



Set within the Chilterns AONB and neighbouring a large English Nature National Nature Reserve, Cowleaze provides visitors with a day long destination site and facilitates access to all areas. Inappropriate plantations of mature conifer exist within this PAWS site and conflict with the surrounding landscape and predominately ancient woodland neighbours.

Cowleaze wood is the home of the Chiltern Sculpture Trail and contains an ever-changing montage of sculptures designed to inspire, challenge or blend into this woodland setting. A surfaced trail circumnavigates the entire wood, whilst individual pieces of art can be found scattered around. A large car park serves visitors for the trail and the adjacent English Nature National Nature Reserve.

Retain 'architectural' Norway spruce avenue until crop failure.



## South East England Forest District

### Cowleaze Wood

#### Design Concept

*Management should safeguard and improve the aesthetics of this woodland alongside the restoration to native broadleaf habitat and the provision of scattered conifers for potential raptor nest sites.*

-  Conifer woodland managed to provide a diversity of habitats, landscape interest and marketable timber.
-  Non-native species removed from these areas to create a broadleaf woodland with scattered conifer trees for potential raptor nesting sites. (Predominantly conifer species at present: >60% of tree canopy cover at 2006).
-  Non-native species removed from these areas to create a broadleaf woodland with scattered conifer trees for potential raptor nesting sites. (Predominantly broadleaf species at present: >60% of tree canopy cover at 2006).
-  Broadleaf woodland managed to create a diversity of species and age classes.
-  Mature broadleaf woodland retained for biodiversity and aesthetic value.
-  Area managed for special conservation interest.
-  Area of permanent open space managed for biodiversity or amenity value.
-  Open water
-  Watercourse
-  Forest road
-  Rides and tracks
-  Overhead wayleave
-  Managed open space and edge habitat alongside roads and rides.

Produced by the Planning Team August 2006

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