



Forest Design Plan

NAGSHEAD AND RUSSELLS INCLOSURE

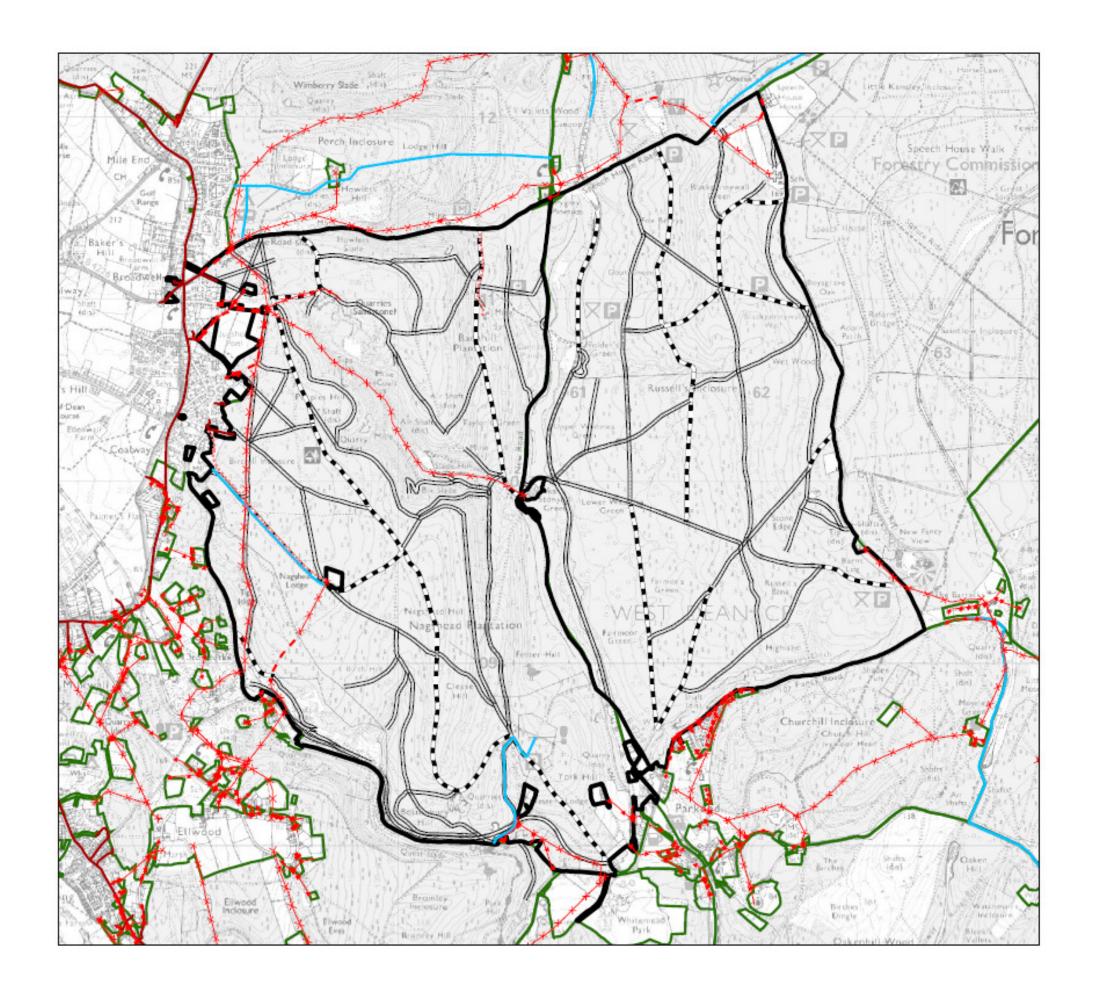
2013 - 2023

**Other Constraints** 









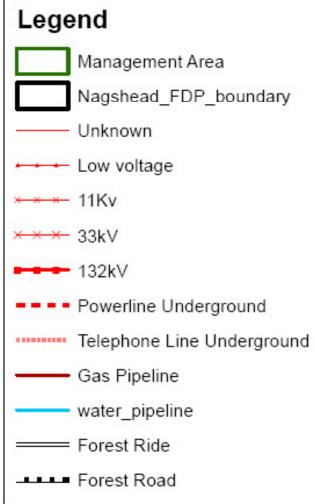


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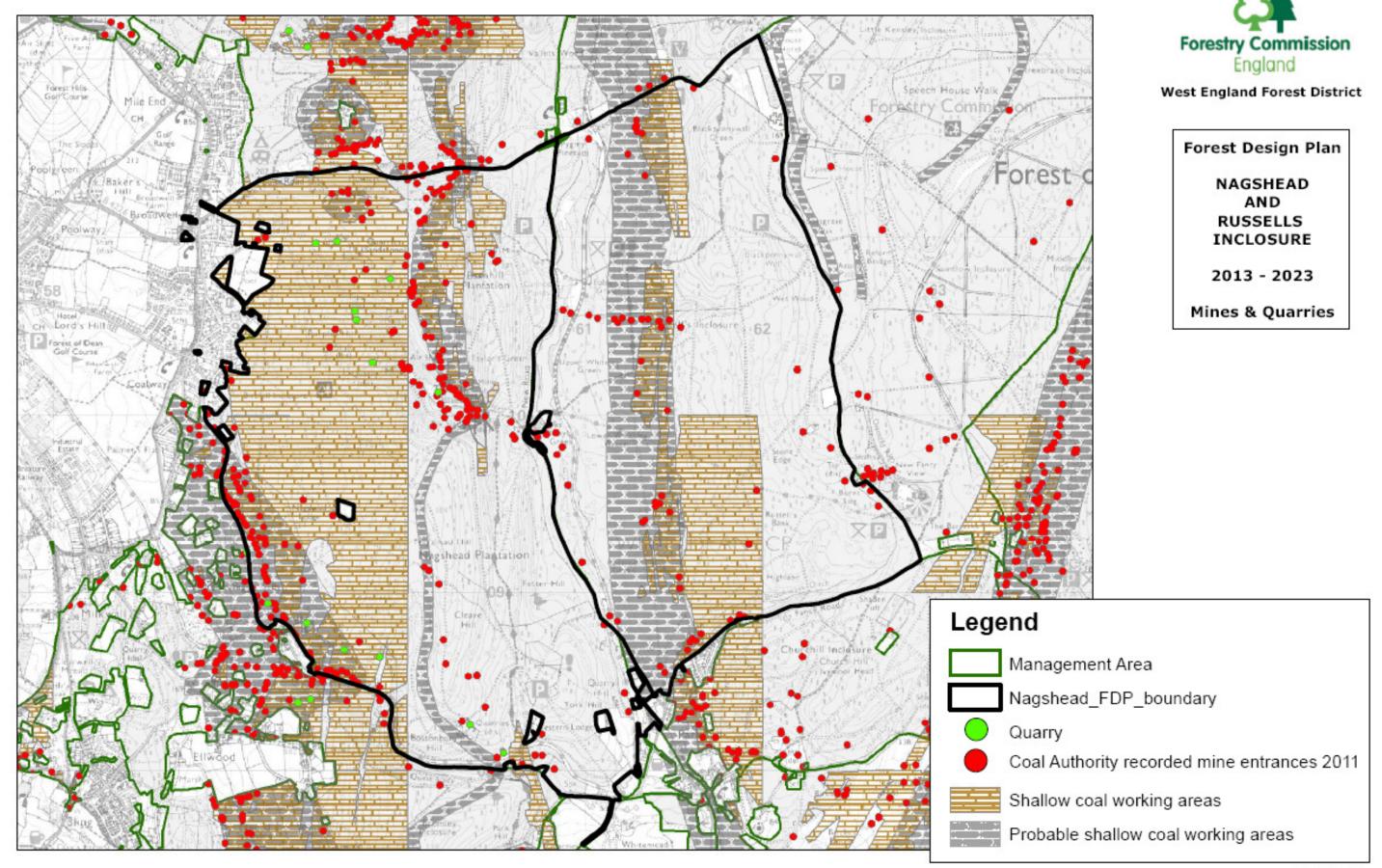
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2013 - 2023

Utilities

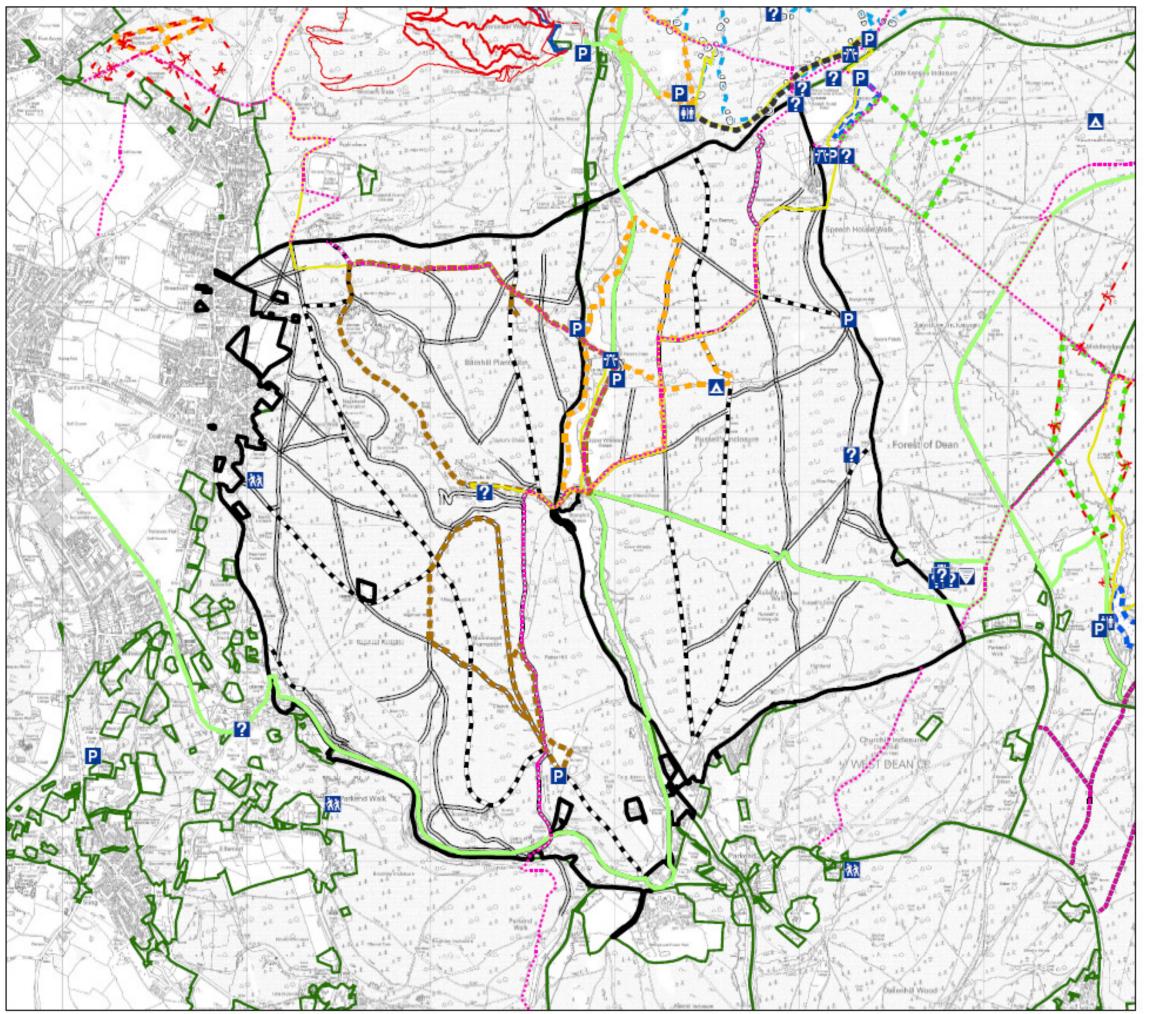














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**Public Access** 

## Legend

Public footpath

--- Bridleway

Family cycle track

FC Waymarked trails

--- Non FC trail

Permissive path

Camp Site

Car Park

? Cultural Site

Picnic Site

Picnic Site WC

View Point

Educational facility

Forest Ride

Forest Road

Nagshead\_FDP\_boundary





Area of old oak close to Broadwell that also contains mine works. This is a popular area well visited by local residents and becoming known for mountain biking.

Much of the area has been quarried over time. Bixhead, Bixslade and Taylor & Martin areas are still in use.

A small area of Forest Waste known as Jugshole Pool at Broadwell. A popular amenity, well frequented by locals.

Felling within the wood and close to communities has started breaking up the age structure of the wood, adding diversity and softening woodland edges occurring close to communities.

Western part of plateau is predominantly conifer with high proportions of good quality DF, a species suited to extended rotations and management under continuous cover.

Area of Phytophthora infected larch now felled gives opportunity for diversifying species.

Heathy vegetation types are present along the ridge running northwest to south east.

Natural reserve along the Fetter Hill provides diverse habitat and helps link Old Bow and Old Ham mines SSSI to the main wood for foraging bats.

The impact from the increasing population of wild boar on the ecology of these woods and the wider main block of The Forest has yet to be determined.

Area of veteran oak falls within the southern corner of the Speech House Woodland SSSI noted for wood pasture character and lichens.

Antonion

Area of wet woodland

managed by GWT.

Age structure beginning to be broken up by felling. Much broadleaf is from early 19<sup>th</sup> century with conifers from 20<sup>th</sup> century.

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Site Analysis

Management under continuous cover should be considered for those areas of good quality DF crops along with some areas of NS that are showing signs of mixed natural regeneration.

A number of recreational facilities exist throughout the area, including a car park, picnic area, links with the cycle trail, PROW, way-marked walks and fishing.

Larch planted in last 10 years & older mature crops need monitoring for Phytophthora. Any restocking of crops on infected felled sites will be used as an opportunity to increase resilience to changes in climate.

Mature SC and OK with understorey of SC coppice and natural regeneration. Some of the mature SC and OK are showing symptoms of dying back and the SC coppice and regen are suffering badly from squirrel damage.

The presence of Axiophyte species - species characteristic of semi-natural habitats - indicate some areas currently stocked with NS of declining performance maybe better suited to broadleaves.

"Linking the Pearls" project – shown by dotted purple line - spans the whole width of the plan area from east to west and is designed to help link fragmented butterfly habitat.

Bixslade dram road and monument are a feature of the local heritage landscape and are well visited by people walking up from the stone firms. The New Fancy colliery tip is also of local archaeological importance.

Large area of oak wood managed since 1988 under a uniform shelterwood system. Good natural regen recruited with an interesting structure developing.

There is great potential for regeneration of oak in Russells - e.g. opposite Remploy. However, health and quality of the crop is hampered by squirrel damage that occurs throughout the plan area and the main block of the Dean, where squirrels are causing significant damage to conifer too.

Internal landscaping along the Family cycle trail - shown by dotted yellow line - is currently diverse and attractive.

The dams that service Cannop

undergone scrub clearance and

contain a wide variety of habitat

types including wet woodland.

The ponds also form the focus

for an attractive visitor location.

Ponds complex have recently

extensive maintenance. The

ponds and surrounding area

Woodland at Parkend is a popular area with locals for walking and biking. The Cannop Valley runs north to south dividing Nagshead from Russells. It contains a major proportion of mature oak habitat, a large part of which lies within the SSSI area – shaded red and the much larger RSPB reserve – outlined in black.

Scale 1:20,000





diverse and attractive.

for walking and biking.

much larger RSP

Some areas of conifer have a partial understory of broadleaf and are also showing signs of broadleaf regeneration, with ground vegetation present that supports the regeneration of such sites back to broadleaf. This will be achieved initially through thinning and if required under-planting or group planting. Retain Scattering of mature SP to add diversity.

Restoration of PAWS woodland along the Cannop Valley and tributaries, with opportunities increased through thinning. Retain SP at entrance opposite Beechenhurst. An Attractive feature at a critical place along the roadside and will provide a focus for many years.



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Design Concept

Revisit the stocking levels of broadleaf restock areas close to communities to ensure full stocking is achieved. Use of tree shelters maybe an option here.

Restock coupes along this ridge will aim to create a mosaic of organically shaped planting intimately linked with areas of open space where heathland vegetation is prevalent.

Restructuring for Nagshead was initiated in the previous Forest Plan by clear-felling. Restructuring and regeneration of the plateau will continue predominantly through thinning. This will help give diversity in terms of structure, age and species.

Retain Scattering of mature DF, SP, RC following final removal of overstorey to promote structural diversity conservation value and visual appeal.

Maintain the area to the north of the Fetter Hill as a Natural Reserve area (minimum intervention), helping to sustain links with Old Ham and Old Bow Mines to the southwest. - Subject to issues of public safety.

Where little or no ground vegetation exists and growth of existing crops is slowing down: e.g. areas of mature NS. These areas will be regenerated through group felling and planting enabling opportunities to increase resilience to changes in climate when restocking.

A number of small areas of conifer should be held in retention for internal landscape purposes. Heavily thin NS around Nagshead car park to make more visually attractive, retaining trees into old age. woodland but with no parent trees to regenerate the area, will be felled restocked with broadleaves.

Maintain ribbons of old oak that generally fello

Ground vegetation is very indicative of native

Speech House Oaks SSSI is managed under a separate

management plan as an

assemblage of lichen.

Retain DF in areas showing good signs of

regeneration and assess crop structure in

regeneration to determine whether further

stands showing signs of advanced

thinning intervention is required.

area of veteran trees and

wood pasture known for its

Maintain ribbons of old oak that generally follow subtle gullies coming off Cannop Valley. With restocking and regeneration aiming to keep broadleaf in the valley bottoms and conifer on the higher ground.

Large area of broadleaf woodland associated with the Cannop Valley. Some areas show signs of advanced regeneration of oak. Continue assessing crops and continue thinning to promote regeneration when required. Within the SSSI this would predominantly be oak.

An area of diverse woodland with intimately mixed age classes that will be monitored to assess stand structure before programming further interventions in consultation



Areas of Larch will be monitored for Phytophthora. Any restocking of infected felled sites will be used as an opportunity to increase resilience to changes in climate.

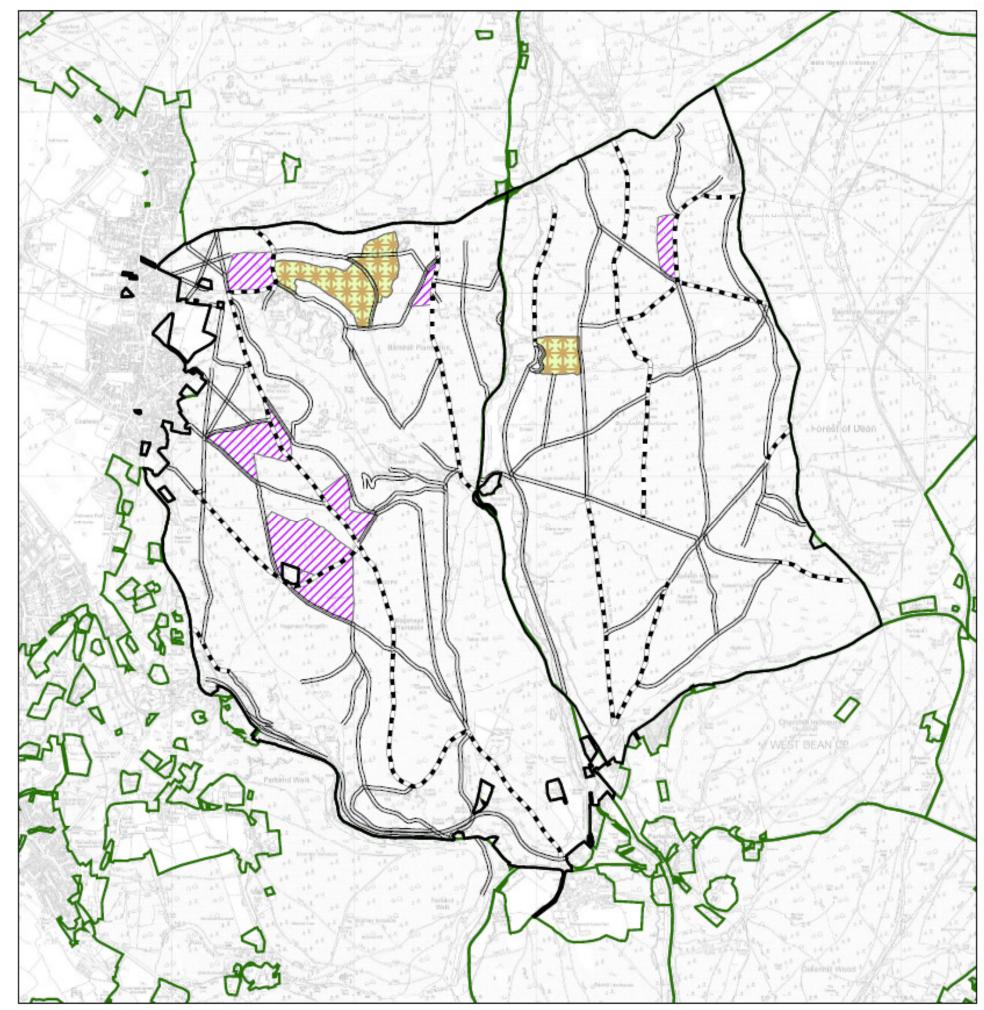
Using group felling and restocking along with group planting / underplanting will add to structural diversity, help to spread age class distribution as well as presenting opportunities to increase resilience to changes in climate.

Scale 1:20,000





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2013 - 2023

Silvicultural Systems

## Legend

Forest Ride

- - - Forest Road



# Fell 2047-2051 (target date for final overstorey removal)

In order to establish the next rotation, groups of upto 0.5Ha may be felled at each thinning intervention and the gaps created restocked with conifer, broadleaves or both. Retaining some DF or SP overstorey trees scattered through the crop will add structural diversity to the woodland as well as enhancing visual appeal.

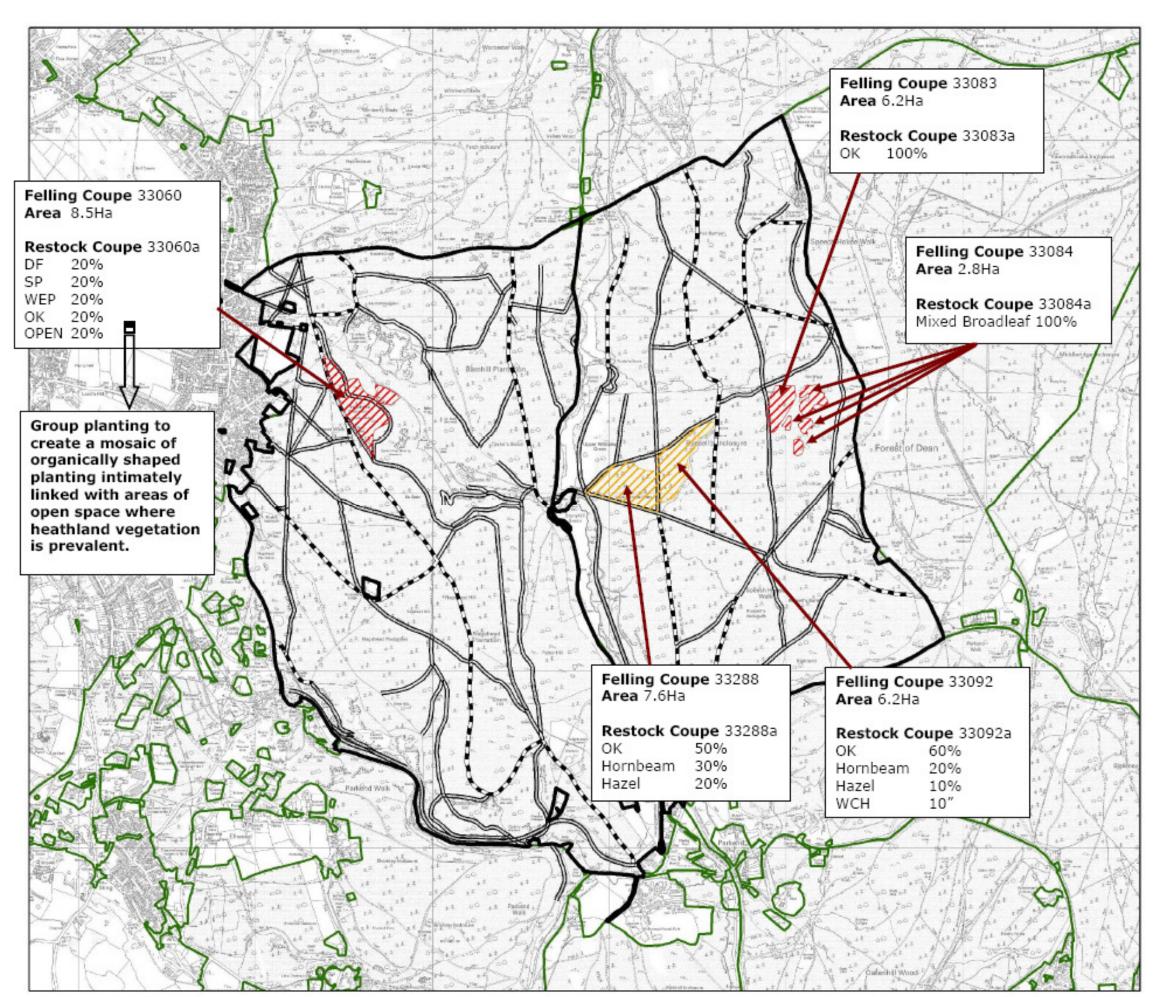
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### Removal of conifers by thinning

Although no target date is set for the final removal of overstorey trees, the understorey will be assessed at each thinning intervention, with natural regeneration of the appropriate size being released and existing broadleaves being haloed. Additional gaps created will be of up to 0.5Ha and used for enrichment planting. Some mature SP will be retained to add structural diversity and conservation value.









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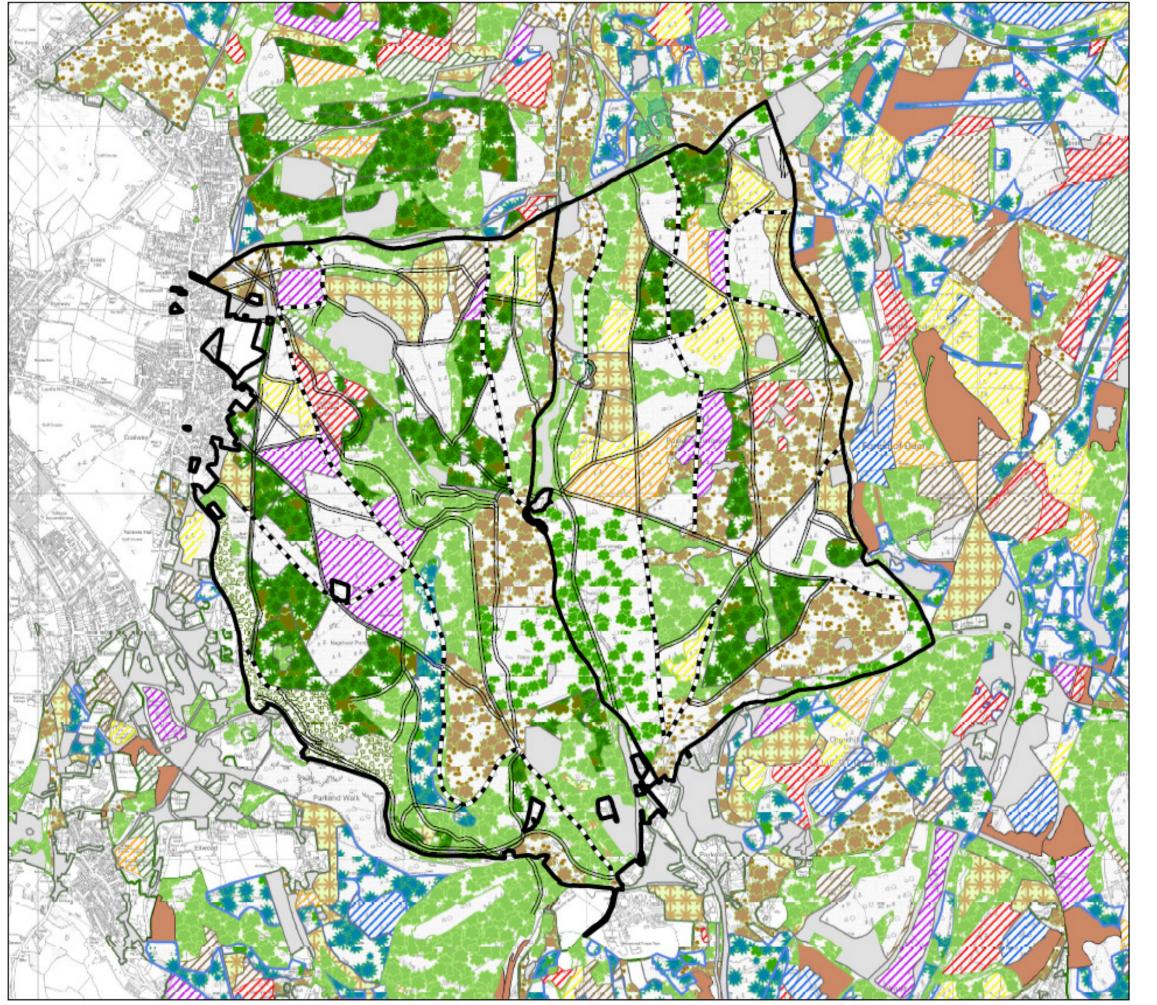
Felling plan 2013-2023

2013 - 2023











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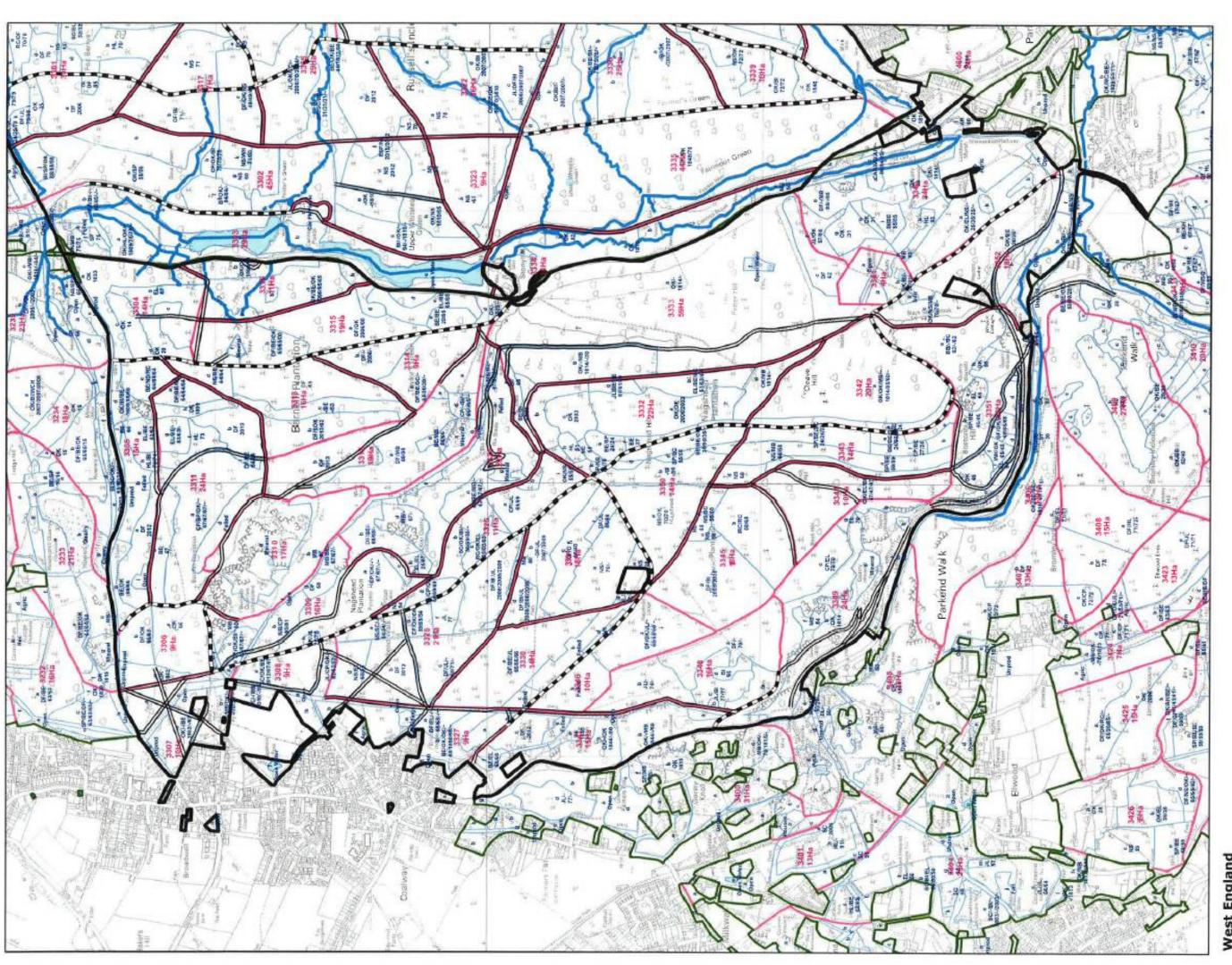
2013 - 2023

Felling plan 2013-2051 (incl adj FP areas)







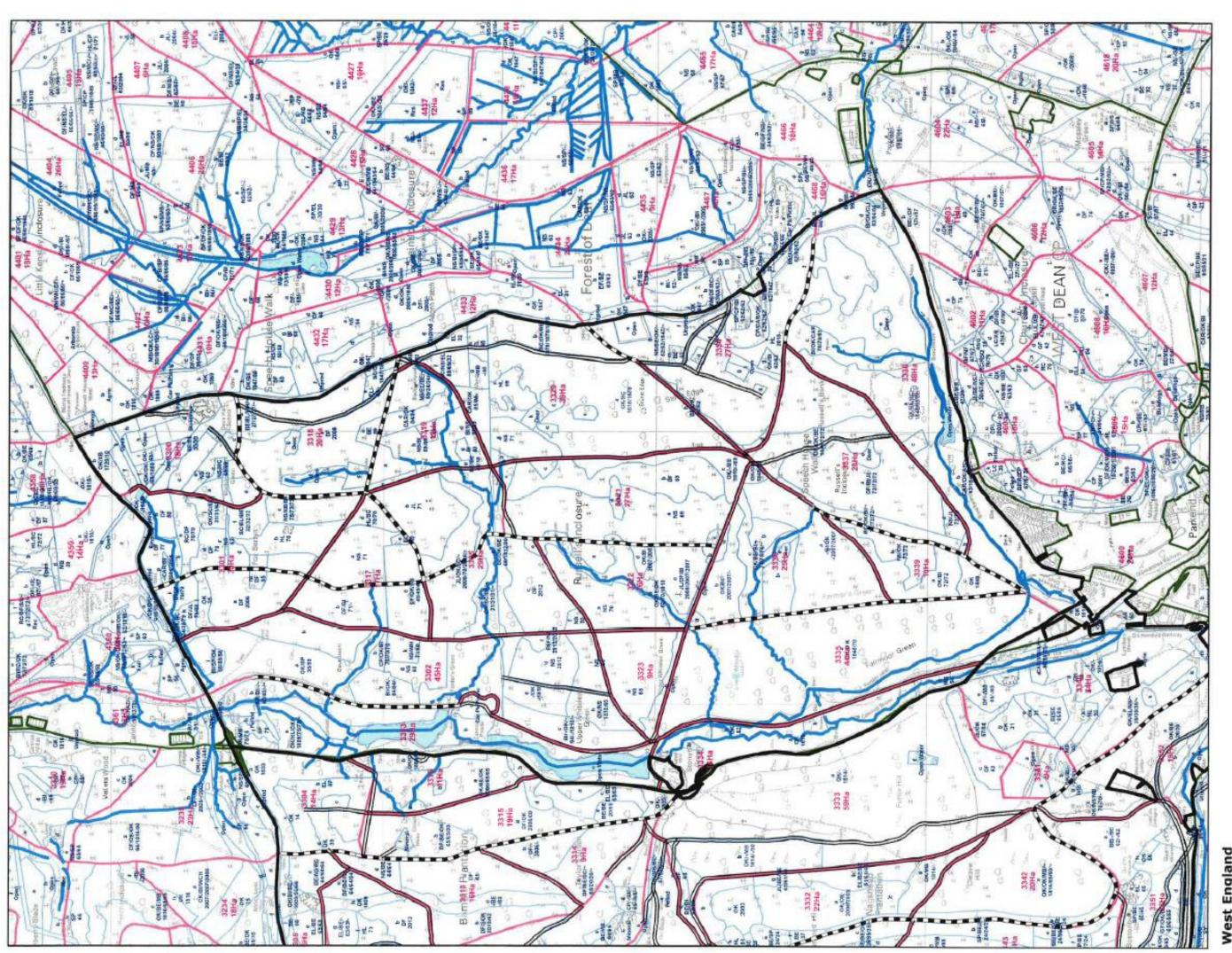


Forestry Commission

NAGSHEAD current stock map July 2013

Scale





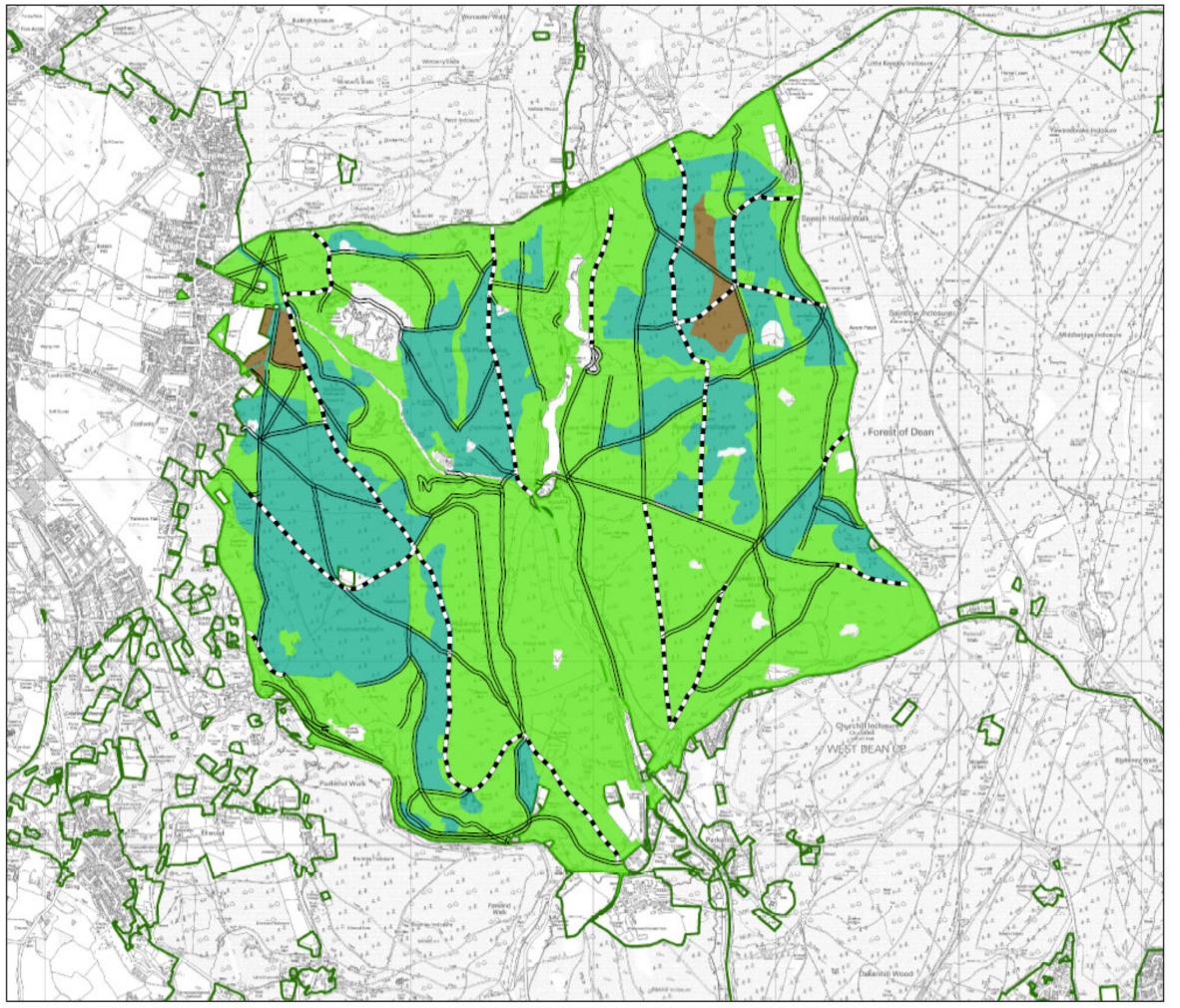
Forestry Commission

NAGSHEAD (RUSSELLS) current stock map July 2013

Scale

1:12,000







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Indicative Future species

