

**WEST MIDLANDS
FOREST DISTRICT**

**Oakmoor Forest
Design Plan Area**

Location Plan

The Oakmoor Forest design plan (FDP) lies along the Chumet Valley in the Staffordshire Moorlands on the south-western edge of the Peak District National Park. The FDP covers 369ha of woodland comprising of a mixture of both secondary and ancient woodlands now largely planted with conifers. The woodlands provide a diverse structure which contains 2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), mature oak woodland, large rock outcrops, diverse range of fauna and flora, productive conifer stands, wetlands, streams and promoted recreational routes.

The Oakmoor FDP provides an important backdrop and setting for the small communities and local businesses now based around sustainable tourism and small scale farming.

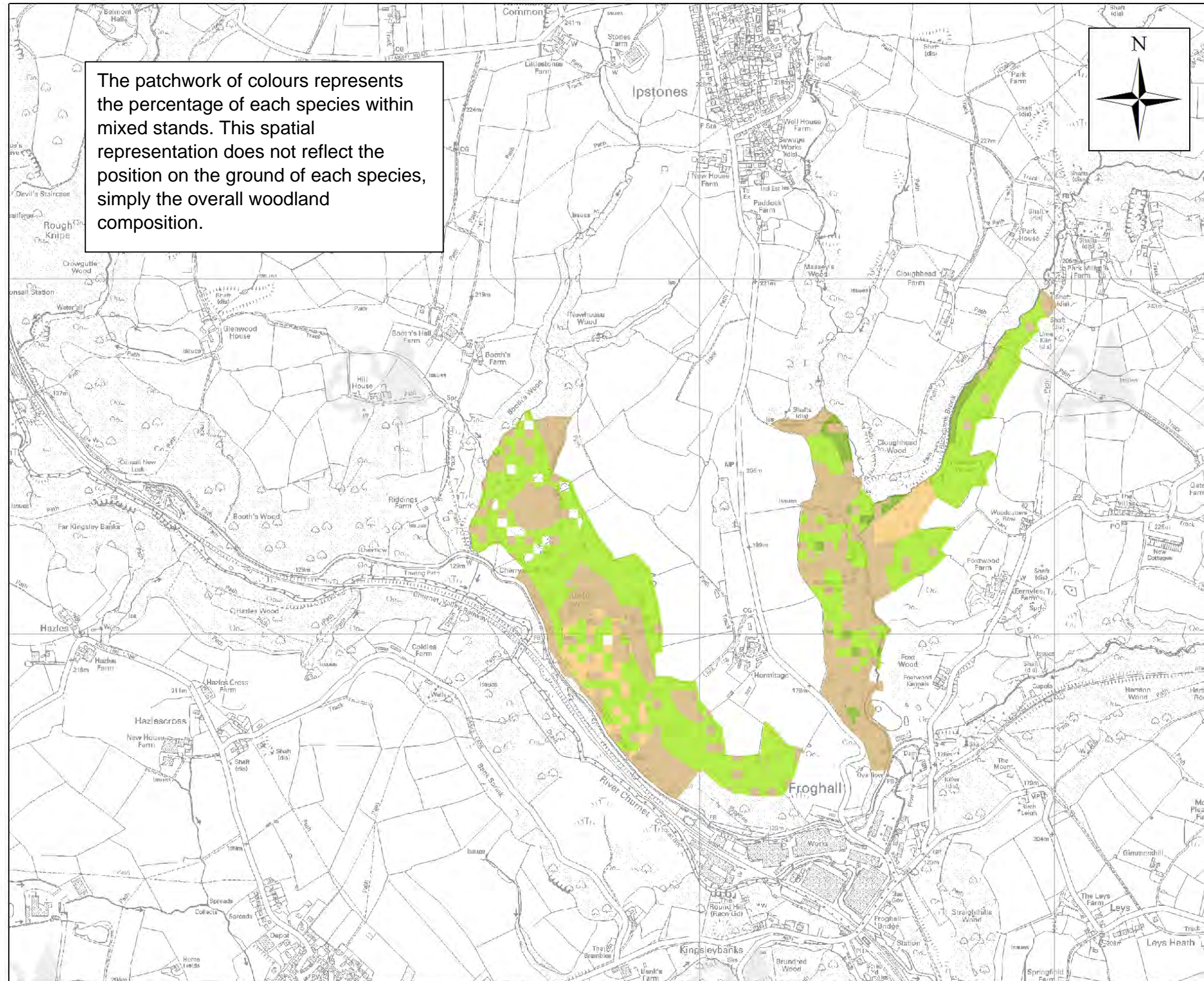
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Forestry Commission
England

Alastair Semple □ March 2011 □

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WEST MIDLANDS FOREST DISTRICT

Oakmoor Forest Design Plan Area

Current Species

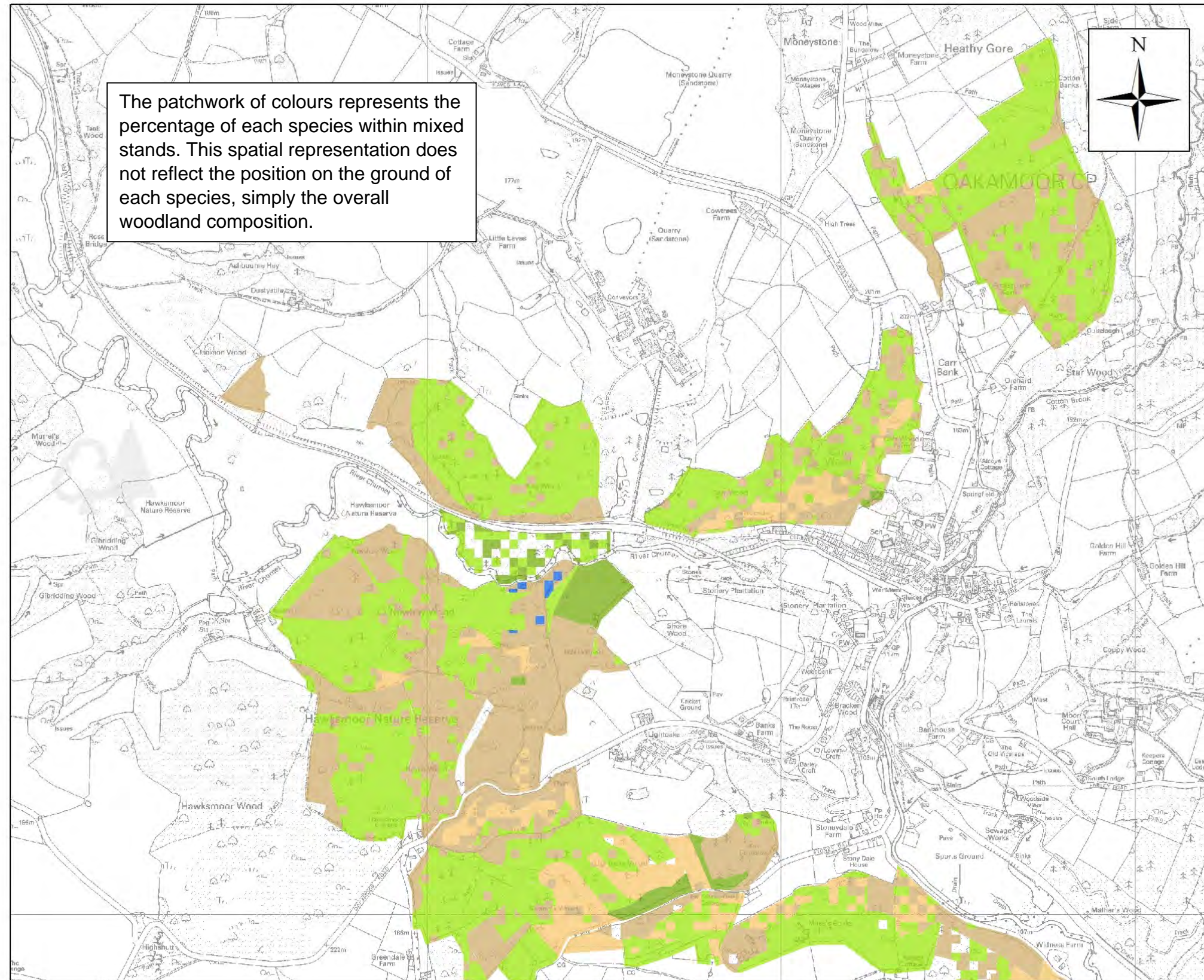
-  Open Ground
-  Broadleaves
-  Pines
-  Alder
-  Evergreen Conifers
-  Larch

1:10,000



Alastair Semple □ March 2011 □

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






The patchwork of colours represents the percentage of each species within mixed stands. This spatial representation does not reflect the position on the ground of each species, simply the overall woodland composition.


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Current Species

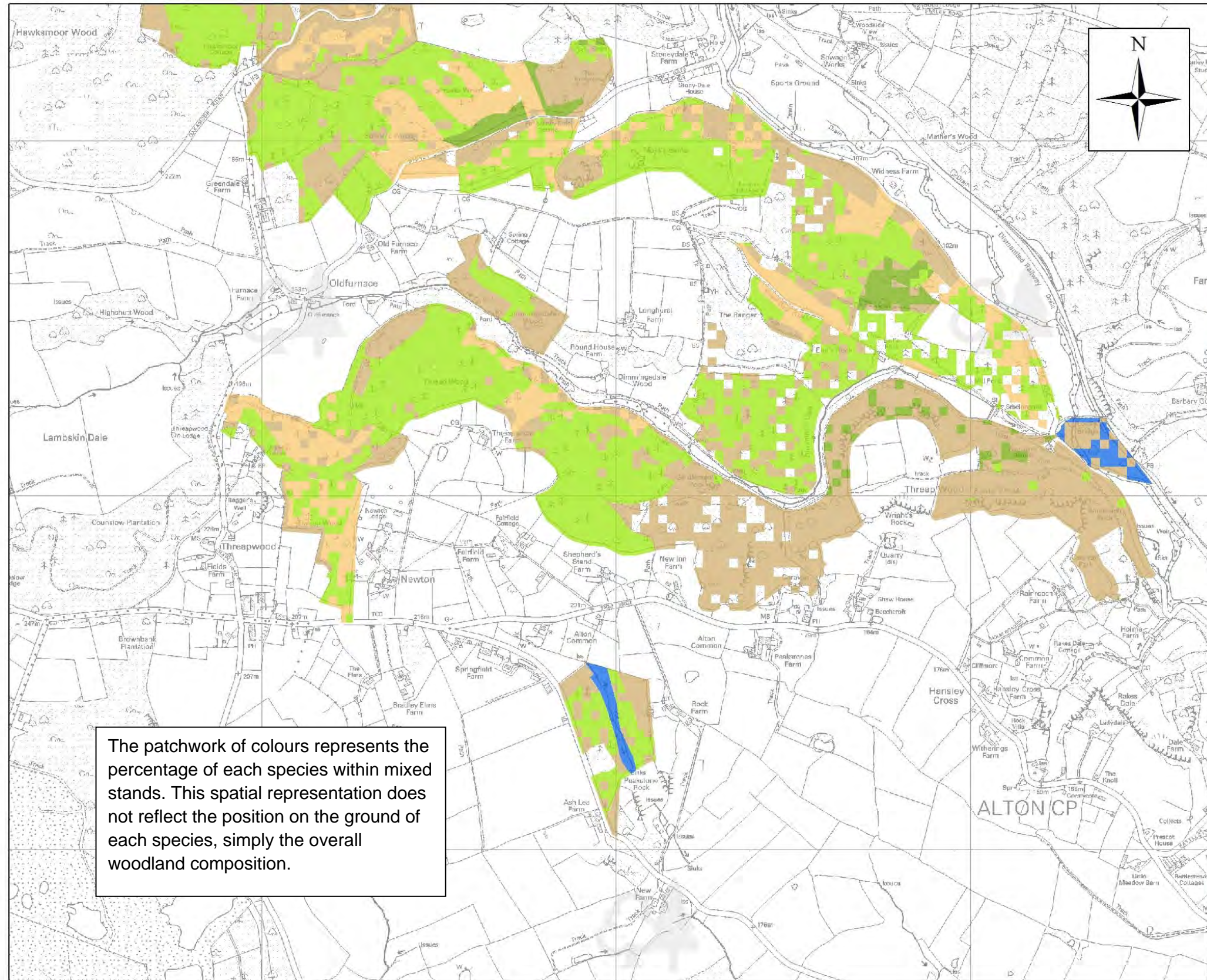
-  Open Ground
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The patchwork of colours represents the percentage of each species within mixed stands. This spatial representation does not reflect the position on the ground of each species, simply the overall woodland composition.

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Oakamoor Forest Design Plan Area

Current Species

-  Open Ground
-  Broadleaves
-  Pines
-  Alder
-  Evergreen Conifers
-  Larch

1:10,000



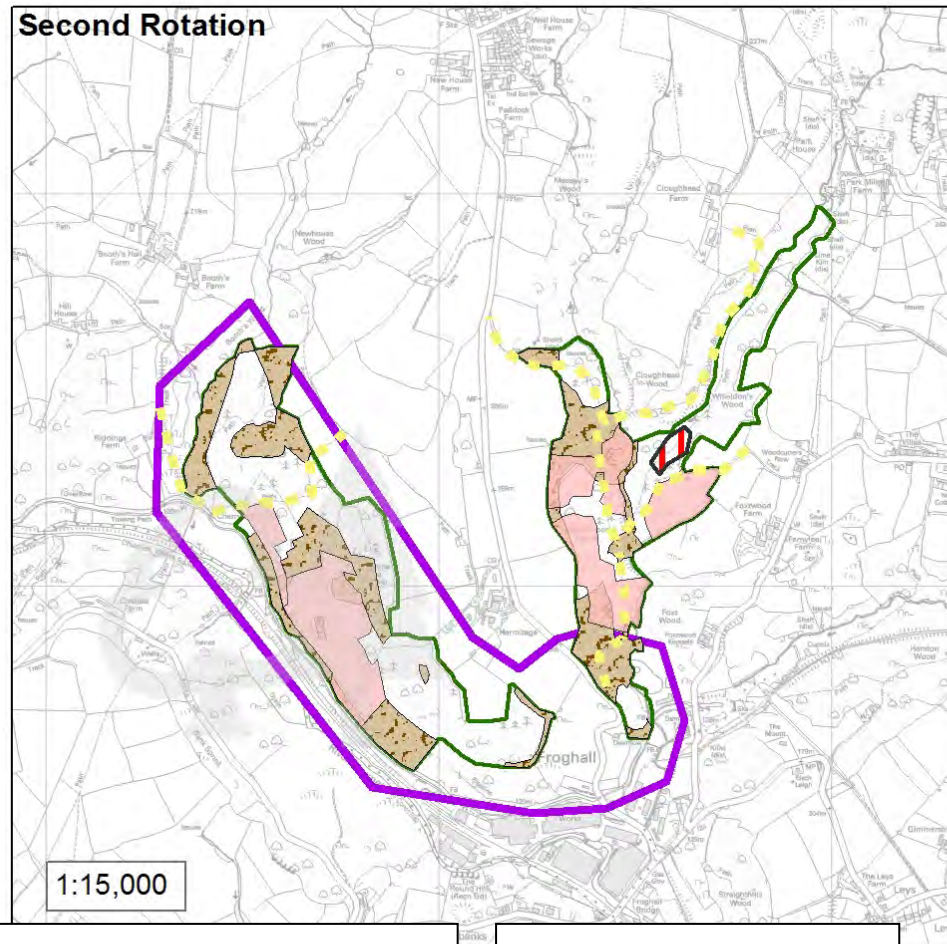
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Red Band Needle Blight is a fungal disease which is affecting most of the stands of pine within the forest.

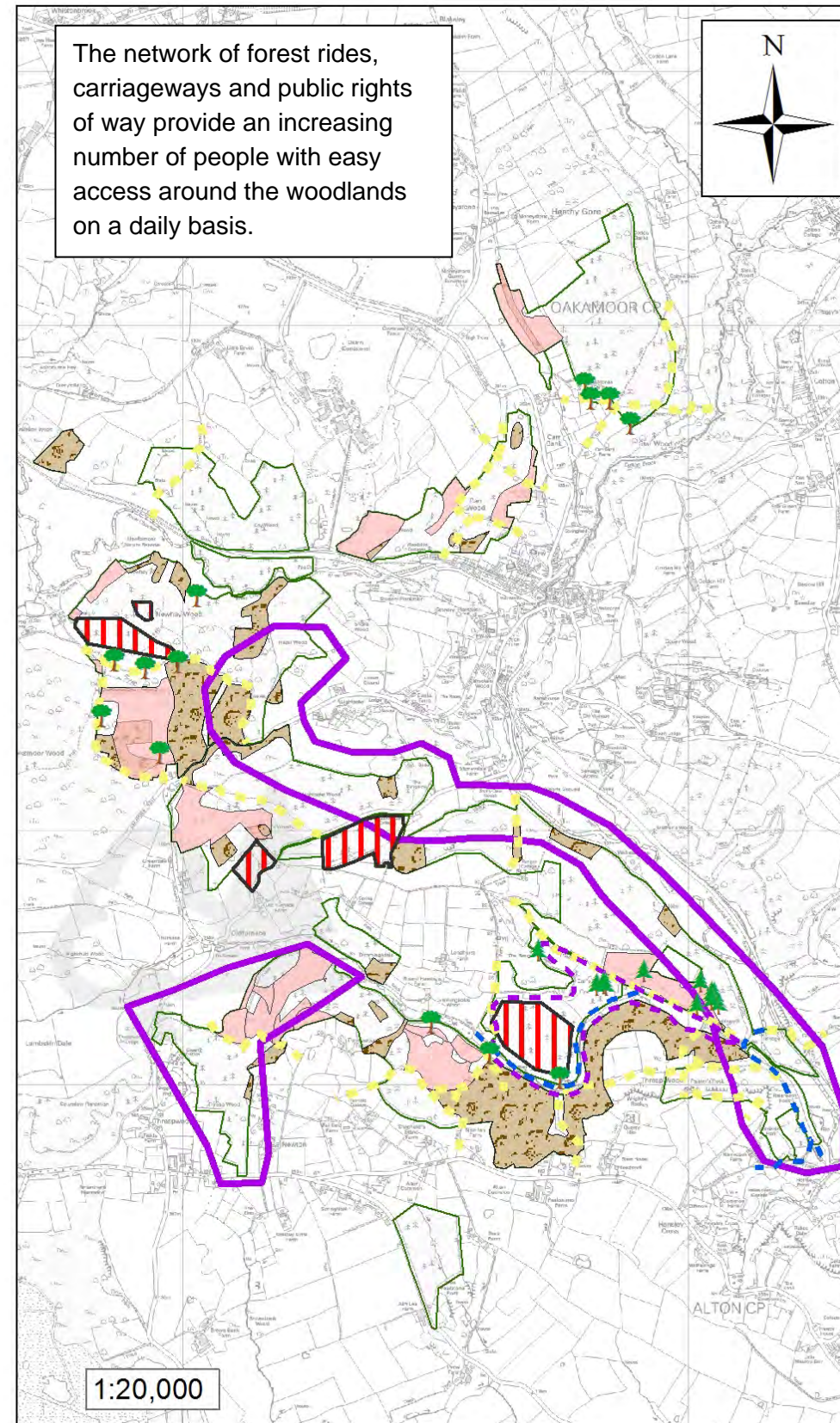
20% of the forest comprises pure Corsican pine stands and these are likely to be fatally affected by RBNB in the next few years following the recent spread of the disease within the valley.

The network of forest rides, carriageways and public rights of way provide an increasing number of people with easy access around the woodlands on a daily basis.



Each of the woodlands forms an integral part of the local landscape creating back drops for the local communities and emphasising the local landform.









Veteran broadleaves and Scots pine can be found throughout the design plan area with the most dramatic being the Scots pine growing out of the sandstone outcrops with their exposed roots system, in many cases, defying gravity to hold the veteran pines in situ.

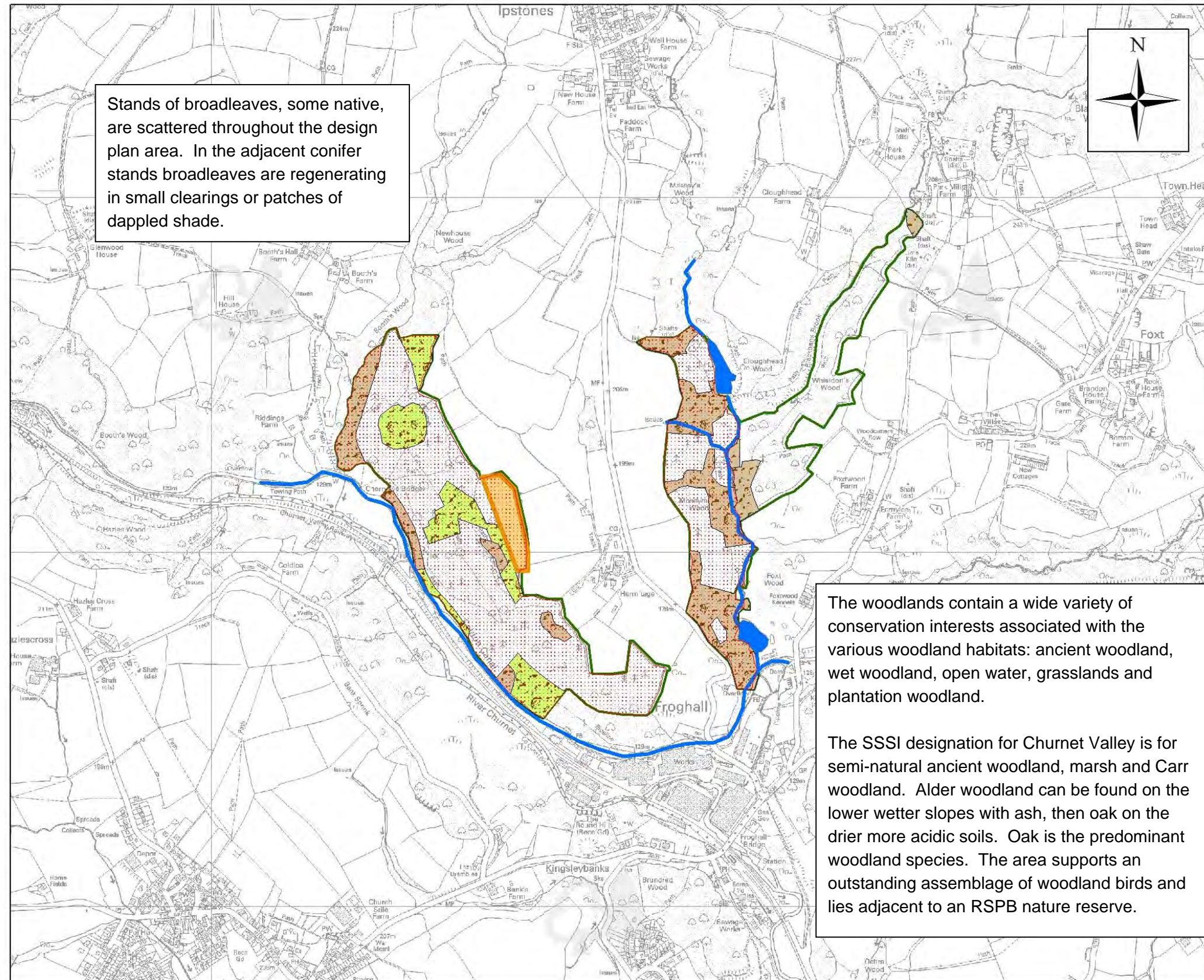


WEST MIDLANDS FOREST DISTRICT

Oakamoor Forest Design Plan Area

Survey and Key Features

-  Veteran Broadleaves
-  Veteran Conifer
-  Bridleway
-  Footpath
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Areas of High Landscape Importance
-  Red Band Needle Blight Infected Stands
-  Corsican Pine



Stands of broadleaves, some native, are scattered throughout the design plan area. In the adjacent conifer stands broadleaves are regenerating in small clearings or patches of dappled shade.









The woodlands contain a wide variety of conservation interests associated with the various woodland habitats: ancient woodland, wet woodland, open water, grasslands and plantation woodland.

The SSSI designation for Churnet Valley is for semi-natural ancient woodland, marsh and Carr woodland. Alder woodland can be found on the lower wetter slopes with ash, then oak on the drier more acidic soils. Oak is the predominant woodland species. The area supports an outstanding assemblage of woodland birds and lies adjacent to an RSPB nature reserve.

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Conservation Map

-  Site of Special Scientific Interest
-  Stone Walls
-  Conservation Area
-  Water Course
-  Ponds
-  Native Broadleaves
-  Mixed Broadleaves
-  Management Area

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