

## WEST ENGLAND FOREST DISTRICT

Scheduled Monument

Management Plan for

Farway Castle and Barrows SMs

Plan Period August 2016 - 2026

# SM Management Plan

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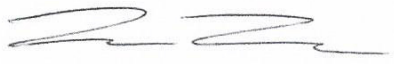
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## 1. Agreement and Consent

<b>District</b>	West England Forest District
<b>Name of SM</b>	Farway
<b>OS Grid reference</b>	Access from SY160963
<b>Period of Plan</b>	May 2016 – May 2026

Kevin Stannard  
Forest Management Director  
Forestry Commission England  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
K STANNARD  
10TH MAY 2016

Historic England  
Date

 C RUSSELL HAR Project Officer  
\_\_\_\_\_  
17 August 2016

## 2. Management Objectives

The Archaeology at Farway is made up of seven separately described Scheduled Monuments. The management objectives of each of the sites is however fundamentally similar. The avoidance of disturbance is critical and this will be achieved by:

1. At all times the Forestry Commission will avoid forestry operations encroaching onto the monuments. A 5m exclusion zone for machinery will be enforced in all operations. This includes timber harvesting and ground preparation machinery which has a high potential for disturbance
2. If replanting is conducted during the plan period it will be kept 10m from the edge of any monument
3. Any windblown trees on the monuments will be removed and the root plate returned to its original position as accurately as possible. Trees growing outside the monument which blow onto the monument will be cut and timber removed if this can be done sensitively and safely, otherwise they will be left to decay in situ.
4. Every 5 years a formal survey will be undertaken of trees on the monument and any tree which is found to have stability problems which are anticipated as impacting on the monument will be removed. The annual survey of the roadside tree safety will also include the larger trees on the monument for stability as they are within striking distance of the road.
5. Woody vegetation which is naturally occurring will be controlled if it grows over 50cm in height. It will be cut low to the ground with either chainsaw or brush cutter as appropriate. Arisings will be removed from the monument.
6. Bracken will be targeted for significant removal due to its destructive nature. An annual survey in early summer will identify the need for control. Due to current restrictions on chemical control methods on the UKWAS certified ground control will be mechanical cutting repeated within the year and over several years. Ideally the bracken will be eradicated from the footprint of the monuments
7. Where in compliance with the Forest Plan mature timber trees will be removed from the area surrounding the monuments. Trees will be felled away from the monuments so they do not cause impact damage.
8. Public access onto the monuments will not be encouraged, however it will not be prevented unless it is causing noticeable damage. This complies with the terms of the Forestry Commission's lease of the woodland.
9. The monuments currently are separated by the trees breaking up the visual relationship between the monuments which would have been created in an open environment. To try to create visual linkages between the closer monuments to the south of the site once during the plan period visual corridors will be opened naturally regenerated saplings will be cleared. Once cleared the vegetation can be controlled in the programme to cut vegetation on the monuments themselves.

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Inspect SMs for threats	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Remove windblown and unstable trees if found	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Formally inspect for tree stability		◆					◆			
Manage woody vegetation growth if exceeding parameters set	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Check for bracken and implement control measures if found	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Create visual linkages between barrows to south of site where feasible		◆					◆			

## 3. Descriptions

### 3. i Farway Castle earthwork enclosure

List entry Number: 1014243

Previous reference: 24851

Date first scheduled: 22-Nov-1950

Date of most recent amendment: 10-Apr-1996

#### Reasons for Designation

The size and form of Iron Age enclosed settlements vary considerably from single farmsteads up to large semi-urban oppida. Farmsteads are generally represented by curvilinear enclosures containing evidence of a small group of circular domestic buildings and associated agricultural structures. Where excavated, these sites are also found to contain storage pits for grain and other produce, evidence of an organised and efficient farming system. The surrounding enclosures would have provided protection against cattle rustling and tribal raiding. In central southern England, most enclosed Iron Age farmsteads are situated in areas which are now under intensive arable cultivation. As a result, although some examples survive with upstanding earthworks, the majority have been recorded as crop- and soil-marks appearing on aerial photographs.

Farway Castle survives as a substantial earthwork despite some superficial modification, and its degree of survival is unusual for this class of monument. It also has no clear local parallels. It lies in close proximity to the round barrow cemetery on Farway Hill which comprises the central area of one of the most extensive and densest concentrations of Bronze Age (2000- 700 BC) burial mounds in Devon. The monument and its relationship with the barrows constitutes a valuable archaeological resource for understanding prehistoric land use patterns in east Devon.

#### Details

The monument includes Farway Castle, an earthwork enclosure identified as an Iron Age farmstead situated in south east Devon 8km south of Honiton on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau where it forms the watershed of the south-flowing River Sid. The monument is sited within a plantation of trees on a wide ridge of level ground. It includes a large circular enclosure of some 53m diameter created by a bank with an external ditch. The bank is 7.5m in overall width and 0.5m-0.8m in height above the internal ground surface. It has a gradual inner slope, a flat top, and a steep outer face falling directly into the ditch. The ditch is between 2m and 4m in width and 0.5m deep, with a gradual outer slope. It is subject to seasonal waterlogging in the south west quadrant. The circuit of the enclosure is complete, with no breaks in the bank, or causeways across the ditch. The overall diameter of the monument is c.76m. The earliest known reference to the monument is in an inventory of the mid-18th century compiled by Dean Milles. It was also recorded in 1868 by Kirwan. The earthwork appears to have been modified, and one or more entrances were destroyed when the bank was converted into a continuous field boundary in the 18th or 19th centuries to separate a new plantation of trees from surrounding heathland. Some of the larger round barrows in the vicinity have also been modified, and have supporting documentary evidence of their reuse. The enclosure lies adjacent to the round barrow cemetery on Farway Hill. A bronze palstave was found in the vicinity of the enclosure in the 19th century. Within the protected area all fence posts are excluded from the monument, although the ground beneath them is included.

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Farway Castle. Photo shows several fallen trees. One of the large Pines also has numerous vertical cracks in the main stem and will have to be felled. Some young saplings are becoming established in the foreground.

Photo taken in April 2016

## 3. ii Four bowl barrows divided by the B3174

List entry Number: 1010277

Previous reference: 24963

Date first scheduled: 16-Jan-1951

Date of most recent amendment: 31-Jan-1995

### Reasons for Designation

Round barrow cemeteries date to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC). They comprise closely-spaced groups of up to 30 round barrows - rubble or earthen mounds covering single or multiple burials. Most cemeteries developed over a considerable period of time, often many centuries, and in some cases acted as a focus for burials as late as the early medieval period. They exhibit considerable diversity of burial rite, plan and form, frequently including several different types of round barrow, occasionally associated with earlier long barrows. Where large scale investigation has been undertaken around them, contemporary or later "flat" burials between the barrow mounds have often been revealed. Round barrow cemeteries occur across most of lowland Britain, with a marked concentration in Wessex. In some cases, they are clustered around other important contemporary monuments such as henges. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape, whilst their diversity and their longevity as a monument type provide important information on the variety of beliefs and social organisation amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving or partly-surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

The Farway Hill barrows, a number of which form the barrow cemetery, comprise the central section of the most extensive and densest concentration of barrows in Devon. Their association with Farway Castle adds additional depth to this relict ritual landscape. Limited archaeological excavations of some of the barrows have revealed that they have a remarkable diversity in size and form, and in the nature



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of their funerary contents. These four barrows form an integral part of the barrow cemetery. Two of the barrows survive in good condition, and although the other two have been partially disturbed by road construction, and one by partial excavation, a significant proportion of their buried features remain intact, including the old land surface which will contain evidence of the past environment.

## Details

The Farway Hill barrows are situated in south east Devon on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau in an area some 8km south of Honiton where it forms the watershed of the River Sid. These funerary monuments are grouped around Farway Castle, a substantial circular earthwork enclosure which is believed to be contemporary. The monument includes four of ten bowl barrows which together make up the Farway Hill round barrow cemetery. They are aligned north/south and are situated on the crest of a ridge to the immediate south east of Farway Castle. The B3174 road runs between the middle two barrows in this group. A forestry track runs between the two northern barrows. At the southern end is a bowl barrow 15m in diameter and 0.9m in height, with an even rounded profile. On the south side of the road is a bowl barrow with an original diameter of about 15m and height of 0.8m. A track leads from the road into the woodland to the immediate west of this barrow. On the north side of the road is a bowl barrow with an original diameter of about 15m and height of 1m. There is an intrusion in the north west sector of the mound, possibly representing an antiquarian excavation. At the northern end is a bowl barrow 18m in diameter and 1m in height, with an even rounded profile. There is no evidence of a ditch at any of the four barrows. Excluded from the scheduling are the made up road surface and all fence posts, but the ground beneath them is included.



Image shows northern most of the four barrows contained in the southern section of the wood. There are very few trees on the outline of the monument and they are generally free from scrub, although gorse is becoming established in places. Photo taken April 2016

### 3.iii Bowl barrow 20m north east of the B3174

List entry Number: 1010278

Previous reference: 24964

Date first scheduled: 05-Jan-1927

Date of most recent amendment: 11-Jan-1995

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## Reasons for Designation

Round barrow cemeteries date to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC). They comprise closely-spaced groups of up to 30 round barrows - rubble or earthen mounds covering single or multiple burials. Most cemeteries developed over a considerable period of time, often many centuries, and in some cases acted as a focus for burials as late as the early medieval period. They exhibit considerable diversity of burial rite, plan and form, frequently including several different types of round barrow, occasionally associated with earlier long barrows. Where large scale investigation has been undertaken around them, contemporary or later "flat" burials between the barrow mounds have often been revealed. Round barrow cemeteries occur across most of lowland Britain, with a marked concentration in Wessex. In some cases, they are clustered around other important contemporary monuments such as henges. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape, whilst their diversity and their longevity as a monument type provide important information on the variety of beliefs and social organisation amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving or partly-surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

The Farway Hill barrows, a number of which form the barrow cemetery, comprise the central section of the most extensive and densest concentration of barrows in Devon. Their association with Farway Castle adds additional depth to this relict ritual landscape. Limited archaeological excavations of some of the barrows have revealed that they have a remarkable diversity in size and form, and in the nature of their funerary contents. This barrow forms an integral part of the barrow cemetery. It survives in good condition and is one of the larger barrows in the group.

## Details

The Farway Hill barrows are situated in south east Devon on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau in an area some 8km south of Honiton where it forms the watershed of the River Sid. These funeral monuments are grouped around Farway Castle, a substantial circular earthwork enclosure which is believed to be contemporary. The monument includes one of ten bowl barrows which together make up the Farway Hill round barrow cemetery. It is situated on the crest of a ridge to the immediate south east of Farway Castle, and is 30m in diameter and about 1.3m in height, with an even rounded profile. There is no evidence of a ditch.



Image shows the barrow is open and mostly free from larger woody vegetation.

Photo taken April 2016



## 3.iv. Bowl barrow 30m west of the Farway Common Road

List entry Number: 1010279

Previous reference: 24965

Date first scheduled: 16-Jan-1951

Date of most recent amendment: 31-Jan-1995

### Reasons for Designation

Round barrow cemeteries date to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC). They comprise closely-spaced groups of up to 30 round barrows - rubble or earthen mounds covering single or multiple burials. Most cemeteries developed over a considerable period of time, often many centuries, and in some cases acted as a focus for burials as late as the early medieval period. They exhibit considerable diversity of burial rite, plan and form, frequently including several different types of round barrow, occasionally associated with earlier long barrows. Where large scale investigation has been undertaken around them, contemporary or later "flat" burials between the barrow mounds have often been revealed.

Round barrow cemeteries occur across most of lowland Britain, with a marked concentration in Wessex. In some cases, they are clustered around other important contemporary monuments such as henges. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape, whilst their diversity and their longevity as a monument type provide important information on the variety of beliefs and social organisation amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving or partly-surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

The Farway Hill barrows, a number of which form the barrow cemetery, comprise the central section of the most extensive and densest concentration of barrows in Devon. Their association with Farway Castle adds additional depth to this relict ritual landscape. Limited archaeological excavations of some of the barrows have revealed that they have a remarkable diversity in size and form, and in the nature of their funerary contents. This barrow forms an integral part of the barrow cemetery. It survives in good condition and is one of the larger barrows in the group.

### Details

The Farway Hill barrows are situated in south east Devon on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau in an area some 8km south of Honiton where it forms the watershed of the River Sid. These funerary monuments are grouped around Farway Castle, a substantial circular earthwork enclosure which is believed to be contemporary. The monument includes one of ten bowl barrows which make up the Farway Hill round barrow cemetery. It is situated on the crest of a ridge to the immediate east of Farway Castle and is 20m in diameter and 1.3m in height, with an even rounded profile. Exposed peaty soil on the top of the mound contains flinty stones up to 20cm in size. There is no evidence of a ditch.

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## 3.v Bowl barrow 210m north west of the Farway Common Road

List entry Number: 1010269

Previous reference: 24969

Date first scheduled: 10-Jan-1995

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

### Reasons for Designation

Bowl barrows, the most numerous form of round barrow, are funerary monuments dating from the Late Neolithic period to the Late Bronze Age, with most examples belonging to the period 2400-1500 BC. They were constructed as earthen or rubble mounds, sometimes ditched, which covered single or multiple burials. They occur either in isolation or grouped as cemeteries and often acted as a focus for burials in later periods. Often superficially similar, although differing widely in size, they exhibit regional variations in form and a diversity of burial practices. There are over 10,000 surviving bowl barrows recorded nationally (many more have already been destroyed), occurring across most of lowland Britain. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape and their considerable variation of form and longevity as a monument type provide important information on the diversity of beliefs and social organisations amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

The Farway Hill barrows, a number of which form a barrow cemetery, comprise the central section of the most extensive and densest concentration of barrows in Devon. Their association with Farway Castle adds additional depth to this relict ritual landscape. Limited archaeological excavations of some of the barrows have revealed that they have a remarkable diversity in size and form, and in the nature of their funerary contents. Although partially disturbed by wartime excavation and use, a significant proportion of the buried features of this barrow remain intact, including the old land surface which will contain evidence of the past environment. This barrow forms an integral part of the wider group.

### Details

The Farway Hill barrows are situated in south east Devon on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau in an area some 8km south of Honiton where it forms the watershed of the River Sid. These funeral monuments are grouped around Farway Castle, a substantial circular earthwork enclosure which is believed to be contemporary. The monument is situated on the highest part of a ridge and includes a bowl barrow with an original diameter of about 12m and height of less than 1m. There is no evidence of a ditch. The exposed peaty soil on the mound contains flinty stones, mainly small in size with some up to 15cm. The north west sector of the mound is tangential to an old field bank, and a forestry track curves around the south west side of the barrow. In World War II the barrow appears to have been used as part of a system of defence, as there is a large intrusion in the centre of the mound which contains some half-buried corrugated iron.

## 3.vi Bowl barrow 160m north west of the Farway Common Road

List entry Number: 1010270

Previous reference: 24970

Date first scheduled: 16-Jan-1951

Date of most recent amendment: 31-Jan-1995

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## Reasons for Designation

Bowl barrows, the most numerous form of round barrow, are funerary monuments dating from the Late Neolithic period to the Late Bronze Age, with most examples belonging to the period 2400-1500 BC. They were constructed as earthen or rubble mounds, sometimes ditched, which covered single or multiple burials. They occur either in isolation or grouped as cemeteries and often acted as a focus for burials in later periods. Often superficially similar, although differing widely in size, they exhibit regional variations in form and a diversity of burial practices. There are over 10,000 surviving bowl barrows recorded nationally (many more have already been destroyed), occurring across most of lowland Britain. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape and their considerable variation of form and longevity as a monument type provide important information on the diversity of beliefs and social organisations amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

The Farway Hill barrows, a number of which form a barrow cemetery, comprise the central section of the most extensive and densest concentration of barrows in Devon. Their association with Farway Castle adds additional depth to this relict ritual landscape. Limited archaeological excavations of some of the barrows have revealed that they have a remarkable diversity in size and form, and in the nature of their funerary contents. Despite evidence of partial excavation, a significant proportion of the buried features of this barrow remain intact, including the old land surface which will contain evidence of the past environment. This barrow forms an integral part of the wider group.

## Details

The Farway Hill barrows are situated in south east Devon on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau in an area some 8km south of Honiton where it forms the watershed of the River Sid. These funerary monuments are grouped around Farway Castle, a substantial circular earthwork enclosure which is believed to be contemporary. The monument is situated on the highest part of a ridge and includes a bowl barrow with an original diameter of about 15m and height of 1.3m. It is surrounded by a largely infilled ditch about 2m wide and 0.4m deep, from which material was quarried for the construction of the barrow. The ditch is prone to waterlogging. Exposed peaty soil on the top of the mound contains flinty stones up to 15cm in size. There is an intrusion in the centre of the mound, possibly representing an antiquarian excavation, and a forestry track overlies the north west edge of the mound.

### 3.vii Two ring cairns 410m south east of Higher Blannicombe

List entry Number: 1014245

Previous reference:24971

Date first scheduled: 10-Apr-1996

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

## Reasons for Designation

Round barrow cemeteries date to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC). They comprise closely-spaced groups of up to 30 round barrows - rubble or earthen mounds covering single or multiple burials. Most cemeteries developed over a considerable period of time, often many centuries, and in some cases acted as a focus for burials as late as the early medieval period. They exhibit considerable diversity of burial rite, plan and form, frequently including several different types of round barrow, occasionally

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associated with earlier long barrows. Where large scale investigation has been undertaken around them, contemporary or later "flat" burials between the barrow mounds have often been revealed. Round barrow cemeteries occur across most of lowland Britain, with a marked concentration in Wessex. In some cases, they are clustered around other important contemporary monuments such as henges. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape, whilst their diversity and their longevity as a monument type provide important information on the variety of beliefs and social organisation amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving or partly-surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

The Farway Hill barrows, a number of which form a barrow cemetery, comprise the central area of one of the most extensive and densest concentrations of barrows in Devon. Limited archaeological excavations of some of the barrows have revealed that they have a remarkable diversity in size and form, and in the nature of their funerary contents. Although partly excavated, the two ring cairns remain reasonably well preserved examples of this class of monument. Their banks remain largely intact and will preserve underlying features. The ring cairns lie on the far northern edge of the Farway Hill barrow group and are the only ring cairns identified in that group.

## Details

The Farway Hill barrows are situated in south east Devon, 8km south of Honiton, on the high ground of an extensive Greensand plateau where it forms the watershed of the south-flowing River Sid. The monument includes two ring cairns and the area of archaeologically sensitive ground between them, situated on the crest of the north eastern end of the long ridge forming Farway Hill. They lie on level ground and are 3.5m apart. The south east ring cairn survives as an earth bank up to 1.2m in height and 2.5m wide with a sloping outer face and a vertical inner face, enclosing an area of recessed ground 9m in diameter and c.0.5m lower than the surrounding ground surface. On the south east side a 4m long section of the bank lies 1m- 2m further out than the rest of the bank. The north west ring cairn survives as an earth bank up to 0.6m in height and 2m wide with a sloping outer face and a vertical inner face, enclosing an area of recessed ground 6m-7m in diameter and 0.3m lower than the surrounding ground surface. An embanked trench 7m long and 2m-4m in width (stepped on its north side) connects the two ring cairns. The ring cairns were discovered in 1965 when the heath was ploughed by the Forestry Commission for tree planting. A rescue excavation was undertaken to record the cairns which included an investigation of their interiors, sampling of their enclosing banks, and the excavation of a trench between them. They were subsequently landscaped into their present form with banks being heaped over the two exposed rings of stone and along the edge of the excavation. The area of the excavation is visible as recessed ground within the two cairns and the embanked trench between them. As excavated, the south east ring cairn was composed of an irregular ring of flinty stones 1m-2.5m wide and 13.5m-15m in external diameter, enclosing a central open area of 9.5m-11m diameter. The central area contained a number of small pits, with some intercut and extending beneath and beyond the bank of the cairn. Forty of the pits contained charcoal in their fills. One cremation consisting of poorly preserved bone mixed with charcoal and fragments of heat shattered flint was located in a small pit towards the western side of the cairn. Two other pits may have contained cremations. As excavated, the north west ring cairn was composed of an irregular ring of flinty stones 1m-2m wide and 9m-10m in external diameter, enclosing a central open area of 6m-7m diameter. The western side of the ring contained a number of slabs of flint which may have originally composed a cist (stone lined burial chamber). The open area contained a number of small pits, with some extending beneath and beyond the bank of the cairn. None of the pits contained charcoal. The area of



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ground between the cairns is archaeologically sensitive in that it has been demonstrated by excavation to contain features relating to the construction and use of the cairns. A small assemblage of worked flint containing some tools was recovered from the cairns.

Photo does not clearly show this feature however the bank on the southern face is visible in the middle distance and the rise in elevation in the foreground can be detected by studying the right side of the photo. Photo taken April 2016



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## 4. Map

