

Plan Name: **West Moors**

FE Plan Reference Number: **NEW 203**

Date of Commencement of Plan: **1st September, 2009**

Approval Period: **1September 2009 to 31 August 2019**

Summary of Activity within Approval Period (Felling Coupes):

All areas in hectares

Activity	Conifers	Broadleaves	Mixed	Heathland or Mire	Total Area
Felling	3.0				3.0
Restocking	2.4				2.4
Other Habitat Restoration				0.6	0.6

Total Plan Area: 144 Ha

FOREST ENTERPRISE Application for Forest Design Plan Approvals

Forest District: **New Forest District**

Woodland / Property Name: **West Moors Plantation / Three Legged Cross Nursery**

FE Reference Number: **NEW 203**

Nearest town or village: **West Moors / Three Legged Cross**

OS Grid Reference: **West Moors SU 094 031 (Centre of Site)**
Three Legged Cross Nursery SU 082 049 (Centre of Site)

Local Authority: **East Dorset District Council**

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

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

Signed:

Michael Seddon, Deputy Surveyor, New Forest

Date: 12 June, 2009

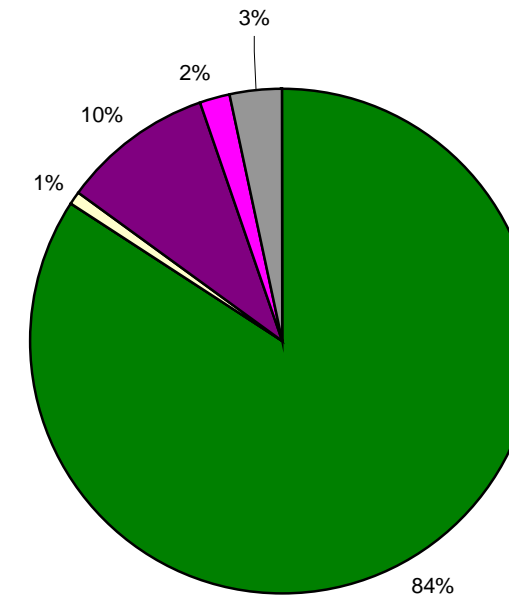
Approved: Conservator

Conservancy:

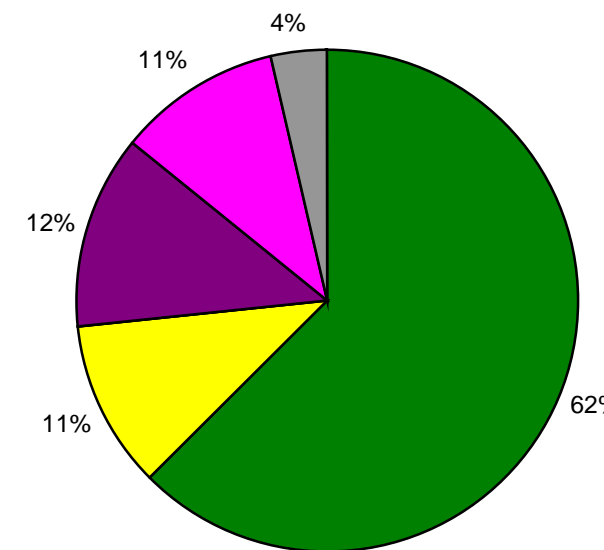
Date:

SUMMARY STATISTICS OF HABITAT TYPES
West Moors New 203

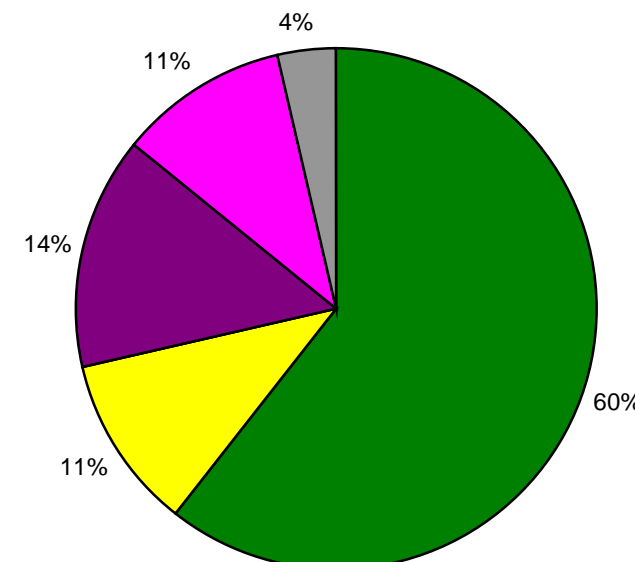
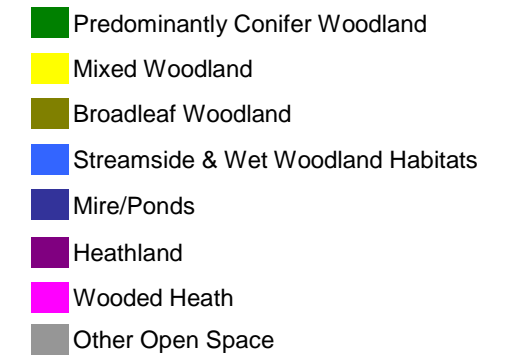
Habitat Type	Area (Hectares)				
	Present Time (2009)	In 10 years time	Change from present	In 20 years time	Change from present
Predominantly Conifer Woodland	121.7	90.3	-31.4	87.5	-34.2
Mixed Woodland	0.2	15.6	15.4	15.6	15.4
Broadleaf Woodland	1.1	0.0	-1.1	0.0	-1.1
Heathland	14.0	17.8	3.8	20.6	6.6
Wooded Heath	3.0	15.5	12.5	15.5	12.5
Other Open Space	4.7	5.1	0.4	5.1	0.4
Total Land Area	144.6	144.3		144.3	



Current Position (2009)



10 Years Time



20 Years Time

Notes:

Predominantly Conifer Woodland – conifer species occupy at least 70-80% of the canopy.
Mixed Woodland – neither broadleaved or conifer species occupy more than 70-80% of the canopy.
Streamside Habitats/Wet Woodland – Mixture of open habitats and broadleaved woodland along watercourses or areas of wet/bog woodland.
Heathland – Open heathland habitat with less than 5% tree cover
Wooded Heath – Heathland with up to 30% tree cover comprising scattered groups and individual trees
Mire – Open habitat comprising wet mire communities possibly interspersed with niches of wet and dry heath.
Other Open Space – areas of permanent open space including agricultural land, wayleaves, car parks etc.

Woodland Age Structure



7. West Moors NEW203

7.1 Location *(See Location Map)*

The forest covers a total area of 145 hectares and lies immediately to the north east of West Moors Village. The entire western boundary of the woodland lies adjacent to residential development and the Castleman Trailway runs along the northern boundary separating West Moors Plantation from Gundry's Inclosure which lies to the north of the trailway. A discrete block of woodland known as Three Legged Cross Nursery lies further to the north close to Three legged Cross village and adjacent to the B3072 and the Ministry of Defence petroleum depot.

7.2 Landscape Context

The woodland is entirely flat and views are limited to the western edge where the woodland margins can be seen from the residential area. The western edge of Three Legged Cross Nursery is visible from the B3072.

7.3 Current Woodland Structure *(See Habitat Structure and Age Structure Charts)*

The woodlands lie on predominantly pozolic soils and are therefore dominated by Corsican and Scots Pine. A limited number of broadleaves are present, mainly occurring as pockets of birch which have naturally regenerated amongst the pine. The woodland was established from the early 1940s through to the early 1960s and some restructuring has taken place over the last decade, both as a consequence of some felling and replanting as well as small scale forest fires which tend to be a common occurrence in this woodland.

Open space exists throughout the plantation both as a result of ride widening which has been carried out over the past decade and through the provision of open glades which have been maintained close to the residential area. Gundry's Plantation contains part of Holt and West Moors Heaths SSSI and a programme of heathland restoration is progressing as part of the SSSI plan.

Three Legged Cross Nursery contains an active Scots Pine seed orchard and a former Norway Spruce Christmas tree plantation which is gradually reverting to high forest.

7.4 Conservation *(See Site Designation Map)*

Gundry's Inclosure contains part of Holt and West Moors Heaths SSSI which has been designated for its heathland plant communities and the rare species associated with these habitats. The plan depicts a gradual removal of conifers adjacent to the SSSI to extend and consolidate the heathland habitat.

There are a number of more localised site of nature conservation interest associated with the predominantly heathland habitat which have been noted by the Dorset Wildlife Trust. These are shown on the design concept map together with rides that will be managed to create heathland links between the sites.

7.5 Recreation

West Moors Plantation lies adjacent to residential areas of West Moors Village and the forest is used heavily by the public for informal recreation. The Castleman Trailway runs along the northern boundary and many people access the Trailway from West Moors Plantation or divert through the forest from the Trailway. Opportunities exist to further develop this woodland as a community resource and the Forest Design Plan aims to develop this potential.

7.6 Archaeology *(See Site Designation Map)*

There are no known archaeological sites in West Moors or Gundry's Inclosure. There is one unscheduled archaeological site, a Bronze Age Barrow (funerary monument) in Three Legged Cross Nursery which is located on the western boundary within the seed orchard. The site will be protected during any operations associated with seed collection or maintenance of the seed orchard.