

Appendix 4: Concerns about woodland loss identified during the FDP forum consultation 2010

These points have been considered by the applicant in developing the proposals considered under the EIA process. However, they have been considered by Forest Services in relation to the Open Habitats Policy. They are also relevant to the EIA process and its assessment of impacts on socio-economic factors. These responses should also be considered in the context of the 12 other consultation responses.

Stakeholder	Concern	FS notes in relation to the OHP and EIA
Kingston Maudward College	Given the value of trees in the local environment and nationally and in light of existing synergies between forest and heathland the management strategies should be altered rather than undertaking wholesale reversion to heathland at Rempstone.	<p>The EIA process has considered the ecological benefits the proposals would result in and indicated the positive outcomes for nature conservation outweigh the dis-benefits. FS agree with this conclusion. The proposals considered would still retain 42% of conifer woodland at Rempstone in 20 years time.</p> <p>However, in making the determination FS note the concern at the loss of woodland that, as the proportion of forest declines, in the forest blocks so its value across a whole range of environmental factors may increase. This will need to be considered should proposals for further deforestation be considered for consent.</p>
Environment Agency	Seeking retention of some scrub, heath and broadleaved woodland as compensatory habitat for that lost to sea defences around Poole harbour.	The FDP accounts for this requirement within Purbeck Forest and Affpuddle Forest blocks (see section 3.13 of the FDP).
Wessex Orienteering Club (also represent wider orienteering groups across the south and west).	<p>Strongly favour retaining as much of the existing forested areas as possible because:</p> <p>1) Heathland results in corridors which restrict the potential for orienteering.</p>	1) The balance of FDP consultation and EIA responses, as well as the EIA itself indicates there are substantial nature conservation benefits would be delivered by the work and, in the context that areas of woodland will remain in the forest blocks, FS consider the proposals should be given consent under the EIA proposals.

Stakeholder	Concern	FS notes in relation to the OHP and EIA
	<p>2) Efforts to replace trees with heath in Dorset have resulted in gorse wilderness which is of no benefit to anyone.</p>	<p>Again, in making the determination to grant consent FS note there is concern about the loss of woodland and that, as the proportion of forest in the forest blocks declines so its value may increase. This will need to be considered should proposals for further deforestation be considered for consent.</p> <p>2) A condition of the EIA consent will be that principles and management practices for the heathland are formalised and that these principles are adhered to ensure the positive benefits anticipated are delivered.</p>
Studland Parish Council	<p>1) There is a deer problem in Purbeck and any proposals will displace deer into areas where they are a nuisance.</p> <p>2) Visual impact of the cleared areas and any shelter from storms and wind that the existing trees provide should be considered.</p> <p>3) When trees are cleared it is essential the right type of heath is created and managed.</p> <p>4) The impact of altering the proportion of forestation on the nature and wildlife reserve which are an important part of the area need to be carefully considered.</p>	<p>1) FE have a deer management plan and work with neighbouring land owners to manage deer. This will not change because of the proposals.</p> <p>2) The proposal's visual impact has been considered using a standard methodology to assess visual impacts. This considered that the long-term impact would be positive.</p> <p>3) A condition of EIA consent will be that principles and management practices for the heathland are formalised and that these principles are adhered to ensure the positive benefits anticipated are delivered.</p> <p>4) This has been considered as part of the EIA process and in making the determination to grant consent FS note there is concern about the loss of woodland and that, as the proportion of forest in the forest blocks declines so its value may increase. This will need to be considered should proposals for further deforestation be considered for consent.</p>