

## Plan Name: Affpuddle & Moreton

FE Plan Reference Number: **NEW 106**  
 FC Geographic Block No : **11**  
 Date of Commencement of Plan: **1 August, 2013**  
 Approval Period: **1 August 2013 to 31 July 2023 (10 years)**

Summary of Activity within Approval Period:

All areas in hectares

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Conifers</b>	<b>Broadleaves</b>	<b>Other Open Space</b>	<b>Heathland or Mire</b>	<b>Total Area</b>
Felling	96.5				<b>96.5</b>
Restocking	51.4	3.8			<b>55.2</b>
Other Habitat Restoration				41.3	<b>41.3</b>

Total Plan Area: 411 Ha

### FOREST ENTERPRISE Application for Forest Design Plan Approvals

Forest District: **South Forest District**  
 Woodland / Property Name: **Affpuddle & Moreton Forest**  
 FE Reference Number: **NEW 106**  
 Nearest town or village: **Bovington**  
 OS Grid Reference: **SY 816 911 (Centre of Site)**  
 Local Authority: **Purbeck District Council**

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

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

Signed:

Michael Seddon, Deputy Surveyor, New Forest

Date:

Approved: ..... Conservator

Conservancy:

Date: .....

## 7. Affpuddle & Moreton NEW 106

### Location (See Location Map)

The forest covers a total area of 411 hectares and is located on the southern side of a broad ridge between the River Piddle and the river Frome. The B3390 Affpuddle to Warmwell road separates Affpuddle Heath from Bryantspuddle Heath and minor roads run along the northern and eastern boundaries of the forest and bisects Moreton Plantation from Clouds Hill to Waddock Farm. Bovington Camp lies to the south east of Moreton and the villages of Affpuddle and Briantspuddle lie to the north.

### Landscape Context

The woodland lies between about 30 to 90 metres above sea level rising from south to north to Pallington and Affpuddle heaths which are located at the top of the ridge between the Piddle and Frome river valleys. Views are accessible to the south across the Purbeck Hills. Much of the forest block is viewed as edges from the network of roads that run through it or adjacent to the forest boundaries.

Internally the woodland contains large open areas of bog and heathland and the current proposals aim to further develop the mosaic structure of woodland and open habitats. A national grid wayleave runs east to west through the northern section of the forest and provision within the current proposals for areas of long term retention and carefully designed and timed felling will mitigate the effect of the pylon towers on the landscape.

### Current Woodland Structure (See Habitat Structure and Age Structure Charts)

Much of the woodland comprises conifer plantations established from between about 1950 to the mid 1960s. The forest lies on predominantly podsollic soils and this is reflected in the dominance of Pine species throughout much of the block. Species diversity is currently limited to the north west of the forest block at Pallington Heath where more fertile soils have resulted in a mixed woodland structure as broadleaves have naturally regenerated among the plantation conifers. The previous Forest Design Plan began a process of restructuring the

woodland through a programme of phased felling and replanting and the current proposals will continue this process. The inclusion of areas of woodland to be managed on a continuous cover basis will increase the proportion of physically mature trees across the forest.

There is currently a significant proportion of open space within the woodland comprising areas of bog and heathland. The current proposals aim to expand existing open habitat by removing trees from the margins of wetland and heathland and through the incorporation of areas of wooded heath which will provide a transition from woodland to open habitats. Heathland ride widening will provide important heathland links between open areas. Rhododendron will continue to be removed and treated subject to availability of resources and external funding.

### Conservation (See Site Designation Map)

Oakers Bog SSSI lies wholly within Moreton Plantation and is designated for its wet and dry heathland plant communities. Turnerspuddle Heath SSSI lies partly within FE managed land to the south of the forest and is designated for its heathland plant communities. A fragment of Turnerspuddle Heath SSSI lies further to the north adjacent to Moreton Drive and is noted for a colony of the rare Ladybird Spider (*Eresus Niger*). Oakers Wood SSSI, Culpeppers Dish SSSI and parts of Turnerspuddle Heath SSSI lie adjacent or close to Affpuddle and Moreton Forest.

There are three further areas designated by Dorset Wildlife Trust as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest all associated with the heathland habitat. These are shown on the Design Concept map along with the long term management objectives for the sites.

### Recreation

The woodlands are freehold and there is free access by foot across the entire block. Two car parks are located on the minor road which runs adjacent to the northern boundary. These are known locally as Cull-peppers Dish and Briantspuddle Car Parks and they are well used all year round, particularly at weekends by local dog walkers and visitors from further afield.

A bridleway runs through the northern part of the forest at Affpuddle and Pallington and horse riding is allowed on other gravel tracks subject to the purchase of a permit. Public rights of way run through Moreton Plantation to the south and the Jubilee Trail footpath runs through the forest from Cull-peppers Dish to Oakers Wood in the north and further south a

section runs through the western part of Moreton Plantation. A recreation zone has been identified on the Design Concept map which broadly indicates where public access is concentrated in areas adjacent to the car parks. In these areas the current proposals will aim to increase the species and structural diversity of the woodlands and to manage predominantly for recreation objectives.

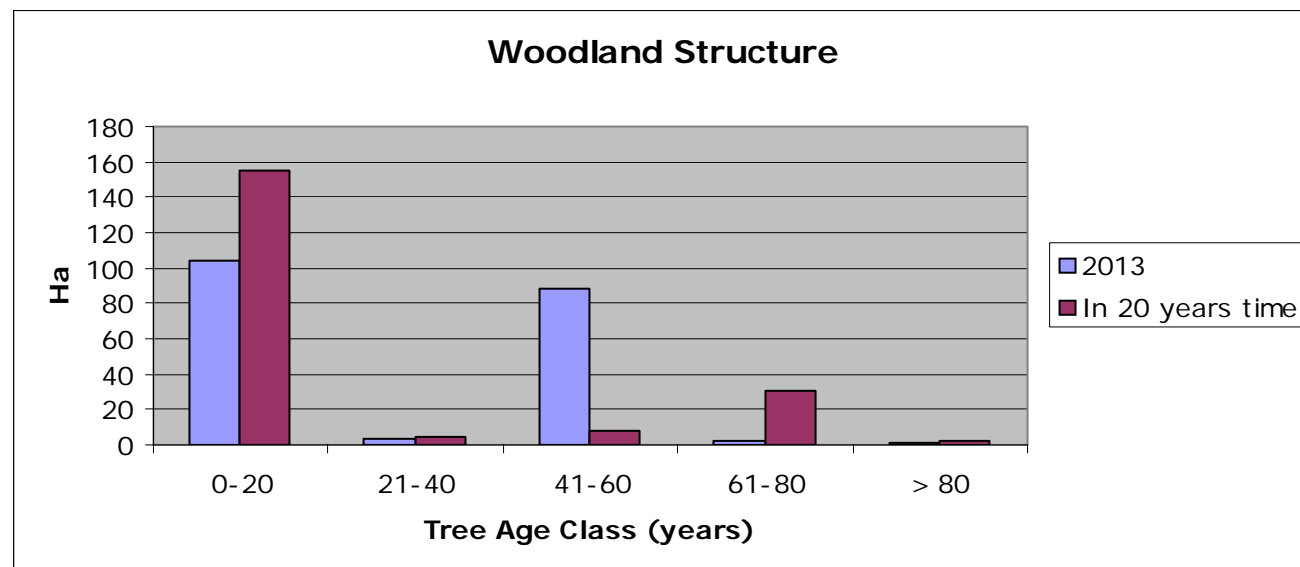
## Archaeology (See Site Designation Map)

There are thirteen scheduled and one unscheduled ancient monument within the plan area. All are Bronze Age bowl or bell barrows (funerary monuments). They are clustered in the northern section of the forest on the high ground of the ridge between Pallington Heath and Cull-peppers dish. One scheduled monument is located further south on the eastern side of Moreton Plantation at Clouds Hill

All of the Scheduled Ancient Monuments have current management plans approved by English Heritage. The unscheduled ancient monuments will be afforded the same protection as scheduled monuments and will be managed to establish shallow rooted vegetation in an open heathland setting.

Habitat & Age Structure Statistics  
Affpuddle & Moreton

Habitat Type	Present Time (2013)	In 10 Years Time		In 20 Years Time	
	Area (ha)	Area (ha)	Change from Present	Area (ha)	Change from Present
Predominantly Conifer Woodland	263	226	-37	184	-79
Predominantly Broadleaf Woodland	36	32	-4	36	0
Heathland	109	150	41	158	49
Wooded Heath	0	0	0	30	30
Streamsides/Wet Woodland	0	0	0	0	0
Open Water Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Other Open Space	3	3	0	3	0
<b>Total Land Area</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>0</b>



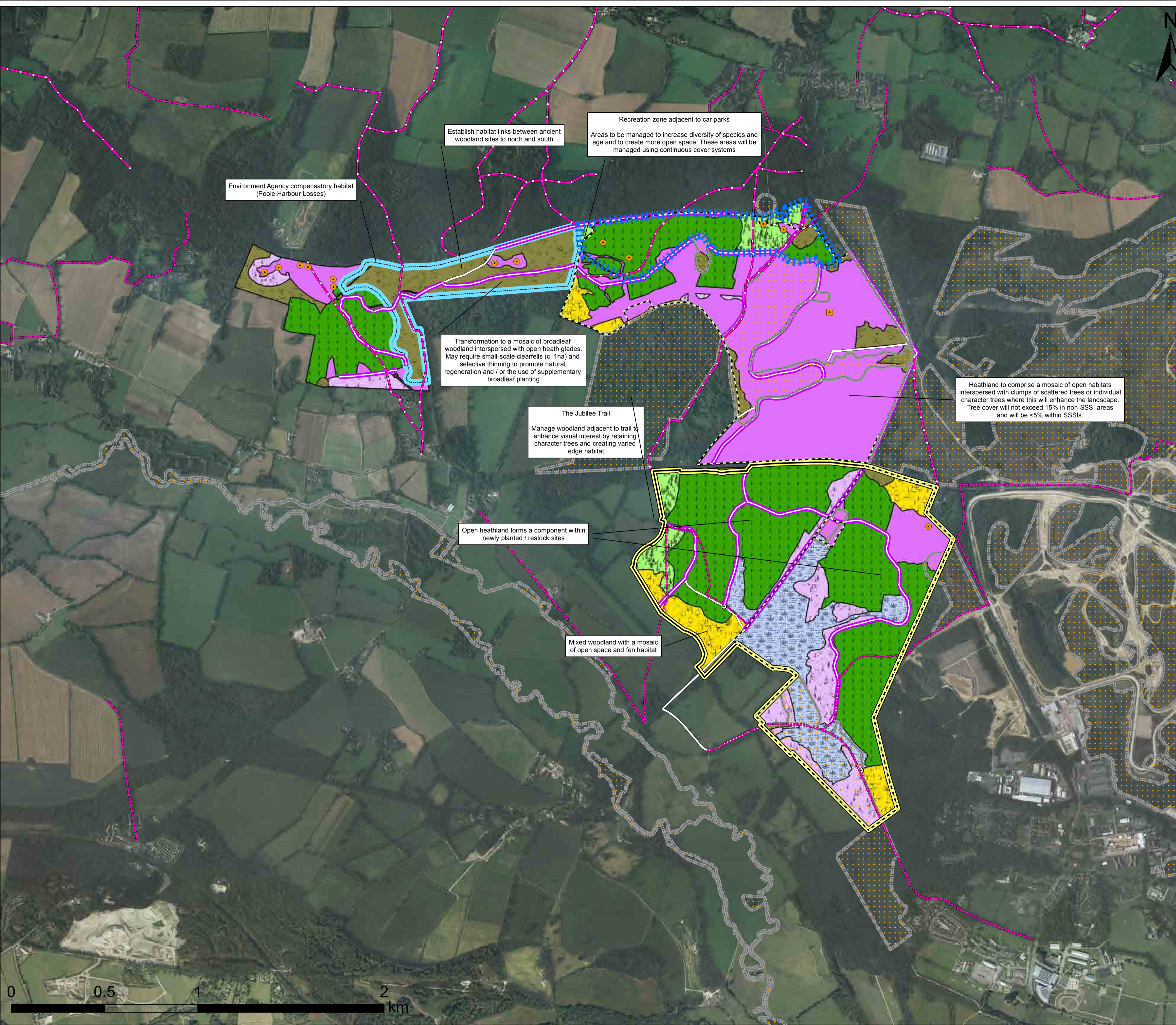
# South Forest District NEW 106 Design Concept Affpuddle and Moreton



Illustrates the main features and broad character of the forest in the long term

## Legend

- Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) managed according to approved SAM Plan
  - Unscheduled Ancient Monument - protect during forest operations
  - Grazing units - existing
  - Bridleway
  - Byway open to all traffic
  - Footpath
  - Recreation Zone - area heavily used by the public. Manage to develop an attractive landscape and character features
  - Potential sand and gravel site (Dorset County Council MSAD AS10)
  - Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
  - Environment Agency compensatory habitat (Poole Harbour Losses)
  - Heathland ride management
  - Forest roads
- Broadleaf woodland to be sustained mainly by natural regeneration to provide a permanent tree cover but at the same time providing a variety of different age and canopy heights. Some small scale felling and replanting may take place where conditions are unsuitable for natural regeneration. Any conifers will be removed over time through thinning or group felling
- Conifer woodland sustained by a cycle of clear felling, replanting and thinning. Woodland will contain a mosaic of open spaces and a diversity of species and age classes to enhance the visual quality.
  - Continuous cover mixed woodland sustained by thinning and natural regeneration to produce a permanent tree cover but at the same time providing a variety of different age and canopy heights.
  - Continuous cover conifer woodland sustained by thinning and natural regeneration to produce a permanent tree cover but at the same time providing a variety of different age and canopy heights.
  - Mire (marsh/bog) habitats that will be kept clear of trees and scrub. Hydrological regimes restored and grazing introduced where practical.
  - Heathland - areas managed and maintained as open heathland.
  - Wooded Heath - areas managed as heathland but with up to 20% tree cover in either isolated groups or individual character trees. Areas have been designated as wooded heath either for landscape purposes or because the area contains a high conifer seed bank that would be difficult to eradicate in the medium to long term and hence meet the criteria for pure heathland.



Establish habitat links between ancient woodland sites to north and south

Recreation zone adjacent to car parks

Areas to be managed to increase diversity of species and age and to create more open space. These areas will be managed using continuous cover systems

Environment Agency compensatory habitat (Poole Harbour Losses)

Transformation to a mosaic of broadleaf woodland interspersed with open heath glades. May require small-scale clearfells (< 1ha) and selective thinning to promote natural regeneration and / or the use of supplementary broadleaf planting

The Jubilee Trail

Manage woodland adjacent to trail to enhance visual interest by retaining character trees and creating varied edge habitat

Open heathland forms a component within newly planted / restock sites

Mixed woodland with a mosaic of open space and fen habitat

Heathland to comprise a mosaic of open habitats interspersed with clumps of scattered trees or individual character trees where this will enhance the landscape. Tree cover will not exceed 15% in non-SSSI areas and will be <5% within SSSIs.

Approved by:

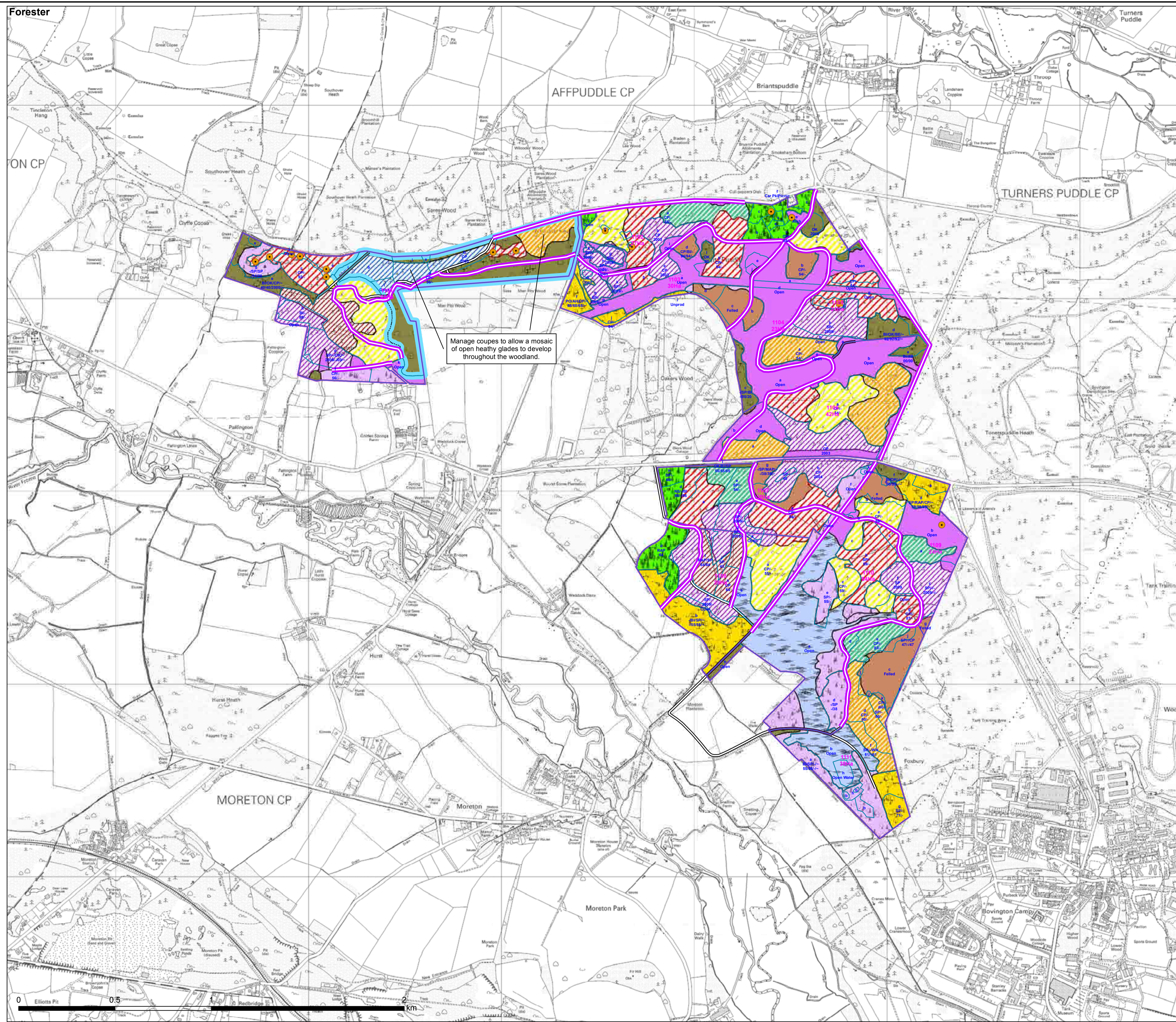
Deputy Surveyor:  
Date:

Conservator:  
Date:



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Map date: 2 May 2013



Manage coupes to allow a mosaic of open heathy glades to develop throughout the woodland.

# South Forest District NEW 106



## Felling and Habitat Management

### Affpuddle and Moreton

Illustrates timing of felling and management proposals within period of plan

#### Legend

- Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) managed according to approved SAM Plan
- Unscheduled Ancient Monument - protect during forest operations
- Heathland ride management
- Sub-Compartments
- Compartments
- Forest roads
- Environment Agency compensatory habitat (Poole Harbour Losses)
- Felling period 2007-2011
- Felling period 2012-2016
- Felling period 2017-2021
- Felling period 2022-2026
- Felling period 2027-2031
- Felling period 2032-2036
- Felling period 2037-2041
- Felling period 2042-2046
- Felling period 2047 & beyond
- Manage for continuous cover of conifer using a uniform or group shelterwood system to promote natural regeneration.
- Manage for continuous cover of mixed woodland using a uniform shelterwood system to promote natural regeneration.
- Manage for continuous cover of broadleaves using a uniform shelterwood system to promote natural regeneration. Any remaining conifers to be removed through phased thinning treatments.
- Mire (Bog/Marsh) - Remove/keep clear of trees/scrub. Restore hydrological system using drain blocking and bedlevel raising where required. Graze where possible.
- Streamside Corridors - Manage in accordance with the Forests and Water Guidelines
- Grassland
- Heathland - Restore and maintain heathland using traditional heathland management techniques where possible including grazing, controlled burning, bracken control and gorse swiping.
- Heavily thin to produce heathland flora by retaining wide, irregularly spaced groups and individual character trees
- Agricultural Land managed by tenancy agreement
- Managed by Perenco
- Felled areas to be restocked by planting or natural regeneration or left to revert to open habitat
- Car park / buildings

Approved by:

Deputy Surveyor:  
Date:

Conservator:  
Date:



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# South Forest District NEW 106 Restocking Plan Affpuddle and Moreton



Indicative of the structure of the woodlands at the end of the plan period

## Legend

- Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) managed according to approved SAM Plan
- Unscheduled Ancient Monument - protect during forest operations
- Forest roads
- Replant with broadleaves
- Replant with conifer
- Natural regeneration of broadleaf woodland
- Natural regeneration of mixed woodland
- Natural regeneration of conifer woodland
- Mire
- Wooded heath
- Heathland

## Note:

Restock maps indicate the likely dominant species type within a coupe. In reality, coupes may contain a mixture of different species / components. In order to adapt to climate change and provide a degree of protection against disease, coupes will be restocked with a suitable species mix suited to local site conditions.

Due to the uncertain position with Red Band Needle Blight, and the current FC moratorium on replanting Corsican Pine, no restocking will take place using Corsican Pine.

Approved by:

Deputy Surveyor:  
Date:

Conservator:  
Date:



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