash Die-back). Corsican Pine is a significant component and there is Larch growing. However, the move toward a more diverse range of species should make the woodland more resilient if a significant pathogen does arise.

Invasive rhododendron (*R. ponticum)* and *Impatiens glandulifera* (Himalayan balsam) are also spreading and continued monitoring does take place to ensure that species posing a threat to native flora do not become established.

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 fell a coupe earlier than planned or alter restocking plans. We will continue to monitor for disease as required and take appropriate action. Any changes to the forest design plan will be notified or agreed with Forest Services in accordance with the relevant guidance.

Deer were removed from the Island during the 20th Century but from time to time individuals and small groups do escape into the wild from deer farms and wildlife collections. The absence of deer on the Isle of Wight provides a unique environment allowing mammals, birds, native flora and invertebrates to flourish in the absence of browsing and grazing pressure. Any deer that arise in future will be managed in accordance with the South England Forest District Deer Management Strategy and in the wider landscape through partnership work with relevant agencies such as the Deer Initiative.

Climate Change

Climate change represents 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 in two principal ways: through mitigation, including ensuring management is sustainable and adaptation, including species diversification.

Wildfire Resilience

Reducing the incidence and impact of wildfires in forests and woodlands through good management planning is important for sustainable forest management and to protect the provision of forest ecosystem goods and services.

This plan will aim to build on the wildfire resilience already present in the woodland by acting on the following points

- Managing the vegetation to maintain a network of fire breaks, reducing fuel across an entire site especially along roads and rides.
- A wide of use of continuous cover forestry to create a diverse woodland structure.
- Where appropriate fragment high risk species and habitats into smaller areas to reduce the risk of fire spread.
- Restore, maintain, enhance and increase broadleaved native woodland particularly around high risk areas.
- When restocking sites use appropriate species relative to the forests wildfire risk.

These management principals will be implemented during the operational stage of planning and are intended as a guide only.

A site specific wildfire risk assessment for all the woodlands can be found in the appendices and should be should used in conjunction with a wildfire management plan.

Forest Plan Maps

When consulting on the maps, please refer t the glossary for further detail about the prescriptions

Aerial

Shows the location of the woodlands in the wider landscape using aerial photography

Indicative Age Diversity

Shows the planting year and age of the trees in the woodland.

Species Diversity

Gives an indicative illustration of the number of different species within the woodlands (includes open space). However it should be noted that the data only accounts for trees in the canopy and should only be taken as a general overview of the number of different species present within a sub-compartment.

Ancient Woodland

Shows which areas are categorised as ancient woodland (woodland which has existed for several centuries of more) and the percentage of native trees.

Current Structure

An overview of the current habitat types existing in the woodlands.

Medium Term Vision

Illustrates the proposed medium term structure of the woodlands and other habitats consistent with the Forest Plan objectives. While there is no fixed time scale for the habitat transformations depicted , an indicative term of around 20 years is assumed.

Long Term Vision

Illustrates the proposed long term structure of the woodlands and other habitats consistent with the Forest Plan objectives. While there is no fixed time scale for the habitat transformations depicted, an indicative term of around 100 years is assumed.

Forest Plan Maps Continued

Habitat Restoration and Felling

Shows the management proposals in the shorter term, 10 to 30 years. These proposals are the initial stepping stones towards achieving the long term vision.

Pasture Woodland Considerations

Provides guidance on pre-operational planning and decision making specifically regarding the management of relict pasture woodland in Parkhurst forest.

Fire Risk Map

Shows the current fire ratings for the woodlands on the Isle of Wight as well as the existing fire break network and water sources.

Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Isle of Wight Forest Plan Location

FC management area

1:70,000 at A3

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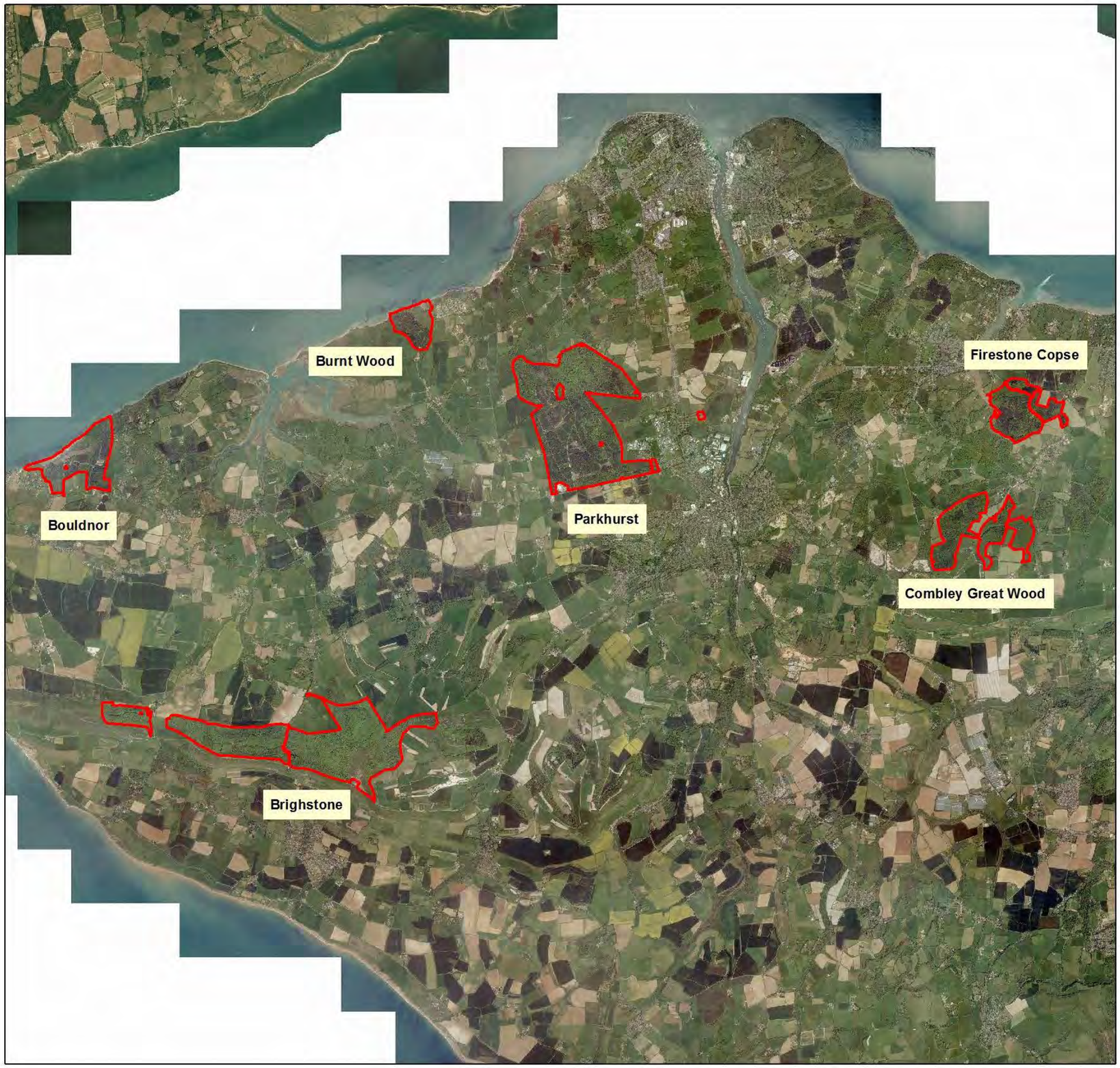
Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Isle of Wight Forest Plan Location

FC management area



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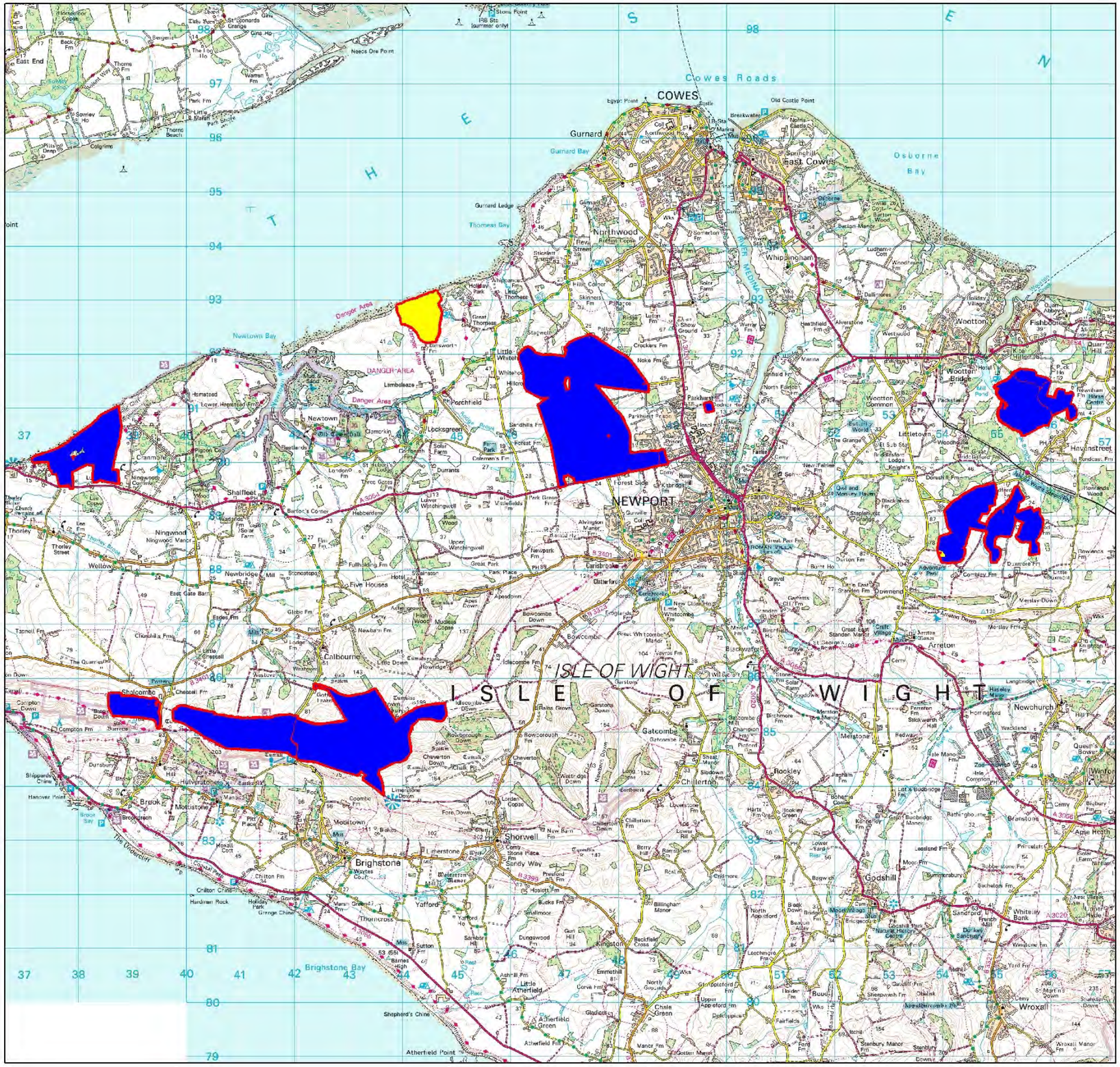
Forestry Commission England

South England Forest District

Isle of Wight Forest Plan Tenure

- FC management area
- Leasehold
- Freehold



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