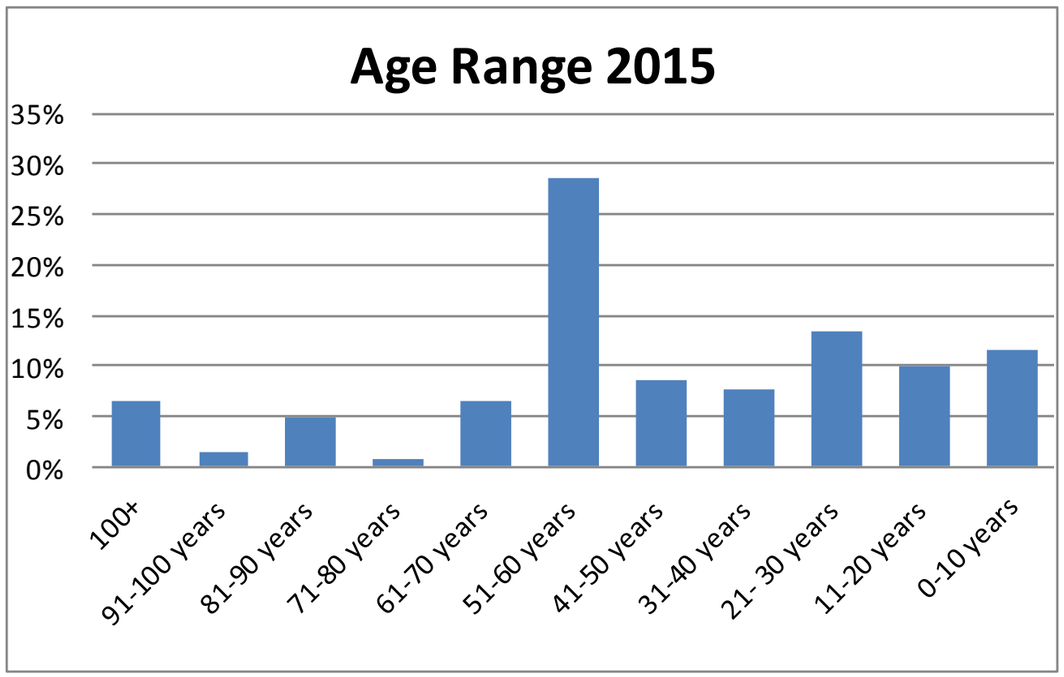
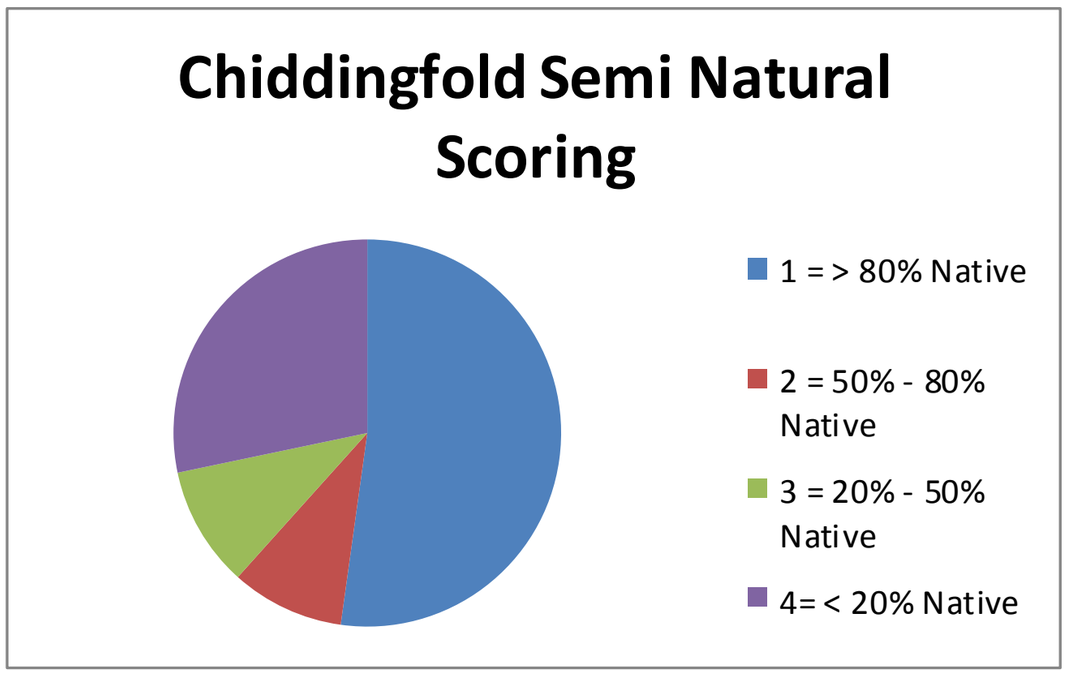
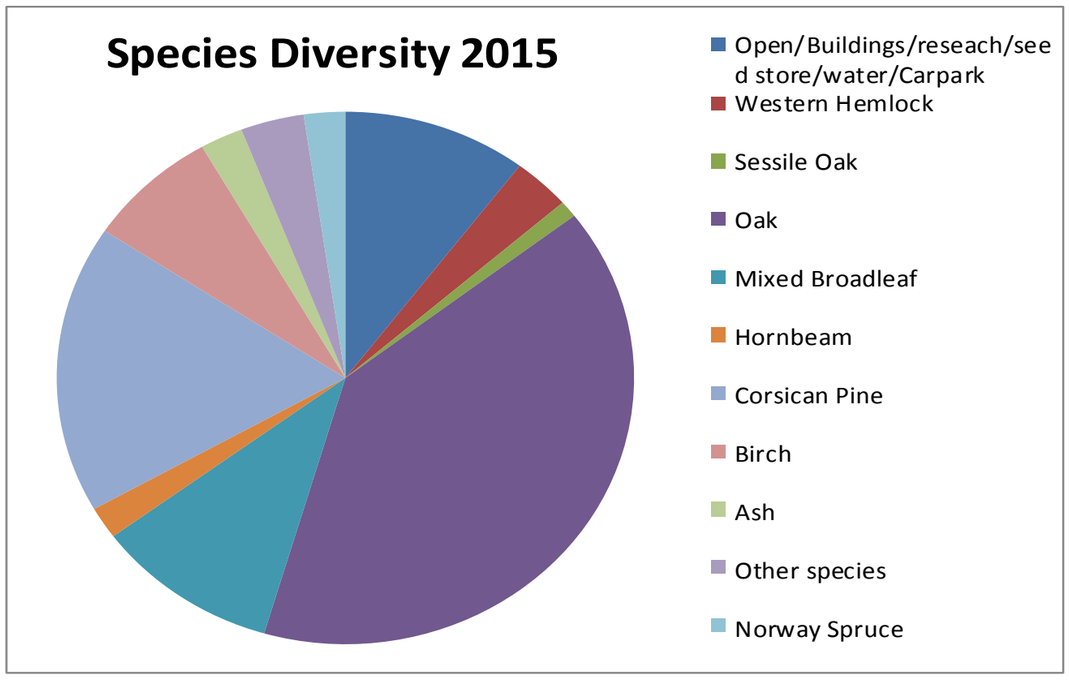
Forestry Commission England







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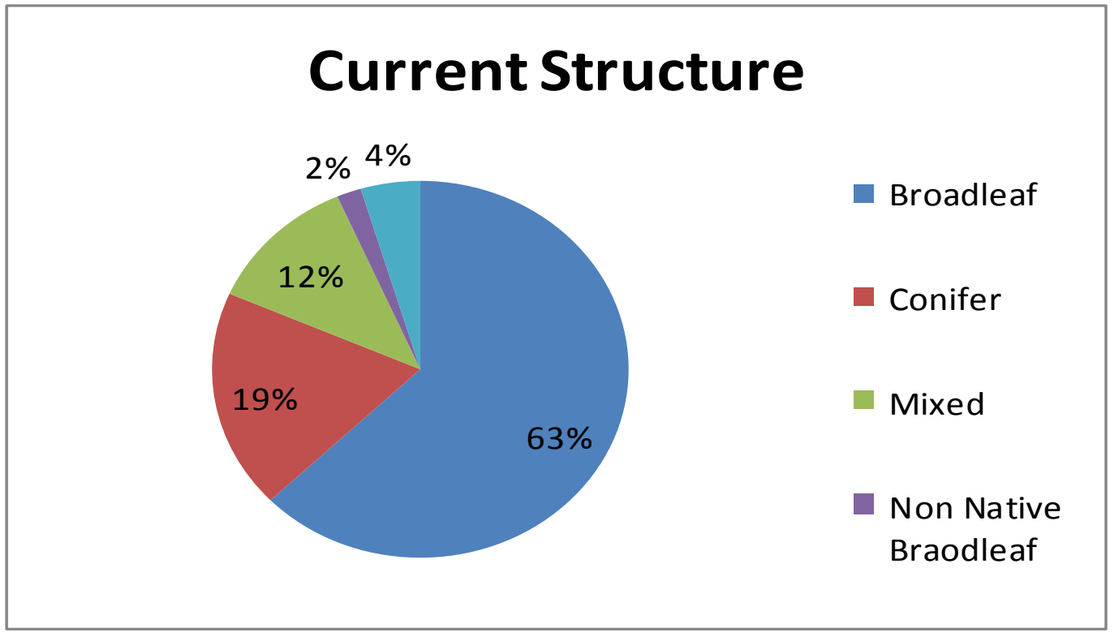

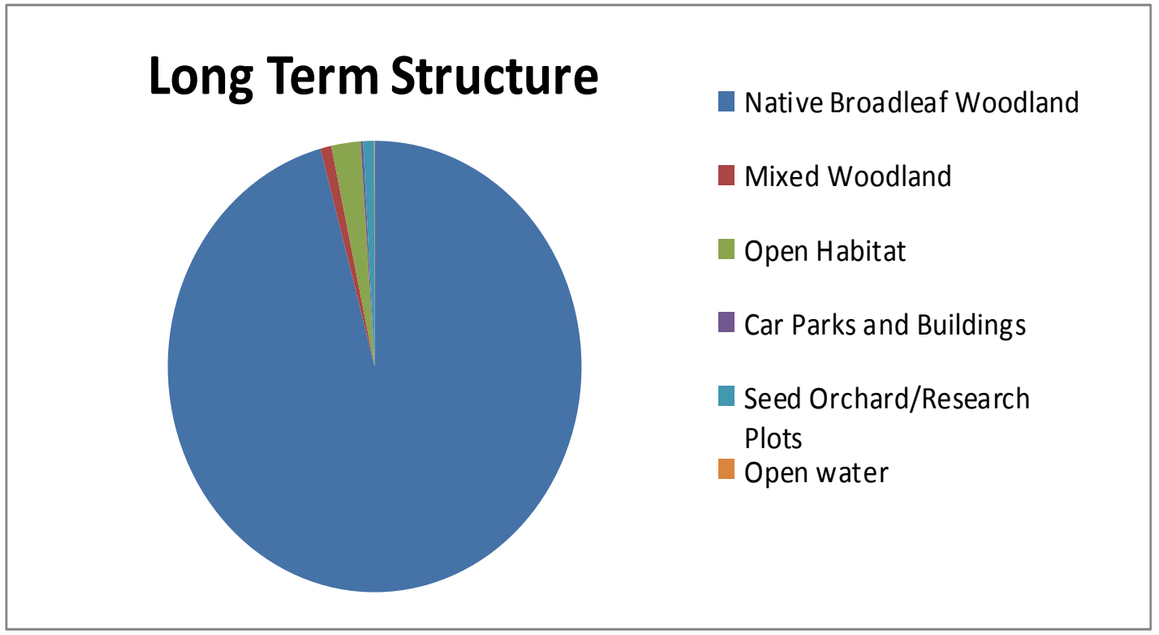

Objective	Proposed Actions to Meet Objective	Ref	Output year 10	Monitoring	Indicators of Success
Maintain and increase the native composition of ancient semi-natural woodland.	Invasive and non native species will be monitored and managed accordingly to ensure the quality of ASNW is not degraded.	1a 1b	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 pre-sumption 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.
Maintain and enhance the favourable conservation status of a nationally important wildlife site.	During management interventions, opportunities for corridor widening and wider habitat enhancement will be taken in line with the SSSI management plan to increase the structural diversity of woodland edges and provide connecting habitats for key species to disperse.	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.	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.

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

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

Forestry Commission England

Ancient Woodland

A classification for woodland which has been in continuous existence from before AD 1600 in England, wales and Northern Island and or from 1750 in Scotland.

Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

The trees and other plant species within an ancient woodland site appear t0 have arisen naturally rather than having been planted are predominately (>80%) native to the site and surrounding area.

Compartments/Sub Compartments

Sections of woodland used to delineate and plan management.

Priority ecological corridors

A network of internal road and ride margins as well as Wealden gill corridors that will be managed in a sympathetic way to increase the structural diversity and provide connecting habitats for key species.

Clearfell

Cutting down an area of woodland typically greater than 0.25 hectares.

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 if England.

Native woodland

Woodland predominately made up of tree species that would naturally be found on that site.

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 be still require some protection from overbearing plan species and mammal browsing . Some enrichment planting may also be necessary or desirable in areas were 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.

Open Habitat

An area of ground that will have tree cover <5% and support a range of site suitable species.

Research Plantation

Woodland that is being used to run an experiment managed principally by the research arm of the Forestry Commission.

Rotational Scrub

A mosaic of open space and scrub woodland that will be maintained though cycles of cutting and regrowth.

Seed Orchard

An intensively-managed plantation of specifically arranged trees for the mass production of seeds.

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.

Wet Woodland

Rare and ecologically rich woodland with soils frequently at or near to saturation usually on a floodplain or adjoining a river channel. Managed using low impact or no intervention silvicultural practices.

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 ti 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 nad buisnesses 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 hoe 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.

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).

Sussex Biodiversity Partnership. (2015) Biodiversity Opportunity Area document for the Chiddingfold Complex. [Online] Available from: https://www.biodiversitysussex.org.uk/file_download/169/ [Accessed: 22 October 2015]

This document recognises an area around Chiddingfold 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 731 hectares.

Forest Enterprise England & Dr N Bannister, Chiddingfold Forest design and SSSI plan, 1997,

Bannister, N. (2006) Woodland: Ancient Semi Natural Woodland. In *West Weald landscape HLC Analysis* [Online]. (4.3 i). P7. Available from: http://www.westweald.org.uk/pdf/West%20Weald%20Landscape%20HLC%20Analysis.pdf [Accessed 10 November 2015].

The aim of the West Weald Landscape Project [WWLP] is to encourage positive land use management which will encourage connectivity of woody hedges, woodland corridors, wetlands and less intensive forms of farming and forestry management to benefit many of the rare species of wildlife that live in this forested landscape.

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

Stage 1: The woodland owners

Stage 2: Stakeholder Consultation 25/1/16 - 7/3/16

- Environment Agency
- Butterfly Conservation
- Surrey County Council
- West Sussex County Council
- Waverly Borough Council
- Chichester District
- West Sussex and Surrey Wildlife Trust
- RSPB
- Woodland Trust
- Sussex Gardens Trust
- South Downs National Park Authority
- Chiddingfold Parish Council
- Dunsfold Parish Council
- Alfold Parish Council
- Plaistow Parish Council
- National Trust
- Natural England
- Surrey and West Sussex Wildlife Trust
- Surrey Hills AONB
- Surrey and Sussex Bat Group
- The Woodland Trust
- Surrey Countryside Access Forum
- Surrey and Sussex Bird Club
- Amphibian and Retiles Trust
- Ancient Tree Forum
- Bat Conservation Trust
- Arun and Western Streams Catchment Partnership
- Botanical Society of the British Iles
- British Bryological Society
- British Dragonfly Society
- British Mycological Society
- Buglife
- Bumblebee Conservation Trust
- Freshwater Habitats Trust
- Peoples Trust for Endangered Species
- Plantlife
- Surrey and Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre
- Surrey Mammal Group
- The Deer Initiative

Stage 3: Any further consultation required by Forest Services.

Stakeholder	Response Date	Response	FC Follow Up