



Brede High Woods

Management Plan 2018-2023

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THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations. Please either consult The Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or contact the Woodland Trust (wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland. Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open-ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential to generate income from our estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we allow our woods to be used to support local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
10. Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site - their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Brede High Woods
Location:	Cripps Corner, near Battle, East Sussex
Grid reference:	TQ793201, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 199
Area:	261.89 hectares (647.14 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

This stunning mosaic of ancient and secondary woodland, open heathland and acid grassland is located on the north-east shore of Powdermill Reservoir in East Sussex, in the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It has a rich history and a diverse range of wildlife. In 2013 the wood was awarded funding from SITA Trust through the Landfill Communities Fund towards key management works. The grant contributed to the annual ride management and coppicing programme which is helping to create a more diverse woodland which will benefit a wide range of wildlife.

2.2 Extended Description

Brede High Woods was acquired by the Woodland Trust in December 2007 after a very successful national and local fundraising campaign. At 262ha (648 acres) it is one of the largest Woodland Trust sites in England. It was previously part of the Great Sanders Estate which included Powdermill Reservoir and was owned by Southern Water. It lies within the High Weald AONB in East Sussex, approximately six miles due north of Hastings.

The site is a complex of ancient semi-natural woodland, planted ancient woodland (PAWS), secondary plantation woodland and open ground, to the north and east of Powdermill Reservoir. The site contains nine named ancient woods, some of which retain their original broadleaved character with extensive areas of hornbeam and sweet chestnut coppice. Others have been replanted with conifers such as pine and larch. The farmland between the woods was planted with trees, including larch, pine, beech and sycamore, from the 1930's onwards following the construction of the reservoir when the whole estate became the property of Hastings Corporation. Underlying these plantations are the remains of a typical High Weald landscape of woods and small fields, connected by shaws and hedges. Features of this landscape can be found throughout the woods in the form of banks, ditches and sunken tracks. Other past uses of the woods can be seen in the extensive earthworks from the excavation of iron ore that underpinned the historic Wealden iron industry.

The woods contain a great variety of habitats including open heathland, overstood and in-rotation coppice, gill woodland, wet woodland, sphagnum beds, small ponds, springs, streams and acid grassland. Important species include 55 ancient woodland plants and trees including common species such as bluebell, wood anemone, pignut and primrose and rarer species such as green hellebore and wild service tree. Important bird species include spotted fly-catcher, hobby, woodcock, turtle dove and nightingale. The site is well known for its invertebrate interest. It is the only known UK location for the flea beetle *Longitarsus longiseta* previously thought to be extinct. The acid grassland also has a population of glow worm (*Lampyris noctiluca*) a Sussex priority species. Other important species include great crested newt, brook lamprey, dormouse, badger, fallow deer and wild boar.

A full description of the site and its habitats can be found in 'An Ecological Assessment of Brede High Woods' by Dr Patrick Roper (2008). 'Brede High Woods archaeological and historic landscape assessment' by Dr Nicola Bannister (2009) details the cultural heritage of the site.

Like many other woods, Brede is being affected by various tree diseases with some such as ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) and ink disease in sweet chestnut having a significant impact. Other species affected by disease include oak and Corsican pine.

The site is part of the Trust's Welcoming Sites Programme and is well used by the public. There are 2 car parks on the B2089 and approximately 17km of maintained rides and paths including 3 public footpaths. Over the last 10 years the site has hosted many public events and a 3-year community archaeology project and has benefitted from much volunteer input.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

By bus:

The closest bus stop is at Cripps Corner about 1/4 mile (400m) from the nearest entrance into the wood. Walk on the pavement on the north side of the B2089 to the entrance, taking care when crossing the busy road. Bus services are provided by Stagecoach route number 349 from Hastings to Hawkhurst, with a journey time of 35 minutes. Rambler Coaches route number 383 from Robertsbridge High Street runs once a day, with a journey time of 15 minutes.

For further information on public transport, contact Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or visit traveline.org.uk

By train:

The nearest train station is at Robertsbridge (about 6 miles from Brede) but Hastings (10 miles away) is the only train station that has a direct bus connection.

For further information on public transport, contact Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or visit traveline.org.uk

By car:

Brede High Woods is located between Cripps Corner and Broad Oak Brede, south of the B2089 about 10 miles north of Hastings.

From Battle, head north towards Sevenoaks on the A2100 for three miles, then take the second exit at the roundabout onto the A21 Vinehall Road. After almost a mile turn left towards the B2089 and continue along this road for approximately three and a half miles.

The B2089 Broad Oak to Cripps Corner road runs along the northern edge of Brede, and there are two car parks marked by brown tourist signs, with parking for up to ten cars. Surrounding lanes have other entrances. There is a further car park behind the Red Lion Inn at Brede (grid. Ref. TQ826183).

Ordnance Survey Explorer 124; Landranger 199

3.2 Access / Walks

There are 15 entrances into the wood from the surrounding roads and lanes. Most have narrow squeeze gaps. From the two car parks there are routes into the wood via a squeeze gap, kissing gate or steps. There is an all-ability kissing gate at the western car park (RADAR key required). Three of the tracks into the wood from the B2089 are surfaced from the entrances, but beyond that most rides and paths are unsurfaced and very prone to waterlogging. Some are also very rutted. Several have grassy surfaces but more are bare soil. There are some moderate gradients leading down towards the reservoir to the south.

Recommended walks:

START

From the bus shelter opposite the Red Lion Inn in Brede, go downhill for approximately 100 yards and turn right along a tarmac road to 'Brede Water Supply Work', taking in views of the traditional farming landscape across the valley. After $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, follow the public footpath through a metal gate

and bear right along a grassy path to next gate. Enter the southern tip of Little Park Wood via a hand gate. After passing under the second line of pylons, exit the wood through a gate to follow the track up to Brook Lodge Farm. After passing a large barn on the right, turn right along surfaced road up to the T-junction, then turn left.

1½ MILES

Continue on Brede Lane to enter the Trust's Rafters Wood through a gap in the fencing at the southern end. Follow the well-defined path inside the western edge of this ancient wood, looking out for white wood anemones in spring. Go through a squeeze gap and turn left over a road bridge. Go past the Fishing Club and after 20 yards take the public footpath on the right, into woodland. Follow the footpath up and down through mixed woodland, crossing three footbridges. To the right there are glimpses of Powdermill Reservoir, constructed in 1930 to serve the expanding population of Hastings. Pass the redundant stile into an area of tall Scots pine, taking care on the narrow section downhill. Enter Trust land over the stream and turn immediately left, crossing two small footbridges to follow the public footpath along the northern bank. At the T-junction of paths, turn left for approximately 220 yards.

3¼ MILES

Turn right into the public footpath, once an ancient trackway, and at the derelict farm building on the left, turn right to the crossroads. Continue straight on through the kissing gate on to Sedlescombe Heath, a valuable habitat that is being managed by grazing. Once in Holman Wood (after the second kissing gate), continue uphill as the path joins from the right, and at the western car park,, take the path to the right between tall Scots pines. After about 500 yards follow the main path as it takes a right-angled bend to the right. After 150 yards turn left. Take a moment to sit on the bench to admire views across Brede High Heath to the wooded valley beyond. Reaching established woodland, turn right to follow the path to the bottom of the hill. Turn left along an ancient woodbank lined with coppiced hornbeams. Ignore the path to the left and continue on to the crossroads beneath powerlines, then turn right. (For the eastern car park turn left up the steps.)

4¾ MILES

From the Woodland Trust car park take steps straight down past an information board and at the crossroads go straight on. Follow the path as it traverses the slope under the powerlines, then through a predominantly beech plantation. Exit on to a sunken lane and turn right to pass a log seating area. After 100 yards turn left to follow the public footpath, looking out for bluebells in coppiced woodland. Pass under powerlines on an embankment and turn right at the crossroads with a seat and a saw pit once used for turning trunks into planks. Follow the footpath down and round to the left to cross a large footbridge. At the crossroads go straight on to cross the next footbridge and climb steep steps to follow the path up to the second pylon.

5¾ MILES

At the cross roads turn left and leave the wood by a squeeze gap in the fencing. Cross the road, go through a gap in the hedge with a hand gate and follow the line of the fence to a stile. Climb over the second stile and cross pasture to enter North Wood via a stile. Bear slightly left and take care to follow the correct angle of waymarks (and occasional bits of yellow tape) down through broadleaved woodland. Cross power lines, re-entering the wood over a footbridge, then head straight uphill through sweet chestnut coppice. Exit the wood, keeping the belt of trees on the right, pass through an open gate and head straight across the field to the road. Turn left into Brede village and right on to the A28, following the pavement back to the bus stop.

TERRAIN

The route is on surfaced roads or woodland tracks, which may be boggy in wet conditions. There are short sections on quiet country lanes and the A28 has a pavement.

There are three stiles on approach to North Wood.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

It is useful to breakdown the proposals into broad habitat types as per the site's key features.

Ancient woodland.

This includes semi-natural broadleaved woodland dominated by coppice with standards and planted ancient woodland (PAWS) which was planted with conifers during the 20th century. The restoration of PAWS is one of the Trust's major objectives for its own sites as well as those in other ownerships. Our approach is to restore the canopy to native broadleaved trees over the long term to avoid the sudden change in conditions that comes from clear-felling. This will take the form of an ongoing programme of thinning the conifers, on a 5-10 year cycle. Rather than maximising timber production the thinning will favour existing broadleaved trees, ground flora hotspots that still survive and other ecological and archaeological features that are being damaged by the shade from the conifer canopy. The adoption of a continuous cover silvicultural system will avoid the need for clear-felling and should ensure a successor broadleaved canopy is developed, using natural regeneration wherever possible. Some planting of successor species may be necessary in the long term due to a limited variety of seed sources and disease. Some mature conifer will be retained where it poses no threat and where it can provide an ecological niche for certain species (eg raptors) and for aesthetic reasons. This approach should encourage a more resilient woodland capable of better withstanding pressures from climate change, pests and diseases.

Much of the coppice has not been managed for decades, particularly the mixed species and hornbeam dominated stands. These areas will largely be left to develop by natural processes with tree death and windblow providing gaps in the canopy over time. This approach will also lead to an accumulation of deadwood which is often missing from coppice woodland.

Significant areas of sweet chestnut coppice were managed by the previous owners from c2002-2005. In order to maintain a succession of temporary open and dense scrub habitats that managed coppice provides, a coppice regime will be implemented across the site, concentrating on the more productive and easily accessible stands. Evidence from the site suggests that maintaining an active coppice cycle will benefit a suite of species including ground flora, invertebrates, birds and reptiles. The impacts of disease on sweet chestnut in particular will lead to a more varied composition of some stands in the future.

Additional early successional habitat will be maintained on the site by short-rotation cutting (3-5 years) of rideside trees and management of the powerline wayleave. This will also provide linking habitat for the open areas across the site.

Secondary woodland

This habitat varies from scrub to semi-mature broadleaved and conifer plantations and will receive a suitably diverse range of management. Some areas of conifer plantation were felled in 2009 and are now managed as open/scrub habitats.

The remaining wooded areas will be managed, where necessary, to improve biodiversity and resilience in the face of climate change and disease. Areas dominated by conifer plantations will be managed in a similar manner to the PAWS stands (see ancient woodland section above), with a gradual change to a predominantly broadleaved canopy achieved by ongoing thinning and the

adoption of a continuous cover forestry system. However some older stands of Scots pine will be retained for their aesthetic value.

Some areas of broadleaved secondary woodland will be left to develop by natural processes. Other areas will be managed by thinning or coppicing where it is beneficial to diversify the structure of maturing plantations to ensure a successor canopy in the long term. Stands with a significant proportion of ash affected by disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) will be managed by targeted thinning to reduce tree safety risks along roads and major rides.

Open ground habitats

Open areas across the site include lowland heath and acid grassland, both of which are UK and Sussex priority habitats. These were much more extensive across the site (and the wider landscape) prior to afforestation during the 20th century. Previous management from 2008-2012 has greatly increased the amount of open ground with subsequent increases in biodiversity.

Long term management of the larger open areas will be by low-intensity grazing using horses, ponies or cattle. The need for supplementary mechanical management, such as scrub and bracken control, will be assessed and carried out on an ongoing basis. Other areas of temporary open habitat, such as wide rides and the powerline wayleave, will be managed by short-rotation coppicing (3-5 years) or by periodic mowing. These linear habitats should be selected and managed to link larger areas of open ground across the site to provide a habitat network.

Connecting people with woods and trees

The site's extensive network of rides and paths will be suitably managed to encourage safe, enjoyable access wherever possible. Infrastructure such as signs, bridges and steps will be kept to a minimum to maintain the rural nature of the site.

The two car parks will be maintained at their present capacity. Future interpretation will rely on digital resources as much as on-site works to minimise the intrusion into the natural setting.

Managing a connecting series of wide rides will benefit both the visiting public and certain types of wildlife. When managing all aspects of the site, public access and aesthetics will be considered as well as the requirements of wildlife.

The site will continue to provide opportunities for public events, education, volunteering and to demonstrate the Trust's approach to management, particularly PAWS restoration, to a professional audience.

5.0 KEY FEATURES

The Key Features of the site are identified and described below. They encapsulate what is important about the site. The short and long-term objectives are stated and any management necessary to maintain and improve the Key Feature.

5.1 Ancient Woodland Site

Description

The ancient woodland areas include semi-natural stands of coppice with standards as well as planted ancient woodland (PAWS) with conifers planted over former coppice stands during the 20th century. There are 9 named woods which are all ancient or very long established: Thorp's; Greenden, Streetfield; Holman; Brede High; Coneyburrow; Twist; Pond; Rafters.

Sweet chestnut coppice is more common on the sandy soils with hornbeam-dominated mixed coppice on the wetter soils. Ground flora reflects the differing soil types, with heather being common in areas with the more acidic soils and ancient woodland plants such as wood anemone and bluebell more common on less acidic soils. Changes in ground flora can also reflect past management which may have included grazing in the more heathy areas of the wood.

The PAWS areas of Streetfield, Brede High and Coneyburrow Woods appear to be on areas that were previously chestnut coppice. They now have stands of thinned, mid-rotation crops of Scots and Corsican pine and Japanese larch (P79/81). Remaining ground flora in the PAWS areas also reflects the soil types and includes very heathy areas of woodland.

There are 55 ancient woodland indicator species recorded across the site, including wild service tree, green hellebore and early purple orchid, as well as the commoner species. There was previously extensive invasion of *Rhododendron ponticum* in Streetfield and Brede High Woods but this has largely been removed. Within the ancient woodland areas there are numerous streams which all feed the reservoir. These streams have associated features such as springs, seepages, flushes, pools, gills, sphagnum beds and areas of wet woodland (see Roper [2008] for full description).

Archaeological features present include an iron-smelting bloomery site, saw-pits, charcoal hearths, woodbanks, extraction pits and trackways (see Bannister [2009] for full listing).

Significance

The ancient woodland areas on the site represent the full range of stand types found in the High Weald, the biggest concentration of ancient woodland in England. Restoration of the PAWS areas is the only way of increasing the area of ancient semi-natural woodland as it cannot be re-created. The wooded heath areas are an under-studied stand type that will benefit from further research. Ancient woodland contains many rare and threatened species and often represents the most natural habitat present in the landscape. As well as species associated with woodland it can also contain important relics of more open habitats that are often missing from the wider, modern farmed landscape. Continuing with an active coppice regime will add to the habitat network currently present within this well-wooded landscape where adjoining and nearby woods are still coppiced regularly. The temporary open ground and subsequent scrubby habitat will benefit a range of wildlife including key species such as nightingale.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints

Some parts of the site have difficult access and ground conditions.

Protected species present on the site impose strict conditions on working practices and timing of operations.

Opportunities

To restore all PAWS areas within the site using best practice and use it as a demonstration site.

To monitor minimum intervention areas to study changes over a long time scale.

To continue with a coppice regime to ensure the site has a significant element of early successional habitat.

To use the site to demonstrate the Trust's approach to woodland management and to influence neighbouring landowners and other key stakeholders.

Factors Causing Change

Increasing shade and loss of coppice structure in minimum intervention stands.

Change in species composition due to natural regeneration of birch, hornbeam, Scots pine, aspen etc

Invasive rhododendron.

Mammal damage (deer, wild boar)

Gaps in the canopy due to windblow and disease/dieback (eg Chronic Oak Decline; Phytophthora in sweet chestnut; Hymenoscyphus fraxineus in ash; Dothistroma needle blight in Corsican pine).

Long term Objective (50 years+)

In the long term (50 years+) the PAWS areas within the Brede High Woods complex should all be predominantly broadleaved in character, with all major ancient woodland components in a secure and improving condition. These include ground flora, archaeological features, deadwood, streams and other wetland features. Rhododendron should have been eliminated or reduced to a rare component of all woodland areas. The resulting mixed stands of high forest will be being managed on a continuous cover silvicultural system to produce uneven-aged, self-regenerating stands of high conservation and amenity value.

The semi-natural woodland areas managed by minimum intervention will be developing by natural processes with some canopy collapse followed by natural regeneration. There should be an increasing volume of coarse woody debris (standing and fallen) throughout the site including in watercourses.

There will be an active coppice regime in place, focussed on accessible and productive stands. This will provide a significant element of temporary open ground and early successional habitat to complement the minimum intervention stands.

Deer and wild boar populations will be at a level that do not threaten components of the woodlands or their regeneration.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

During the plan period 2018-23 management will continue to focus on PAWS restoration by targeted thinning, cutting coppice, managing a wide-ride network, controlling remaining rhododendron and continuing with a deer management programme.

This section should be read in conjunction with the PAWS assessment and strategy maps.

- Rhododendron control by herbicide application and pulling of seedlings will be continued annually on less than 1ha in total, scattered across the site. Permission will be sought from Southern Water annually, prior to any spraying operation.
- All threatened PAWS stands will be thinned selectively on an approx. 5 year cycle to secure and bolster remaining ancient woodland components (broadleaved trees, ground flora, decaying wood habitats and archaeological features). Total area to thin (including some secondary conifer stands): approx 45ha (Subcpts 3a, 5d, 5f, 6a, 7c, 9b). Planned interventions in 2019, 2020 and 2020.
- Selective, motor-manual thinning to waste will be undertaken in inaccessible PAWS stands unsuitable for mechanised harvesting and around other biodiversity hotspots such as streams and wet woodland areas as well as archaeological features that cannot be included in the main thinning contracts. Specification to be drawn up and work to be undertaken after main thinning contract completed.
- Up to 10ha of coppice will have been cut over the 5 year period with successful regrowth of cut stools, supplemented with natural regeneration of trees to maintain a full stocking density where coppice stools have died. Cants planned for Subcpts 1a, 2a, 6d, 8c, 9a and 10a between 0.5 and 2ha in size.
- Deer and wild boar impacts will be monitored annually. An annual cull will take place targeting fallow does. The deer population should not be impacting on coppice regrowth, natural regeneration or ground flora.
- 5-yearly formal woodland condition/PAWS assessment to be undertaken to inform next management plan review. Assessments will cover the range of threats outlined in factors causing change above.

5.2 Secondary Woodland

Description

This includes all areas afforested on former farmland from the 1930's onwards, following the construction of Powdermill Reservoir. These areas were previously orchards, hop gardens, pasture and meadow. In addition there are also areas that are classed as secondary woodland but have a much longer history under tree cover, some showing on maps from 1800. This includes the northern part of Brede High Wood (currently under conifer and sweet chestnut coppice) and the eastern part of Greenden Wood (under sweet chestnut coppice).

Planted conifer species include Scots and Corsican pine, Sitka and Norway spruce, Douglas fir and Japanese larch. Broadleaved plantations include oak, beech, sycamore and ash. In addition there are areas that have naturally regenerated since the storm of 1987 with species such as birch, willow and sycamore. The original, often heavily thinned, plantations date from the 1930's to the 1960's. There are also a lot of younger conifer plantations that were replanted following the clearance of windblow after the storm of 1987. These were first thinned in 2011. Some of the conifer plantations were cleared of planted trees to create the open habitats of Sedlescombe and Brede High Heaths in 2009.

The plantations often obscure old field and woodland boundaries particularly in Cpts 6 and 8. Under the tree cover it is usually possible to find the banks, ditches, hedges and other flora that show where these features were prior to afforestation. There are also the remains of three farmsteads and other cottages under these plantations, some with very long histories. They were all demolished in the early 1930's following the reservoir construction.

Significance

The plantations have to some extent preserved relics of a pre-industrial farming landscape that would have been seriously degraded by modern intensive agriculture. Areas of ancient woodland have been buffered and extended by the secondary woodland. The long established secondary woodland areas can be almost as important as ancient woodland in terms of biodiversity. The broadleaved plantations managed as high forest are an uncommon stand-type in the SE

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints

Poor access, wet ground conditions and low grade timber make management of some of these areas uneconomic. Increasing shade is threatening other habitats and rare species.

Opportunities

To restore secondary conifer plantation to native broadleaved woodland (treat as PAWS stands).
To manage some stands currently dominated by birch as new coppice.

Factors Causing Change

Natural succession to mature high forest.

Change in species composition due to targeted intervention (thinning/coppicing/ride management) and tree diseases eg ash dieback and Dothistroma needle blight.

Mammal damage: deer; wild boar (rooting).

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The secondary woodland should be predominantly broadleaved in character with a few stands of open-canopied, mature Scots pine retained for their aesthetic appeal. There will be a range of age-classes from scrub to maturing high forest. All areas should be developing some natural characteristics with structural and species diversity and have lost most of their original plantation characteristics.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

During the plan period 2018-23 management will help move secondary conifer stands towards a more broadleaved character by targeted thinning in conjunction with PAWS stands. The thinning will favour any broadleaves within the crops and will remove conifers from stream-sides, old field boundaries and ride edges to bolster ecological hotspots for ground flora. Some of the semi-mature broadleaved plantations will be thinned to remove badly diseased ash. Some areas of younger birch-dominated stands will be coppiced.

- Thin approx 12ha mixed broadleaves in Subcpts 6c, 7a (part) and 7b. Planned for 2018 and repeated 2023 with additional 8ha in Subcpts 2b, 2c, 5c and 6b.
- Thin approx 8ha P89 mixed conifers in Subcpts 2a, 2d, 2f and 4e. Combined with Subcpt 3a (PAWS). Planned for 2020.
- Thin approx 2.75ha mixed conifers in Subcpts 5d, 6a. Combined with Subcpt 5f (PAWS). Planned for 2021.
- Thin approx 4ha mixed conifers in Subcpts 6d, 6e, 6f, 6h, 7c, 7d, 8a, 8d and 9b. Planned for 2019.
- Initial felling of birch to create new coppice stands in Subcpts 2a (2ha), 6d (2ha) and 8c (2ha). Planned for 2018-23.
- Deer and wild boar impacts will be monitored annually. An annual cull will take place targeting fallow does. The deer population should not be impacting on coppice regrowth, natural regeneration or ground flora.
- 5-yearly formal woodland condition/PAWS assessment to be undertaken to inform next management plan review. Assessments will cover the range of threats outlined in factors causing change above.

5.3 Open Ground Habitat

Description

The most important open habitats present on the site are lowland heath and dry acid grassland. This reflects the strongly acidic underlying Ashdown Beds which give rise to acid soils, occasionally podzolised. The small areas that were cleared prior to the Trust's ownership were substantially expanded in 2009 by clearfelling approximately 11 ha of conifer plantations.

Sedlescombe Heath (the majority of Cpt 4 and Subcpt 5a) now comprises approx. 22 ha of heath/grassland and mixed woodland. The area was fenced in 2011 and has subsequently been extensively grazed by cattle and ponies. Heather has regenerated in some areas while others have a more grassy appearance. Common and bell heather are present along with cross-leaved heath (a new record for the site). Also plants such as dwarf gorse, lousewort, greater broomrape and dodder have benefitted from the clearance works. Subcpt 4g (Holman Wood Field) has a particularly rich flora and fauna including heath dog violet (*Viola canina*), dwarf gorse, (*Ulex minor*) glow worm (*Lampyris noctiluca*) and the flea beetle *Longitarus longiseta* (its only known UK site).

Brede High Heath (Subcpts 5g and 5h) was also substantially extended in 2009 with the clearfelling of a young pine plantation that has led to the regeneration of heather, grasses and bracken. The southern half of the heath (cleared in 2002) continues to scrub over but also has extensive heather cover.

In addition there is the linear open/scrub habitat under the powerlines that extend for approx 1400m across the eastern part of the site. This line cuts through ancient and secondary woodland and a range of soil types. It is cleared of regenerating trees and coppice on a regular cycle, producing a mixed habitat of scrub and open ground with water features.

A network of wide rides also provides linear open habitat although not always continuous. A programme of ride management has been in place since 2008 which has added substantially to the open and early successional habitats present on the site.

Significance

These habitats are of local, national and international importance. Acid grassland and lowland heath are both UKBAP and Sussex BAP Priority Habitats. Both are reducing at a national and local level. The High Weald is a UK stronghold for acid grassland and it may be under-recorded as it often occurs within heathland. Both habitats have important suites of flora and fauna associated with them which are threatened by the increase in shade from encroaching and planted trees.

The ecotones between these open habitats and the surrounding woodland and water are some of the most biodiverse areas within the site. The heathland at this site provides a link between the heaths on the coast at Fairlight to the south-east and the extensive areas around Tunbridge Wells, Ashdown Forest and Chailey Common to the north-west.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints

Ongoing management of open ground requires regular inputs.
Only larger areas are suitable for conservation grazing.

Opportunities

To maintain and improve the existing open habitats.
To continue with 'naturalistic management' of Sedlescombe Heath by extensive grazing.

Factors Causing Change

Natural succession to scrub/woodland.
Invasive bracken and rhododendron.
Natural grazing from deer and rabbits.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

In the long term up to 20% of the site should be semi-natural open habitat. This will include larger areas of heathland, acid grassland and rush pasture with some groves of scrub and trees. These will be linked by a network of wide rides and glades managed by short-rotation coppicing. Where appropriate, open areas should be managed by a low-intensity grazing regime with suitable breeds of cattle, horses or ponies. The open habitats should continue to support a full range of flora and fauna associated with this type of habitat.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

A full prescription for management of Sedlescombe and Brede High Heaths forms part of the Higher Level Stewardship agreement with Natural England (2012-2022) and should be read in conjunction with this section of the management plan.

- Continue with a low-intensity grazing regime of Sedlescombe Heath (22ha) using appropriate breeds of cattle, horses or ponies at a stocking rate of less than 1 livestock unit (LU) per ha.
- Monitor annually the effects of grazing to ensure agreed proportions of dwarf shrubs, grass, scrub, trees and bare ground are maintained and adverse effects such as poaching are minimised. This will be achieved by repeating the baseline survey and fixed-point photography first undertaken in 2009 by Patrick Roper.
- Control approx. 2ha of bracken on Sedlescombe and Brede High Heaths by annual rolling. Ensure litter layer is no more than 15cm deep.
- Annual scrub control by cutting/mowing/pulling will be undertaken on Brede High and Sedlescombe Heaths to maintain the balance of grass/heather to tree cover (60:40). To be assessed as part of the survey above.
- A programme of ride widening throughout the site will link existing open areas and also create graded edges between open habitats and woodland. Annual operations from 2018-22. Approx 1ha of rideside trees/coppice to be cut annually. Regrowth to be re-cut on approx. 5-year cycle. Areas to cut will be assessed in previous year.
- An annual mowing regime under the powerlines in Cpt 8 (approx 500m in length) will create a mix of species-rich sward and bramble/scrub (approx 80:20) along the public footpath.

5.4 Connecting People with woods & trees

Description

Brede High Woods is part of the Welcoming Sites Programme (WSP), a Woodland Trust initiative which aims to improve recreation and access provision at our key sites. The WSP will lead to a series of lasting upgrades that will improve the visitor experience and will likely increase the number and range of visitors to this site. An attractive and serviceable network of tracks and paths will further encourage the appreciation of the woodland, both on the site and in the locality. The site will be managed to meet the required high standards of WSP and will provide a clear welcome: well-maintained entrances, furniture, signs and other infrastructure as well as sustainable path and track surfaces across the variable ground conditions where appropriate. Improved access will better facilitate use by a wider range of visitors. An engagement plan will set out a plan for engagement activities, further enhancing public visits to the site.

Brede High Woods lies between the small villages of Brede (2.6 miles), Broad Oak (1.5 miles), Sedlescombe (3.3 miles) and Cripps Corner (1.2 miles) in the High Weald AONB. It is approximately 10 miles from the centre of Hastings (pop: 90,254) and 6 miles from Battle (pop: 6171). The site provides a large area of ancient and secondary woodland, heathland and grassland with a long and fascinating history and a wealth of wildlife.

The site is well used by the public for informal recreation (WT access category A: more than 20 visitors per day using one entrance). The majority of visitors are local dog-walkers, some of whom are daily visitors. The site also attracts tourists, naturalists, rambles and those with an interest in local and landscape history. Visits can be less than an hour in length or up to half a day.

There are two car parks off the B2089 with a total capacity of 30+ cars. Both car parks have information boards with maps and posters and leaflet dispensers. From the eastern car park there is a waymarked history trail with an information board and on-line leaflet and factsheets. As well as the car park entrances there are 14 other access points along the B2089 and Goatham, Reservoir and Brede Lanes. All have squeeze gap entrances and small WT signs. In addition there are two access points on public footpaths from land to the south of the wood.

There are three public footpaths within the site. One runs from the old woodyard on the B2089, south to Hurst Lane. From near the southern end of its route through the wood another footpath heads east and then south-east alongside Powdermill Stream before leaving WT land and heading south-east, 100m or so from the reservoir edge. Another runs from the entrance next to the eastern car park, via Coneyburrow Wood to Reservoir Lane. There are no public bridleways on the site. Some of the permissive paths cross onto Southern Water's land along the northern shore of the reservoir. Only 3 of the main rides are surfaced for a short length and most routes can be very wet and muddy after rain, at any time of the year. There are some footbridges and steps within the site.

The Trust has run many events on the site since taking ownership in 2008. These have included half-day walks looking at wildlife and history, activities aimed at families and children, schools weeks and from 2011-2014 a community archaeology project (The Big Dig). The site has its own dedicated volunteer group who meet on the last Sunday of each month and also hosts regular volunteer work parties from TCV.

In the locality there are other woodlands open to the public including Guestling Wood (WT), Vinehall Forest and Beckley Woods (FC), Flatropers Wood (Sussex Wildlife Trust) and Fore Wood (RSPB). Other important wildlife sites nearby include Rye Harbour Nature Reserve (SxWT) and Hastings Country Park (Hastings BC).

Significance

The site provides extensive access to a wooded area of great variety and interest, both for wildlife and history. Other woods open to the public in the area are often owned by the Forestry Commission and managed for timber production rather than nature conservation and public access.

Although in a rural area there are over 180,000 people living within a 10 mile radius of the site. It is also in a popular tourist area with other natural attractions close by, such as Rye Harbour Nature Reserve, RSPB Dungeness and Hastings Country Park (Fairlight). The site has a great variety of habitats and historic features that can be used to engage the public, including children, in appreciating the landscape on a wider scale. The site is also very important to the local population in surrounding villages, some of who visit the site on a daily basis.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:-

- To maintain and extend the existing path network by regular cutting of vegetation and opening up routes not currently maintained.
- To improve drainage and surfacing at key point of the path network.
- To provide maps and other information to visitors via the internet to enable better use of the site and to improve visitor confidence in using the site.
- To continue to engage the public with appropriate events throughout the year and the opportunity to participate via the site-based volunteer group or external groups such as TCV and specialist volunteering such as monitoring grazing animals.
- To continue to offer a designated location for external Forest Schools.

Constraints:-

- Terrain and ground conditions will always be a limiting factor to access within the wood. Some improvements can be made but extensive surfacing works are not suitable for most of the site.
- The site is mainly visited by people with cars as it is not within walking distance of most local residents or close to good public transport links.
- In order to maintain the rural, unspoilt nature of the site it is not suitable for more extensive, permanent visitor facilities.

Factors Causing Change

Increases in visitor numbers due to better promotion (positive and negative effects).
Changes in various aspects of the site due to management and natural processes.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The site should be well used and much appreciated by both the local population and visitors from further afield. It should be known for its wildlife interest, varied landscape, history and habitats. The site will be accessible and safe but not over-managed ie without excessive infrastructure and signage.

There will be a range of resources available for the site to guide and inform all visitors from the very young to the very knowledgeable. The site will be a valuable educational resource to a wide range of children and adults. Opportunities for engagement through events and volunteering will continue as long as there is a need and funding.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Over the next 5 years we will improve and maintain the site for the visiting public and continue to offer opportunities for volunteering. A programme of replacing and upgrading entrance infrastructure and signage will be undertaken.

- Upgrade eastern car park including re-surfacing, replacing bollards and edging and updating signage and the information board. 2018.
- All minor entrances (14) to have new signage and infrastructure (fencing, gates, squeeze gaps etc) replaced as necessary. 2018
- Track improvements (drainage, grading etc) at 2 locations: Brede High Lane (near Horse Pond); 'Clay Path' (Cpt 5b). 2018.
- All rides and paths within the site (approx. 17km) will be maintained annually through an appropriate cutting regime. For the plan period two cuts, in June and September, are proposed with the September cut including ride verges.
- The two car parks will have a monthly maintenance programme in place for May-October which includes vegetation control and litter clearance. The need for any surfacing repairs will be assessed annually.
- All site infrastructure such as signs, footbridges, culverts and steps will be inspected annually and any remedial work undertaken in an appropriate timescale.
- A walk-over tree safety survey will be undertaken along maintained paths and rides every 2 years with any remedial work undertaken in the appropriate timescale.
- The site-based volunteer group will continue to undertake a monthly task-day as directed by the Site Manager. TCV will continue with 2 task-days per month, undertaking work identified by the Site Manager from the management plan.
- An annual programme of site events will be run, subject to funding (internal or external) and take-up by the public.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
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APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	9.33	Sweet chestnut	1900	Coppice	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, No/poor vehicular access within the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Greeneden Wood. Predominantly ASNW with mixed coppice and oak standards. There is a small stand of mature Scots pine in the northern section. The wood contains the upper reaches of the Powdermill Stream along its SW edge and other wetland habitats. Some SCH coppice cants were cut in 2004 and some oaks standards felled. The eastern section is more recent woodland (19th Century) and is predominantly sweet chestnut coppice.</p>							
1b	12.08	Sweet chestnut	1900	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, No/poor vehicular access to the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Thorp's Wood. ASNW. Mixed coppice (including sweet chestnut) with oak standards. A large part of the central section was coppiced in early/mid 2000's. The western end of the wood has an area of alder-dominated wet woodland and a small tributary of the Powdermill Stream. Ground flora includes extensive bluebells as well as early purple orchid, pignut and dog's mercury.</p>							
2a	9.81	Japanese larch	1989	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Some semi-mature beech from original planting (1930s). Windblown and cleared in 1987. Subsequently replanted with Japanese larch (P89) which has failed in the western half and been replaced with natural regeneration of birch. Planted/regenerated broadleaved fringe to E along surfaced forestry track. JL line thinned in 2011 and second-thinned 2015.							
2b	4.10	Beech	1950	High forest	Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly known as Beech Field. P50 beech, sycamore and sweet chestnut high forest. Thinned in c2002. Ground flora dominated by bramble and pendulous sedge.							
2c	0.94	Oak (pedunculate)	1989	High forest		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Secondary woodland of plantation origin. P89 oak. Established at 2250/ha in 1.2 shelters (now removed).							
2d	4.79	Japanese larch	1984	High forest	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Secondary woodland of plantation origin. P84 Japanese larch with mixed broadleaves. Line-thinned 2011. A large bank with double ditches crosses the subcpt NW/SE on the line of the parish boundary. Powdermill Stream forms SW boundary. Ditches form E and W boundaries. Part formerly known as Boggy Field.							
2e	5.61	Scots pine	1939	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. P39 Scots pine. Open-canopied stand with well-developed, heathy ground flora with some broadleaved and pine regen. Historically this area was woodland (1800 OS draft map) but was shown as open ground by 1880 OS First Edition and known as Birchwood Field. Bounded by banks and ditches to N, E, W and SW and Powdermill Stream to S. Crossed by NW/SE grassy ride.</p>							
2f	2.50	Sitka spruce	1989	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. P89 Sitka spruce. Line thinned in 2011 and second-thinned 2015. Powdermill stream to S in gill with broadleaved trees and AW ground flora. Site of Austford Farm cottages to E of subcpt (demolished c1930). Formerly known as River Field. Woodbank to N (boundary of Streetfield Wood).</p>							
2g	2.16	Scots pine	1949	High forest	Archaeological features	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. P49 Scots pine with small area of poorly-stocked P89 oak in NW corner and occasional mature Sitka spruce. Open-canopied stand with broadleaved scrub/regen and bramble dominated ground flora. Formerly known as Precious Field. N section was part of the grounds of Austford (demolished c1930). Bounded to W and N by woodbank and ditch (boundary of Streetfield Wood) and to the E by forest track.</p>							
3a	17.31	Corsican pine	1981	PAWS restoration	Archaeological features, Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, No/poor vehicular access within the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

Streetfield Wood. PAWS. Condition: threatened. P81 Corsican pine, heavily thinned C 2002/3 and selectively thinned 2012. Broadleaved remnants include rare oak standards and occasional chestnut coppice stools as well as other broadleaves including birch, alder and goat willow. Ground flora includes patches of bluebells. 3 minor streams converge and flow south across the eastern part of the subcpt. Some parts of the streams flow through gills and through marshy areas with alder coppice and sphagnum beds. There is a strip of coppice along the western edge. Heavy rhododendron infestation along the eastern edge, was removed in 2008. The subcpt is largely bounded by woodbanks with coppiced oak, hazel and holly. Other archaeological features include drainage ditches and an old trackway. In the SE corner of the subcpt is the site of Austford House where the remains of an outbuilding still survive.

3b	5.31	Sweet chestnut	1990	Coppice	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
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Streetfield Wood. ASNW. Predominantly sweet chestnut coppice with oak standards. Other tree species include hornbeam, ash, hazel and birch. Ground flora includes carpets of bluebells with various ferns and mosses. The subcpt contains the upper sections of 2 of the streams within the wood including important gill habitats. The subcpt includes a strip of woodland between Austford Drive and the public footpath. This is predominantly sweet chestnut coppice with birch and holly. The heavy rhododendron infestation was removed in 2008-9. A public footpath runs along a significant hollow-way along the E boundary of the subcpt. Adjoining oppice cants were cut in 2013 and 2016/17. The chestnut is badly affected by ink disease with many dead, dying and windblown stools.

3c	0.41	Open ground		Min-intervention	Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
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Former woodyard. Includes 1 remaining derelict wooden buildings, surfaced track and turning area.

4a	2.61	Open ground		Wood pasture	Archaeological features, Management factors (eg grazing etc), Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
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Open heath/grassland habitat. Historically known as Hoathes and was rough grazing land. Previously secondary plantation woodland with P89 Japanese larch which was clear-felled and the stumps removed in 2009. The area was fenced in 2011 as part of a larger grazing block and has had intermittent cattle and pony grazing since then. W edge is open-canopied P49 Scots pine (continuation of Subcpt 2g). Since clearance the area has quickly developed a complete ground flora/shrub layer which includes many heathland plants such as common and bell heather, gorse, broom, heath bedstraw, dwarf gorse (*Ulex minor*) and dodder. Along the southern edge of the subcpt is a very significant bank with hornbeam and oak. There is a hollow-way through the pine to the W, parallel to the public footpath. In the SW corner there are other earthworks from an historic trackway and activities associated with the nearby site of Austford Farm (demolished in c1930).

4b	4.30	Birch (downy/silver)	1981	Wood pasture	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
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Mixed heath/grassland habitat with groves of semi-mature and scrub birch and willow and occasional oak and Scots pine. Previously secondary plantation woodland with P81 Japanese larch and P89 oak which was clear-felled and the stumps removed in 2009. The area was fenced in 2011 as part of a larger grazing block and has had intermittent pony and cattle grazing since then. This subcpt contains the area identified by Roper (2002) as Sedlescombe Heath. In addition to the species listed for subcpt 4a this area also has rare species such as heath dog violet (*Viola canina*), common dodder (*Cuscuta europaea*) and greater broomrape (*Orobancha rapum-genistae*), a species of conservation concern, listed as 'nationally scarce'. The boundary bank/trackway noted in subcpt 4a continues along the S boundary of this subcpt. The E boundary is a gully with a temporary stream.

4c	0.76	Open ground		Wood pasture	Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
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Open heath/grassland habitat. Previously secondary plantation woodland with P92 Norway spruce which was clear-felled and the stumps removed in 2009. The area was fenced in 2011 as part of a larger grazing block and has had intermittent pony and cattle grazing since then. Prior to afforestation it was part of an orchard. The N boundary with an existing orchard is a ditch and high bank. To the E and W are ditches.

4d	1.37	Open ground	1992	Wood pasture	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Open ground with P92 oak and naturally regenerated broadleaves to the E. The open area was previously P49 Norway spruce which was clear-felled in late 2006. Prior to afforestation it was part of an orchard. There is a lynchet/bank forming the S boundary.							
4e	2.94	Sitka spruce	1989	High forest	No/poor vehicular access to the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly the site of Austford Farm and adjoin House Field. P89 Sitka spruce thinned in 2011 and 2015. Broadleaved fringes along streams to the N/NE and SE boundaries and woodbank along SW boundary. NW boundary has remnant of previous timber crop, P49 (?) Sitka spruce. The fringes of the subcpt have much ancient woodland ground flora and shrub species.							
4f	8.97	Scots pine	1949	Wood pasture	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly rough pasture and arable known as White House Field, Great Brook Wood and Brook Hop Garden. Predominantly P49 Scots pine with some Sitka spruce. Thinned 2001/02, 2010 and 2016. Open canopy with broadleaved scrub and regen. In the SE corner there is an area of seasonally flooded wet woodland with alder and various willow spp adjoining the Powdermill Stream which forms the southern boundary. The subcpt is divided by a small stream flowing S in a gully into the Powdermill Stream. The field layer contains much bramble but also relict acid grassland/heathland flora. The subcpt is now part of the larger grazing block along with Subcpts 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 5a.							
4g	1.04	Open ground		Wood pasture	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

Open ground now known as Holman Wood Field. Formerly an arable field known as Little Brook Wood. Birch scrub around margins was cleared 2008-10, revealing significant hollow-way to N and E. This is a continuation of the trackway across Subcpts 4a and 4b and is also the parish boundary between Sedlescombe and Ewhurst. The subcpt is an important area of wet and dry acid grassland with heather and dwarf gorse. Planted ash and naturally regenerated birch were cleared in 2001. The field is extremely rich in wildlife, particularly invertebrates (see Roper, 2002). It is the only known UK location for the flea beetle *Longitarsus longisetata* (listed as extinct in the Red data Book). Other important species include heath dog violet and lousewort.

5a	3.61	Open ground		Wood pasture	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
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Open heath habitat with wet birch/*Molinia* woodland to NE. Formerly known as Toll Heath Field. Previously conifer plantation with Scots pine and Douglas fir which was clear-felled and stumps removed in 2009. Ground conditions very wet with flushes etc. Ground flora includes common and bell heather, cross-leaved heath and dodder as well as some bluebells to NW. Mapped as PAWS on the Provisional Ancient Woodland Survey but map and survey evidence suggest the area was wooded from late 19th century. Boundary to S is continuation of bank and trackway that borders Subcpts 4a and 4b. E section of bank is parish boundary (Sedlescombe/Ewhurst). Stream/gully to W with broadleaved trees. Grazed since 2011 with ponies and cattle.

5b	23.39	Hornbeam	1900	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky ground, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
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Brede High Wood/Holman Wood/Dallox Shaw. ASNW. NW section is mixed coppice (sweet chestnut, birch, hazel, hornbeam, alder) with oak standards. Occasional yew. 3 streams running SE and S towards reservoir, originating from springs and wet flushes. Stream on E edge of subcpt has extensive sphagnum beds with alder, willow, star sedge and marsh bedstraw. SE section is predominantly hornbeam coppice with oak standards. A wide swathe was coppiced in 2002 from E of subcpt 4g, running to the SE end of the subcpt. This has re-grown successfully with much regeneration of hornbeam, birch and aspen. Ground flora in this subcpt includes extensive carpets of bluebells in uncoppiced area and a much more mixed flora with grasses in open areas. There are woodbanks around parts of the subcpt in the SE area and to the N. To the S where the subcpt adjoins Southern Water's land, there are extensive pits from historic iron ore extraction. The SE end (Dallox Shaw) is bounded by an historic hollow way and an earthen cliff from clay extraction from the reservoir construction.

5c	1.92	Oak (pedunculate)	1949	High forest		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly known as Hollywood Field. P49 mixed broadleaves (oak, ash, hornbeam), heavily thinned. Ground flora dominated by brambles. Extensive broadleaved regen, particularly hornbeam. To the S and E is a woodbank and ditch marking the edge of Brede High Wood. New car park constructed 2011. Ash dieback present.							
5d	1.60	Scots pine	1959	PAWS restoration		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Previously listed as PAWS but now known to be long established secondary woodland. Formerly part of Hollywood. P59 Scots pine. Partly thinned 2012. Understorey of sweet chestnut coppice. Ground flora includes heather and wood sage. E end was clear-felled in 2006 and partly re-stocked with oak in 2009. Area of naturally regenerated pine and birch with much heather between mature pine and clear-fell.							
5e	0.99	Sweet chestnut	2005	Coppice	Archaeological features	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
Long established secondary woodland. Formerly part of Broomy Field (shown as woodland on the c1840 tithe map). Sweet chestnut coppice last cut in c2004. Occasional oak standards. Ground flora includes heather, wood sage and bracken. To the E and W are prominent banks.							
5f	21.24	Corsican pine	1979	PAWS restoration	Archaeological features, Mostly wet ground/exposed site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

<p>Brede High Wood. Southern section is PAWS. Northern section is long established secondary woodland. P79 Japanese larch, Scots and Corsican pine. Heavily thinned c2002 with subsequent windblow. W section thinned in 2012, E section is 2013. Broadleaved remnants include sweet chestnut and hornbeam coppice and oak standards. Previous rhododendron infestation in the NW section of the subcpt cleared 2008. The N section under JL and SP has little woodland flora and few broadleaves (no oak). Ground flora includes heather, wood sage, grasses and rushes with occasional clumps of bluebells. There is a gill with broadleaves and sphagnum beds in the SW section. The E section (CP) has extensive AW remnants along the stream which flows from a spring-fed pool and also along the woodbank to the E. Along the wide ride running SW/NE there is extensive heather and dwarf gorse.</p>							
5g	3.06	Open ground		Non-wood habitat		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Predominantly open ground now known as Brede High Heath. Formerly part of a field known as Thirteen Acres. Previously secondary woodland with P89 (?) Scots pine and naturally regenerated birch. Clearfelled and stumps ground in 2009 leaving birch dominated fringe along the N boundary and occasional clumps. Ground flora includes heather, bracken and bramble. Map evidence suggests this subcpt has had a intermittent history of woodland. Historic trackway to E.</p>							
5h	2.71	Open ground		Non-wood habitat		Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Predominantly open ground now known as Brede High Heath. Formerly part of a field known as Thirteen Acres. Cleared of conifer crop in c2002. Subsequent growth of extensive heather with broom, gorse and birch/oak scrub. History as per subcpt 5g.</p>							
5i	6.16	Sweet chestnut	1990	Coppice	Archaeological features	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

<p>Predominantly sweet chestnut coppice last cut in c1990. Like Subcpts 5g and 5h this area appears to have had an intermittent history as woodland but seems to have been wooded continuously since the late 19th century. Part shown as pasture called Barn Field and woodland known as Seven Acres on tithe map c1840. Some areas, particularly to the S have some AW ground flora such as bluebells. Other areas are dominated by hard fern. The S boundary is a significant bank with coppiced hornbeam, oak and holly. There is a smaller bank along the W boundary with similar tree species. A track running N-S across the middle of the subcpt has holly along some of its length. In the SW corner is the former site of Keeper's Cottage, demolished in c1930. The site is now covered with trees including privet from the former garden.</p>							
5j	0.85	Sweet chestnut	1900	High forest	Archaeological features, People issues (+tve & -tve), Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Long established secondary woodland. As Subcpt 5i, formerly part of area known as Seven Acres but shown as woodland on tithe map c1840. Chestnut coppice approx 20 years old and oak standards. Includes small surfaced car park created in c2002 and upgraded in 2008. Ground flora includes bluebell, wood anemone, wood sorrel, primrose and bramble. The bank to the S is a continuation of that in Subcpt 5i. To the E is the old sunken trackway to the site of Brede High farm and beyond. The powerlines form the boundary to the W.</p>							
6a	2.18	Scots pine	1979	PAWS restoration	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. P79 Corsican and Scots pine, last thinned in 2013. Crop trees and previous management are the same as for Subcpt 5f but this area is former pasture known as Foxglove Field. Includes naturally regenerated broadleaves including willow, birch, ash, alder etc. Ground flora includes rushes and grasses. Bounded to the SE by the head of a small stream and to the W and N by banks and ditches. The area to the N has been cleared of conifers to create a wide ride.</p>							
6b	2.73	Beech	1950	High forest	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly arable field known as Sawpit Field. Mixed broadleaves/mixed conifer of various ages. S part is predominantly P50 beech in rows with some Japanese larch from previous nurse crop. N section of subcpt is largely open ground to the S of the historic bank and trackway that runs E-W, with remnants of P60 Scots pine and Sitka spruce . Crossed by high-voltage powerlines with 10m wayleave cut regularly. E/SE boundary is historic trackway to Brede High Farm with banks up 1.5m high.</p>							
6c	11.44	Beech	1960	High forest	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly arable fields know as Sheeplands, Sheep Pound Field, Minepit Field and Pear Tree Field. P60 mixed broadleaves, heavily thinned. Species include beech, sycamore, oak, ash and sweet chestnut. Understorey forming from coppice regrowth of felled tree stumps and natural regen of sycamore and ash. Ground flora dominated by bramble with pendulous sedge and some dogs mercury. The subcpt is crossed by a 10m wide ride from E to W. This is heavily rutted and prone to waterlogging. S boundary is the woodbank around Coneyburrow Wood. W boundary is historic trackway. Ash badly affected by dieback.</p>							
6d	5.28	Japanese larch	1989	High forest	Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly known as Hooe Field, part of Brede High Farm. Originally planted with beech in the 1950s, with a few trees surviving. Subsequently planted with mainly Japanese larch in 1989 following windblow in 1987. Small area of P89 Sitka spruce in NW. JL still dominates the N half of the subcpt with birch and mixed broadleaves to S. JL thinned in 2011. Small pond and site of farm cottages in N. NW boundary is small stream. SW boundary is historic trackway from Brede High Farm to Brede Furnace. This edge of the Subcpt is a largely open strip up to 10m wide.</p>							
6e	2.48	Sycamore	1950	High forest	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Site of Brede High Farm prior to 1930 (partly excavated in 2012). Also Moat and Stack Platt Fields. P50 beech, sycamore Scots pine and larch to SW with P89 JL in SE corner. Approx P89 MB to N of subcpt, mostly from natural regen. Historic trackways to west and south. Woodbank and hedge-bank to east. E section crossed by high voltage power lines with open ground, wetland and scrub underneath.</p>							
6f	1.72	Douglas fir	1989	High forest	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formally part of Hay Stack Field. Mixed broadleaves of various ages to W. P89 Douglas fir to E, partly thinned in 2011. Old trackways border the north with hedge/woodbanks to south and east. High voltage powerlines and wetland to E.</p>							
6g	7.28	Sweet chestnut	1975	Coppice	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Predominantly secondary woodland. Formerly part of Brede High Farm including Six Acres, Hay Stack, Way and Broomy Fields. Now coppiced sweet chestnut and sycamore to the N. Planted ash etc to the S. Largely neglected with extensive windblow in plantation area. Small area of ancient woodland (Brick Kiln Shaw) with small ponds/pits in S. Extensive bluebells in northern part of the subcpt. Historic trackway (Brede High Lane) to W. Pond on W edge.</p>							
6h	1.54	Western hemlock	1975	High forest	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formally part of Way Field. Predominantly P74 western hemlock (thinned 2013) with some open bracken glades and occasional broadleaves. Historic trackway to the west becomes a significant deep hollow-way along this section with coppiced broadleaves along its edge. To E and S is a steep bank.</p>							

7a	24.22	Sweet chestnut	1900	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Coneyburrow Wood and Twist Wood/Field. ASNW. Predominantly coppice with oak standards. Main coppice species are sweet chestnut, hornbeam, alder and ash. Extensive areas of chestnut were coppiced 2002-2005. The wood is crossed by 3 streams with gills along some of their lengths. There is also an area of wet alder woodland around the central stream and spring. The W edge of the wood is crossed by the powerlines with a 15m wide swathe of scrub/open ground. This includes an area of coppice alder carr. There are ancient woodland plants throughout including rare species such as green hellebore. The area contains many woodbanks, trackways, sawpits, charcoal hearths and other archaeological features. The public footpath crosses the eastern stream on a pond bay/causeway. Area below Subcpt 7b is a former field (Twist Field?) now reverted to secondary mixed broadleaved woodland with birch, willow and ash.</p>							
7b	3.03	Beech	1960	High forest	Archaeological features	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly known as Hilly Field (medieval assart) planted with mixed broadleaves in 1960/61. Species include beech, ash, oak and sycamore. Heavily thinned. It is mostly surrounded by a bank and ditch with coppiced broadleaves and ancient woodland plants. It is crossed by a wide ride from NW-SE. It is a continuation of the plantation in Subcpts 6c and a small part of 7a. Ash badly affected by dieback.</p>							
7c	1.54	Japanese larch	1979	PAWS restoration	Archaeological features, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Twist Wood. PAWS. Well-thinned P79 Japanese larch with frequent oak standards and other coppiced broadleaves. Ground flora dominated by brambles but with ancient woodland flora present. The eastern boundary is Goatham Lane where there is a bank on or parallel to the lane with coppice mixed broadleaves and a rich woodland flora. Western boundary is an historic trackway.</p>							

7d	3.02	Mixed conifers	1989	High forest	Archaeological features, Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/mine shafts/sink holes etc	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly a field (part of Loanhams/Meadowlands Farm). Originally planted with mixed conifers (SP, SS and DF) in c1950 with some remaining in the centre of the subcpt. Subsequently appears to have been windblown or harvested and restocked with Douglas fir and Japanese larch in 1989. DF thinned in 2011. Mostly surrounded by a woodbank with coppiced mixed broadleaves and holly which forms historic edge of Coneyburrow Wood. NW boundary is top edge of gill (Subcpt 7a).</p>							
8a	2.71	Sitka spruce	1951	High forest	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Predominantly P51 Sitka spruce with extensive windblow in places. Planted over historic field boundaries (part of Loanhams Farm) which can still be identified in some places. Contains some mixed broadleaves. Ground flora poor. Boundary to NW is with Southern Water's land and is not delineated on the ground. The northern boundary is the woodbank delineating the edge of Coneyburrow Wood. The subcpt is divided in 2 by the powerlines. Thinned and edges of wayleave felled in 2010.</p>							
8b	3.87	Mixed broadleaves	1970	High forest	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly fields with hedges and shaws (part of Loanhams Farm). Mixed broadleaved and conifer plantations of various ages. Species include semi-mature oak, beech and ash, young planted and regenerated oak, ash, birch etc, young Corsican pine. Shaws contain some ancient woodland flora. There is a large pit that contains water seasonally. The powerlines form the boundary to the east. To the SW is the Southern Water owned part of Pond Wood (asnw).</p>							

8c	4.20	Birch (downy/silver)	1989	Coppice	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly fields with hedges and a shaw on banks (part of Loanhams Farm). Mostly cleared following 1987 storm and restocked with Corsican pine in 1989. This has largely failed and been replaced with naturally regenerated broadleaves, predominantly birch. Approx 1 ha birch coppiced in 2015. Ground flora is largely limited to mosses and ferns. The powerlines run along the western boundary. Goatham Lane is to the east. A forestry road forms the southern boundary.</p>							
8d	1.78	Corsican pine	1989	High forest	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly part of Loanhams Farm. Predominantly P89 Corsican pine with naturally regenerated broadleaves, thinned in 2011. Small area of mature CP (c1950s) in NE of subcpt, thinned in 2010. To the S is Pond Wood (ASNW). To the E are the powerlines. The N boundary is an old hedge-bank.</p>							
8e	1.52	Oak (pedunculate)	1954	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Predominantly semi-mature mixed broadleaves including oak and ash. Formerly part of 2 fields adjacent to 'Meadowland' (also Subcpt 8f). Old field boundaries are present in the form of banks and relic hazel hedges. Ground flora includes some ancient woodland species such as early purple orchid. The Subcpt contains ditches/stream flowing towards the reservoir. The S boundary is with Reservoir Lane. To the W is Pond Wood (ASNW). To the E are the powerlines.</p>							

8f	1.71	Sycamore	1989	High forest	Archaeological features, Services & wayleaves	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly the site of 'Meadowland' which was demolished in 1930. Planted with Corsican pine in 1989 but now predominantly naturally-regenerated broadleaves such as sycamore, ash, birch and willow. A pond remains on the site of the property. Ground flora is varied and includes both ancient woodland and open ground species. To the north is a forestry track. To the east is Goatham Lane. To the west are the EHV powerlines.</p>							
9a	4.32	Sweet chestnut	1900	Coppice	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Pond Wood. ASNW. Mixed coppice (hornbeam, sweet chestnut, ash) with oak standards. Wild service and crab apple on woodbank to north-east. AW ground flora including wood anemone and bluebell. To the west is a continuation of Pond Wood owned by Southern Water on the edge of the reservoir. To the south is Reservoir Lane with a species-rich bank below the wood. There are various small pits within the subcpt which would appear to have been for iron-ore extraction.</p>							
9b	1.27	Corsican pine	1989	PAWS restoration	Archaeological features, No/poor vehicular access to the site, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Pond Wood. PAWS. Remnants of P89 Corsican pine, thinned to waste in 2011. Broadleaves include birch, willow, hornbeam, ash, oak, hazel and field maple and some old dead coppice stools. There is a woodbank to E. The N section contains a stream that flows NW towards the reservoir with wet unstable valley sides with alder, aspen and ash. There are 'bell-pits' within the Subcpt to S and W. Ground flora includes bluebell, wood anemone and dogs mercury.</p>							

10a	9.47	Sweet chestnut	1900	Coppice	Archaeological features, Sensitive habitats/species on or adjacent to site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance
<p>Rafters Wood. ASNW. Mixed coppice with oak standards. The coppice to the north is predominantly sweet chestnut with an area to the NE coppiced c2005 and an adjacent cant coppiced in 2014. Coppice species to the south include hornbeam and ash. Ground flora includes AW species such as bluebell and wood anemone. The wood contains various archaeological features including a trackway running from north to south with evidence of surfacing with blast furnace slag. There are also sawpits and charcoal heaths situated along the track. Rideside coppicing was undertaken along the trackway in 2011. To W is the stream from the reservoir with pasture/arable beyond. To NE is Plains Wood (ASNW). To E is arable farmland. To the SE is Horns Wood which is under private ownership.</p>							
11a	2.71	Ash	1960	Min-intervention	Archaeological features, No/poor vehicular access to the site	Connecting People with woods & trees	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
<p>Secondary woodland of plantation origin. Formerly Tithe Field. Thinned mixed broadleaved/conifer plantation planted in c1960. Ash is the main broadleaved species with occasional sweet chestnut. There is a developing coppice understorey from stumps of felled trees. Conifers include Japanese larch, Sitka spruce and Scots pine (rare). Ground flora includes ruderal species such as bramble and stinging nettle. The subcpt is surrounded on 3 sides by a steep bank with AW flora and hazel coppice, beyond which is farmland. To the SW is a significant historic trackway, partly sunken. Beyond the track is a continuation of the plantation under private ownership. To W is a steep bank leading down to the B2244 Hawkhurst Road.</p>							

Appendix 2: Harvesting operations (20 years)

Forecast Year	Cpt	Operation Type	Work Area (ha)	Estimated vol/ha	Estimated total vol.
2018	2a	Coppice	2.00	100	200
2018	2f	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	180	18
2018	5b	Ride edge Coppice	0.10	180	18
2018	6c	Thin	9.00	44	400
2018	7a	Thin	0.50	40	20
2018	7b	Thin	2.50	32	80
2019	1a	Selective Fell	1.00	30	30
2019	7c	Selective Fell	1.25	80	100
2019	7d	Thin	1.50	40	60
2019	8f	Coppice	0.10	100	10
2019	9a	Coppice	0.60	133	80
2020	2a	Thin	3.00	40	120
2020	2d	Thin	2.00	40	80
2020	2d	Selective Fell	2.00	100	200
2020	2f	Thin	1.00	40	40
2020	3a	Thin	14.00	43	600
2020	4b	Coppice	1.00	40	40
2020	4d	Thin	0.50	40	20
2020	4e	Thin	1.50	40	60
2020	5g	Coppice	0.50	40	20
2020	5h	Coppice	0.50	40	20
2020	6d	Coppice	2.00	100	200
2021	5d	Thin	0.75	40	30
2021	5f	Thin	18.00	40	720
2021	6a	Thin	2.00	40	80
2021	6d	Thin	0.50	30	15
2021	6e	Thin	0.25	40	10
2021	6f	Thin	0.25	40	10
2021	6h	Thin	0.50	30	15
2021	10a	Coppice	1.00	150	150
2022	8c	Coppice	1.00	150	150

2023	1a	Coppice	1.00	100	100
2023	2b	Thin	3.70	54	200
2023	2c	Thin	0.80	63	50
2023	5c	Thin	1.50	47	70
2023	6b	Thin	2.00	25	50
2023	6c	Thin	9.00	44	400
2023	7a	Thin	1.00	50	50
2023	7b	Thin	2.50	40	100
2024	2a	Coppice	2.00	75	150
2024	5i	Coppice	2.00	100	200
2024	8a	Thin	1.00	40	40
2024	8d	Thin	0.75	33	25
2024	9b	Thin	1.00	0	0
2025	2a	Thin	3.00	40	120
2025	2d	Thin	1.00	40	40
2025	2e	Thin	4.50	44	200
2025	2f	Thin	1.00	30	30
2025	2g	Thin	2.00	50	100
2025	4e	Thin	1.50	40	60
2025	4f	Thin	7.00	50	350
2025	6g	Coppice	1.50	100	150
2025	8b	Thin	2.00	50	100
2025	8e	Thin	1.00	50	50
2026	3b	Coppice	1.00	150	150
2026	10a	Coppice	1.00	150	150
2026	11a	Thin	2.00	50	100
2027	5e	Coppice	0.80	150	120
2027	5g	Coppice	0.50	150	75
2027	6d	Thin	1.00	30	30
2027	6e	Thin	0.50	30	15
2027	6f	Thin	0.25	40	10
2027	6h	Thin	1.00	40	40
2027	7d	Thin	1.50	40	60
2027	8a	Thin	1.00	40	40
2027	9b	Thin	1.00	0	0
2028	3a	Thin	14.00	40	560

2028	7a	Coppice	2.00	150	300
2029	5d	Thin	0.75	40	30
2029	5f	Thin	18.00	40	720
2029	6a	Thin	2.00	40	80

GLOSSARY

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established. Either by hand cutting or with carefully selected weed killers such as glyphosate.

Windblow/Windthrow

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.