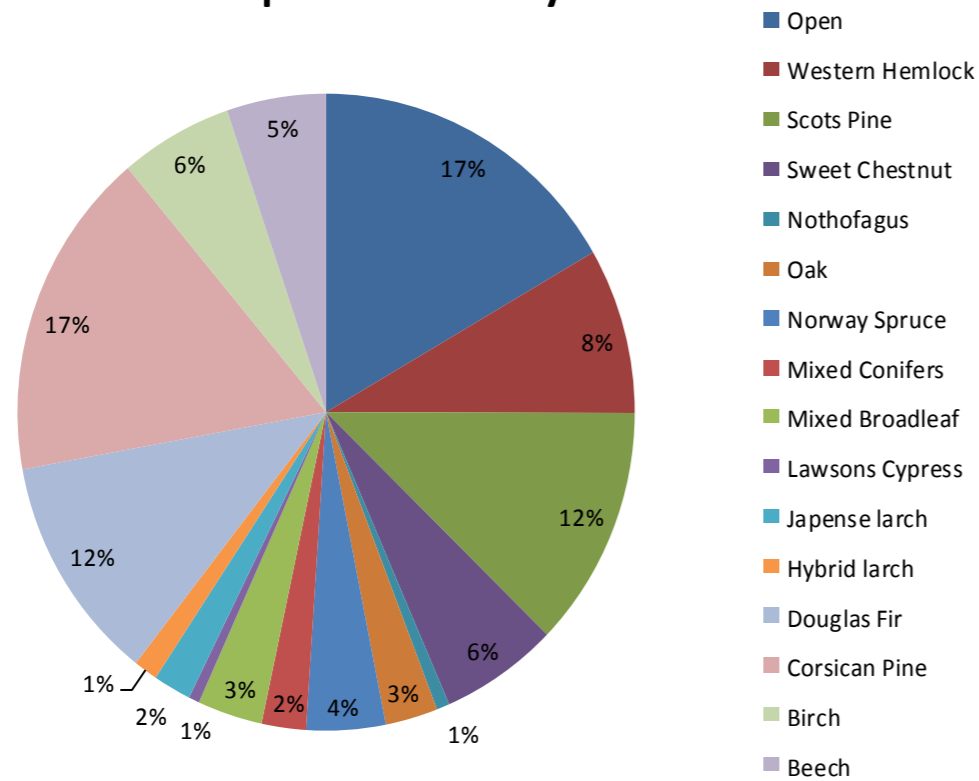
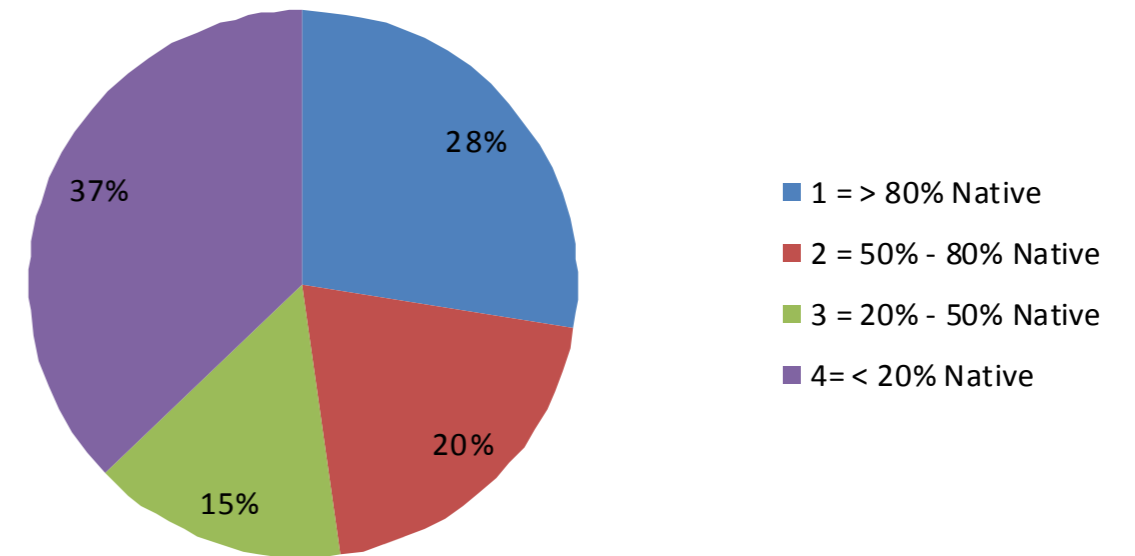


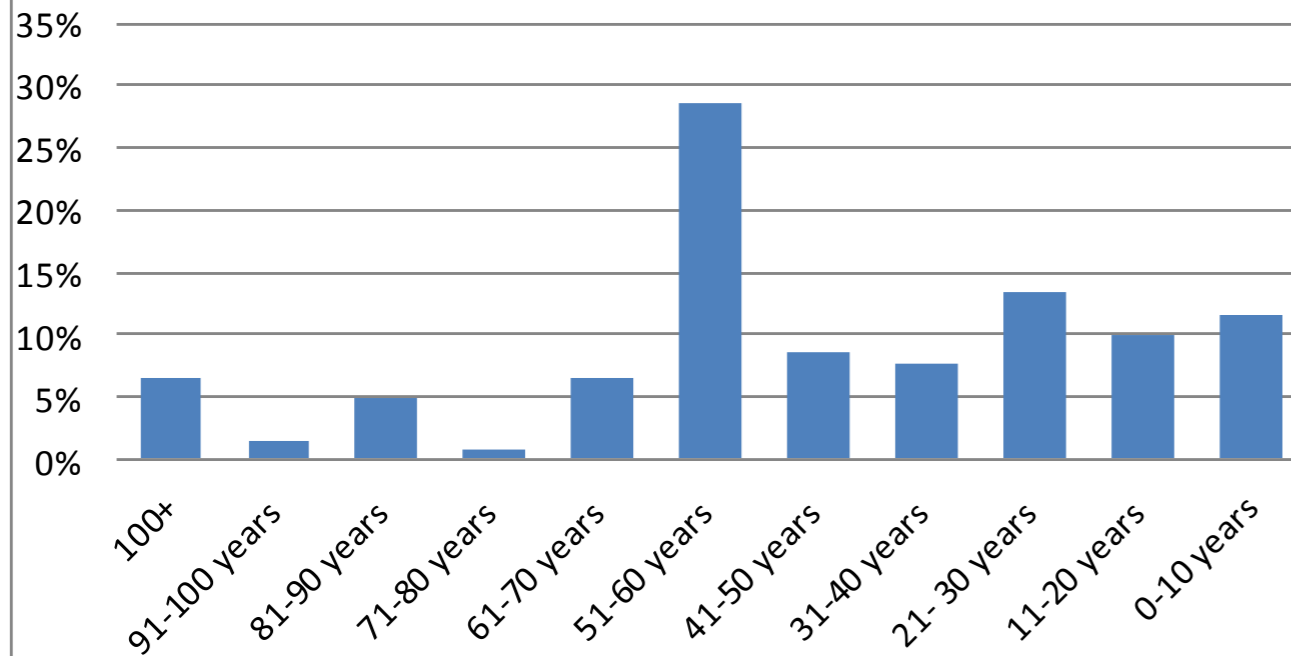
Species Diversity 2015



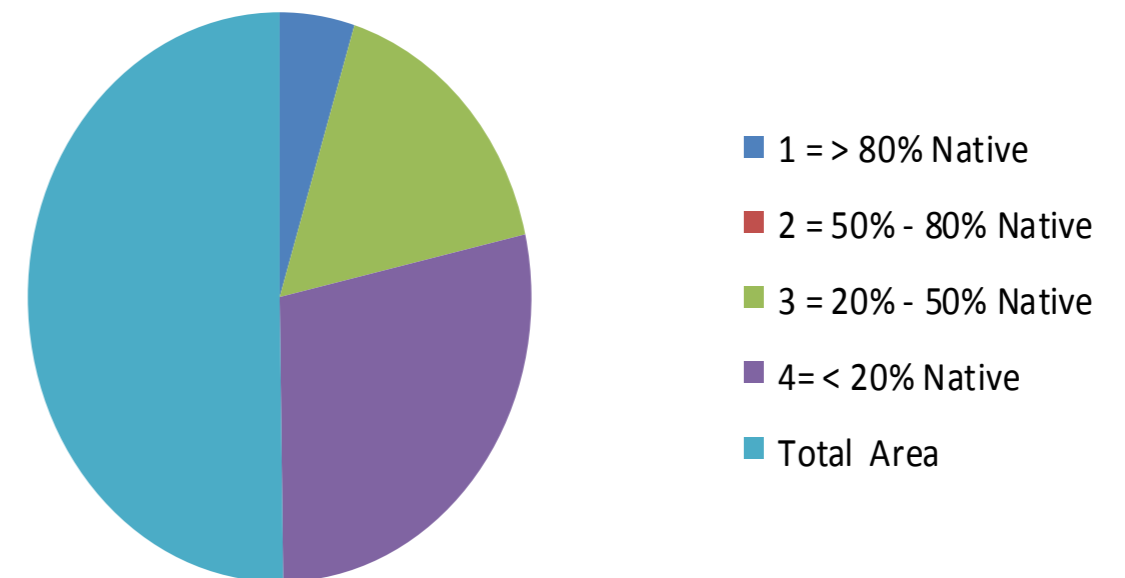
Semi Natural Scoring in ASNW Areas



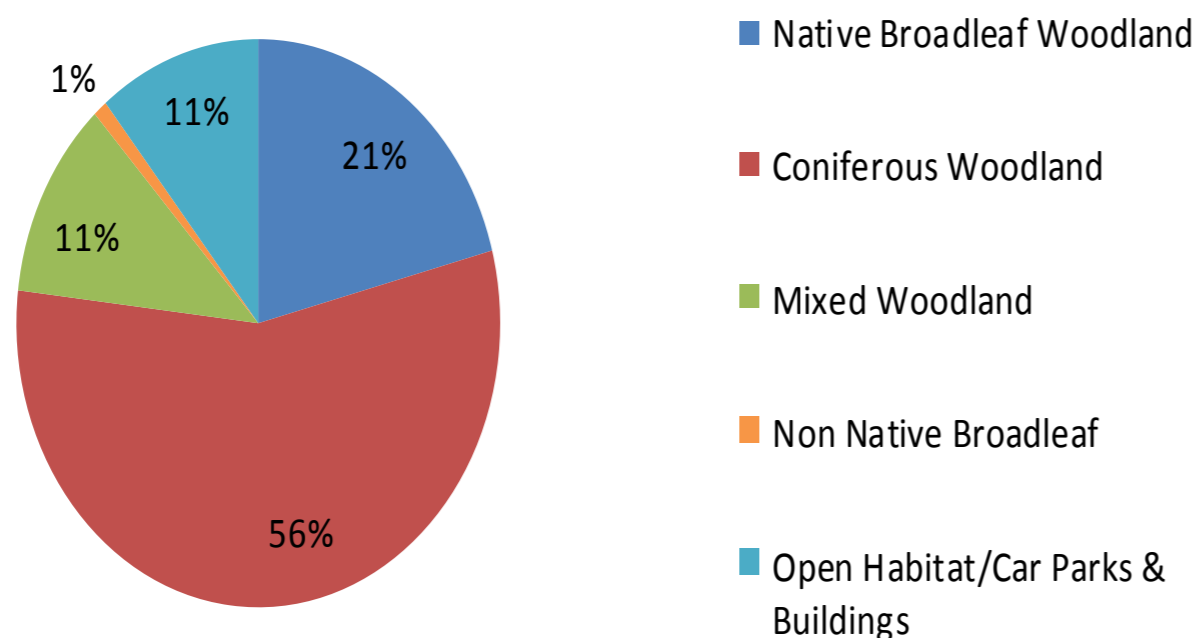
Age Range 2015



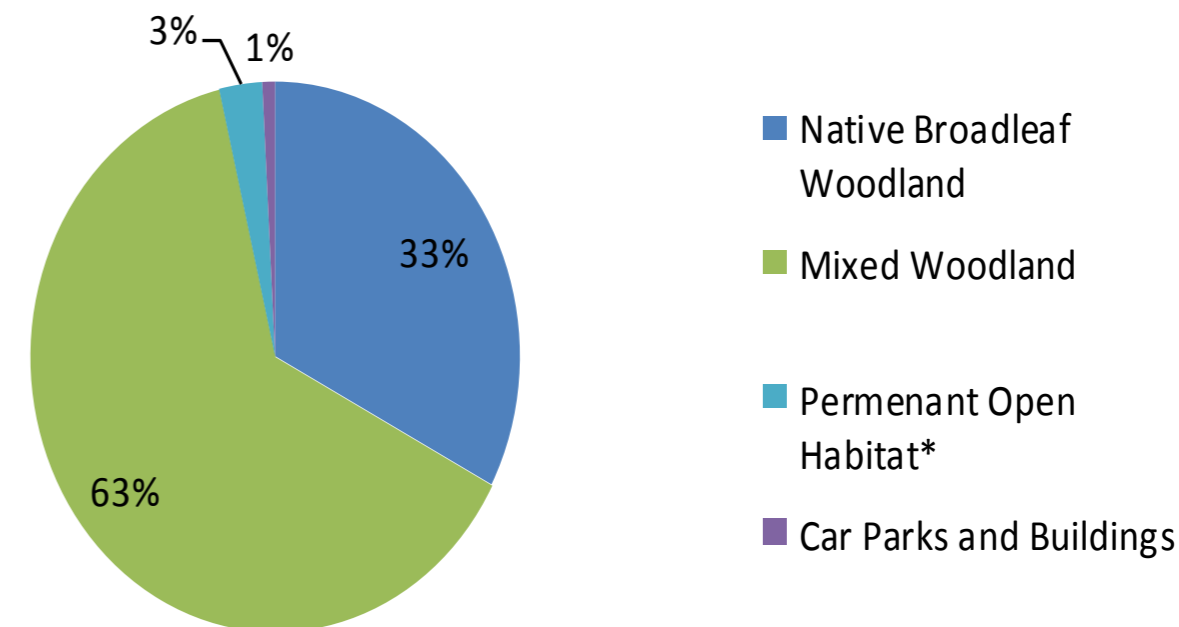
Semi Natural Scoring within PAWS Areas



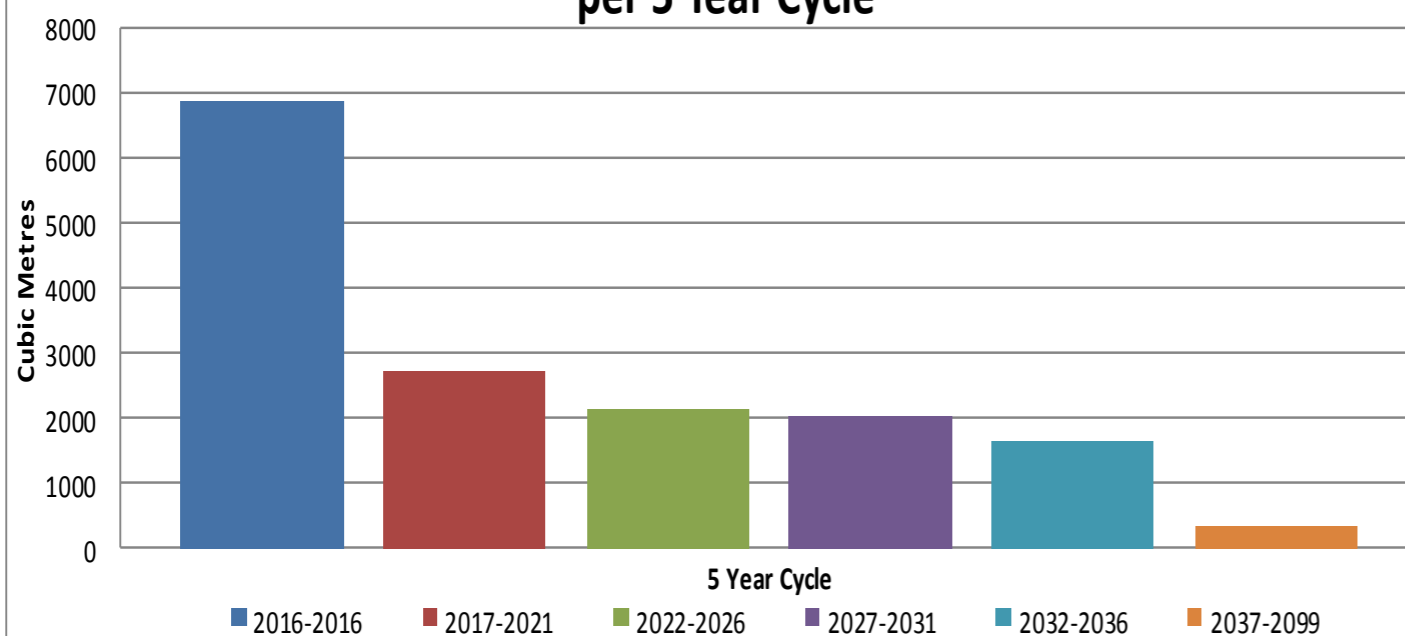
### Current Structure



### Long Term Target Structure



### Strategic Production Forecast: Average Production volume per 5 Year Cycle



\*Further rotational open space between 0.4 - 2ha in size will be created using the shelterwood silvicultural system combined with a programme of ride and road management along the areas shown as Biodiversity Corridors.

Objective	Proposed Actions to Meet Objective	Ref	Output year 10	Monitoring	Indicators of Success
Maintain and increase the native composition of ancient semi-natural woodland.	Invasive and non native species will be monitored and managed accordingly to ensure the quality of ASNW is not degraded.	1a  1b	Maintained percentage of native tree species within ancient woodland sites  Any invasive or non-native plant species found In ASNW are recorded and managed accordingly with a presumption of eradication.	Semi-Natural scoring via sub compartment database at years 5 and 10  Recording during Operational site assessments with appropriate action taken.	Ancient semi-natural woodland areas will show a maintained semi-natural score of '1' at years 5 and 10  No recorded invasive or non-native species present within ASNW.
Initiate restoration of planted ancient woodland sites to native and honorary native woodland.	Managing PAWS area under a shelter wood system, favouring the retention of native broadleaves will help to reduce the non native component of these areas.	2	Increased percentage of native tree species within ancient woodland sites.	Semi natural scoring via sub compartment database at years 5 and 10.	Plantation on ancient woodland areas will show an increasingly native semi natural score at years 5 and 10.
Take opportunities to increase the nature conservation value of existing habitats and enhance and support the development of open space.	Road and ride edges will look to provide high value invertebrate habitat as a result of the proposals which will have a positive impact on associated species such as birds and bats.  Existing open space will maintained and a wide adoption of the shelterwood system will provide rotational open space throughout the years. Connectivity aims to be improved to existing heathlands on the edges of woodland blocks. Examples include Stanley common and Iron Hill.	3	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this plan.	OSA checks at implementation stage.	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.

Provide, maintain and enhance where possible the recreational capacity of the woodland.	Look at increasing the accessibility of footpath and trails in the woodlands with a process vegetation management around key areas. Safety checks of car parks and trails continued as per OGB 1 and 42. Provide support and guidance for the Rogate Bike park in Combe hill.	4	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this plan.	OSA checks at implementation stage. A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.
Provide a regular supply of quality timber to support local employment and local timber processing industries.	Regular management will provide a sustainable supply of wood products to the industry.	5	Wood products supplied sustainably to industry in line with the production forecast.	Query sales recording package at year 5 and year 10.	Wood products supplied to the timber industry in line with production forecast whilst fulfilling other objectives
Maintain and increase the species and age diversity of the woodland.	Managing non ancient woodland areas as mixed woodland allows the woodland to support a greater species diversity. This will benefit disease and climate resistance as well as adding to the aesthetic variation.  The development of natural regeneration at various stages, will break up the currently rigid age structure	6a 6b 6c	Maintained number of tree species. Increased age diversity.  Evidence of natural regeneration occurring.	Query sub compartment data base at year 5 and 10.  Query sub compartment data base at year 5 and 10.  Query sales and recording package at year 5 and year 10	At least the same number of different tree species present at year 10  Improved age diversity at year 10  Increased successful establishment of natural regeneration.
Control invasive plant species and reduce their impact across the sites.	Conduct regular monitoring of invasive plant species, reacting appropriately when threats are identified.	7a	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this plan.	OSA checks at implementation stage.	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Comments year 5</b>	<b>Success?</b>	<b>Comments year 10</b>	<b>Success?</b>
1a				
1b				
2				
3				

Ref	Comments year 5	Success?	Comments year 10	Success?
4				
5				
6a				
6b				
6c				

**Ancient Woodland Site**

The site appears to have been wooded for several centuries (and thus probably for millennia), and is certainly unlikely to have been converted to farmland in the last couple of centuries.

**Ancient Semi Natural Woodland**

The trees and other plant species within an ancient woodland site appear to have arisen naturally rather than having been planted are predominately (>80%) native to the site and surrounding area.

**Shelter Wood System**

Woodland management system whereby the forest canopy is maintained at one or more levels without clear felling, generally being no single interruption of tree cover of more than 0.25 hectares with a maximum of 2 interruptions of this size per hectare.

Opportunities to enhance the existing areas of natural regeneration will be taken along with increasing woodland edge habitat by scalloping ride and road edges for the benefit of biodiversity.

**Mixed Woodland**

Woodland consisting of a fairly even mixture of broadleaf and conifer species.

**Native (and honorary-native)**

The trees making up the woodland are part of England's natural (or naturalised) flora. Determined by whether the trees colonised Britain without the assistance for humans since the last ice age (or in the case of 'honorary native' were brought here by people but have naturalised in historic times) ; and whether they would naturally be found in the part of England.

**Natural regeneration**

The process of allowing a cleared area of woodland to regenerate naturally the germination and development of seeds found within the soil on site. These may still require some protection from overbearing plant species and mammal browsing. Some enrichment planting may also be necessary or desirable in areas where natural regeneration is showing limited success or in order to diversify the species range of the woodland.

Plantation on an ancient woodland site (PAWS)

The trees within an ancient woodland site appear to have been planted. These species may or may not be native to the site and surrounding area.

**Selection System**

Woodland management system whereby the individual trees are selected for retention based on their character or specific qualities. The area will be thinned to favour the retention of these trees.

**Yield Class**

The maximum average rate of volume increment which a particular stand can achieve per hectare.

This Forest Plan has been influenced by various key policy statements and guidance documents as listed below.

### **Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement—January 2013**

This document sets the direction of travel for forestry policy within England and is the reference point around which main aims and objectives if forestry and woodland management are designed.

The statement sets out the following key objectives, in priority order:

**Protecting** the nations trees, woodlands and forests from increasing threats such as pests, diseases and climate change.

**Improving** their resilience to these threats and their contribution to economic growth, peoples lives and nature.

**Expanding** them to increase further their economic, social and environmental value.

### **Strategic plan for the public forest estate in England**

This plan sets out the direction and goals for the public forest estate in England and indicates the actions we will be taking to achieve these between now and 2020. Our ambitions are long term and we will use a normal cycle of review over 5 years to embed these in local forest plans and ways of operating.

Our mission for the estate.

To work with others to keep the Pubic Forest Estate as a special place for wildlife, people to enjoy and businesses to thrive—and achieve this by adopting a strategy that integrates all the three drivers of sustainable land management; economy, people and nature.

Our Vision and Overall Goal

*“To secure and grow the economic, social and natural capital value of the public forest estate for the people of England”*

### **South District Forest Strategic Plan**

The strategic management plan is a Forest Enterprise District Level document that informs local Forestry Commission Staff about the management direction of the Public Forest Estate and the associated policies. The Forest Plans are a key mechanism for delivering policies on the ground.

### **Open Habitat Policy, 2010**

This is Government policy on how to decide when to convert woodland to open habitat in England.

### **United Kingdom Forestry Standard**

The UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) is the reference standard for sustainable forest management in the UK. The UKFS, supported by its series of guidelines, outlines the context for forestry in the UK, sets out the approach of the UK governments to sustainable forest management, defines standards and requirements, and provides a basis for regulation and monitoring.

### **UK woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)**

An independent certification standard for verifying sustainable management in the United Kingdom.

### **Keepers of Time**

This policy statement celebrates the importance of our native and ancient woodland sets out a basis on which to achieve the following vision.

*“Ancient woodlands, veteran trees and other native woodlands are adequately protected, sustainably managed in a wider landscape context, and are providing a wide range of social, environmental and economic benefits”*

### **Managing ancient and native woodland in England: Practice Guide**

This practice guide has been produced to help practitioners translate what measures and practical action can be taken to protect and enhance our ancient and native woodlands and guides implementation of the approaches to management and restoration trialled in woods around the country.

### **Managing deadwood in forests and woodland 2012**

### **Choosing stand management methods for restoring planted ancient woodland sites, 2013.**



**European Landscape convention**

The European landscape convention—also known as the Florence convention, - promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation of landscape issues.

**The Sussex Biodiversity Partnership's Biodiversity Opportunity Area document for Rogate Common.**

This document recognises an area around Rogate as a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) as it represents a priority area for the delivery of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) targets. This is one of 75 such areas across Sussex. The BOA covers approximately 701 hectares.

**UK BAP list of priority habitats**

This comprises a list of UK Biodiversity action plan priority habitats that were identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP).

The forest plan proposals are being consulted on over three main stages:

Stage 1: The woodland owners

Stage 2: Stakeholder Consultation

**Environment Agency**

**Natural England**

**West Sussex County Council**

**Chichester District Council**

**West Sussex Wildlife Trust**

**RSPB**

**Woodland Trust**

**Sussex Gardens Trust**

**South Downs National Park Authority**

**Rogate Parish Council**

**Milland Parish Council**

**Linch Parish Council**

**Liss Parish Council**

**National Trust**

**Historic England**

Stage 3: Placement on the Forestry Commission Public register for 28 days

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Response Date</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>FC Follow Up</b>
The Woodland Trust	14/12/15	Welcomed ancient woodland restoration and continuous cover management systems. Questioned a clear fell area and advised a different management approach.	Thanked for comments and noted that the clearfell is felt to be appropriate. No changes to the document made.
Isabella Morton Smith	20/11/15	Highlighted specific designations including an historic park and gardens grade II* and tree preservation orders.	Thanked for comments and advised that the FC were aware of the heritage listing but not the TPO's and are now in the process of obtaining the relevant permissions.

Stakeholder	Response Date	Response	FC Follow Up
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	23/11/15	Highlighted errors in the text and provided a more appropriate person to contact.	Corrected errors and thanked for response.
Milland parish Council	23/11/15	Highlighted heritage listings and TPOs in the woodland areas. Asked if felling periods could avoid bird nesting season and mentioned nightjar disappearance in the past.	Thanked for response, mentioned the FC were aware of the listings and that they will not affect the document. Spoke about the good practice guidelines in place around felling and nesting birds. Highlighted the opportunities the Forest Plan will bring for nightjar and other species.
South Downs National Park Authority	4/1/16	Mentioned TPO's in the area and the heritage listing and considered the plan to be appropriate under current legislation.	No response was deemed necessary and document remained unchanged.
Historic England	7/10/15	Advised that heritage listing would not be affected by the management being proposed in the Forest Plan.	No response was deemed necessary and document remained unchanged.
Environment Agency	18/11/15	Holding response received but nothing further.	None required.
National Trust	16/11/15	Difficulty in accessing document	Provided more detailed instructions on accessing document.
Chichester District Council	20/11/15	No issues with Forest Plans objectives and confirmed that no local planning authority approval was needed in the TPO areas.	None required.

Forestry Commission (Forest Services and Forest Enterprise) should agree baseline tolerance thresholds for operations in each District beyond which exchange of letter/map or formal amendment is required. Unless otherwise specified or agreed by the Forestry Commission, amendment will be by formal revision of the plan.

	<b>Adjustment to felling coupe boundaries (1)</b>	<b>Timing of Re-stocking</b>	<b>Changes to species</b>	<b>Windthrow clearance (2)</b>	<b>Changes to road lines (3)</b>
<b>FC Approval normally not required</b>	0.5 ha or 5% of coupe - whichever is less	Up to 2 planting seasons after felling	Change within species group e.g. evergreen conifers; broadleaves	Up to 0.5ha	
<b>Approval by exchange of letters and map</b>	0.5ha to 2ha or 10% of coupe - whichever is less			0.5ha to 2ha - if mainly wind-blown trees > 2ha to 5ha in areas of low sensitivity	Additional felling of trees not agreed in plan Departures of >60m in either direction from centre line of road
<b>Approval by formal plan amendment</b>	> 2ha or 10% of coupe	Over 2 planting seasons after felling	Change from specified native species Change between species groups	> 5ha	As above, depending on sensitivity

#### Notes on Tolerance Table

1. There are circumstances in which changes - of less than 0.5 ha for example - could have a dramatic visual effect. The above model does require a sensible approach to be taken by Forest Enterprise in notifying Forestry Commission when such cases arise. Local staff need to be sensitive to issues which may influence the situation (bearing in mind that small adjustments to felling coupes will not appear on the Public Register).
2. It is important that Forest Enterprise keep the FC informed about windblow clearance, which can be problematic in cases of public complaint, and in FC compliance monitoring. In some cases a modification of the proposals for the remaining area of the Plan may need to be submitted and approved. Clearance of blow should not require approval but will be needed for related standing trees.
3. It is recognised that roading proposals as marked on Road Plans are necessarily somewhat indicative, in that actual roading operations require to take account of features not always apparent at the time of roadline planning. Accordingly some leeway is acceptable to account for this.