

East Dorset Blocks

Ringwood North
Ashley Heath & Jack's Garden
Hurn & Ramsdown
West Moors & 3 Legged Cross
Uddens, Cannon Hill & Whitesheet
Queen's Copse

Forest Plan 2020-2030

South/14/20

South England Forest District



Forestry Commission
woodlands have
been certified in
accordance with the
rules of the Forest
Stewardship Council.



Table of Contents

Approval	3
Summary of Forestry Operations within Approval period	3
Introduction	4
Objectives of the Plan	4
General Information and Maps	5-15
Ashley Heath (Moors Valley County Park)	16
Introduction	16
Statistics	17
Maps	18-23
West Moors & 3 Legged Cross	24
Introduction	24
Statistics	24
Maps	26-31
Hurn & Ramsdown	32
Introduction	32
Statistics	32
Maps	34-41
Cannon Hill, Udden's & Whitesheet	42
Introduction	42
Statistics	43
Maps	44-49
Ringwood North	50
Introduction	50
Statistics	50
Maps	53-60
Queen's Copse	61
Introduction	61
Statistics	61
Maps	63-68

Appendix 1: Glossary of Terms	69
Appendix 2: Felling Thresholds	69
Appendix 3: Wildfire Risk Assessment	70
Appendix 4: Monitoring	71
Appendix 5: UKWAS Compliance Table	72
Appendix 6: PDN 01 Tolerance Tables	73

APPROVAL PAGE

FOREST ENTERPRISE ENGLAND- Application for Forest Design Plan Approvals in England

Forest Enterprise - Property

Forest District:	South England
Woodland or property name:	East Dorset Blocks
Nearest town, village or locality:	St. Leonards
OS Grid reference:	SU100 046
Local Authority district/Unitary Authority:	Hampshire County Council & Dorset County Council

Areas for approval

	Conifer	Broadleaf
Felling	177.58 ha	
New planting (complete Appendix 4)		

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

2. * I apply for an Opinion under the terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England & Wales) Regulations 1999 for afforestation* /deforestation*/ roads*/ quarries* as detailed in my application.

3. I confirm that the pre-consultation, carried out and documented in the Consultation Record attached, incorporated those stakeholders which FS agreed must be included. Where it has not been possible to resolve specific issues associated with the Plan to the satisfaction of consultees, this is highlighted in the Consultation Record.

4. I confirm that the proposals contained in this Plan comply with the UK Forestry Standard.

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

Signed Signed
Forest Management Director Area Director

District Area.....

Date Date of Approval.....

Date approval ends.....

Forest Plans

Forest Plans define the long term vision for a woodland or a collection of woodlands, usually looking 50 to 100 years ahead. They set objectives and illustrate how management will move towards achieving this vision in the initial 10 years. Forest Plans largely deal with silvicultural management and not the management of non-forestry activities which may arise during the plan period.

This plan represents the first major review of the East Dorset Forest Plan that was originally consulted upon and approved in 2009. The revised Forest Plan has been prepared following a review of the original plan undertaken by Forestry England staff and in consultation with stakeholders. It has incorporated developments in policy and local initiatives that have occurred in the intervening years as well as taking into account recent developments regarding tree pests and diseases and resilience to global climate change.

Consultation & Approval Process

At key points throughout the forest planning process we seek the views of stakeholders, including local communities and organisations involved in nature conservation, recreation and the timber industry. Through this consultation process we can ensure that an appropriate balance of objectives is achieved.

Approval of the Forest Plan is granted by the regulatory arm of the Forestry Commission known as Forest Services. Regulatory approval is valid for 10 years and is effectively a 10-year felling licence.

The approved plan will be subject to an internal review at year 5 to ensure proposals are still relevant, suitable and in line with extant policy and guidance. This will also be an opportunity to evaluate the success of management over the 5 year period and make any amendments to the Forest Plan that may be required.

Objectives of the Plan

Forestry England woodlands in the East Dorset area will be managed to meet the challenges of Global Climate Change and the predicted increase in tree diseases and pests. This will be done through a process of managing woodlands for increased diversity in terms of tree species selection, tree age and woodland structure where appropriate (not within Planted Ancient Woodland or Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland Sites).

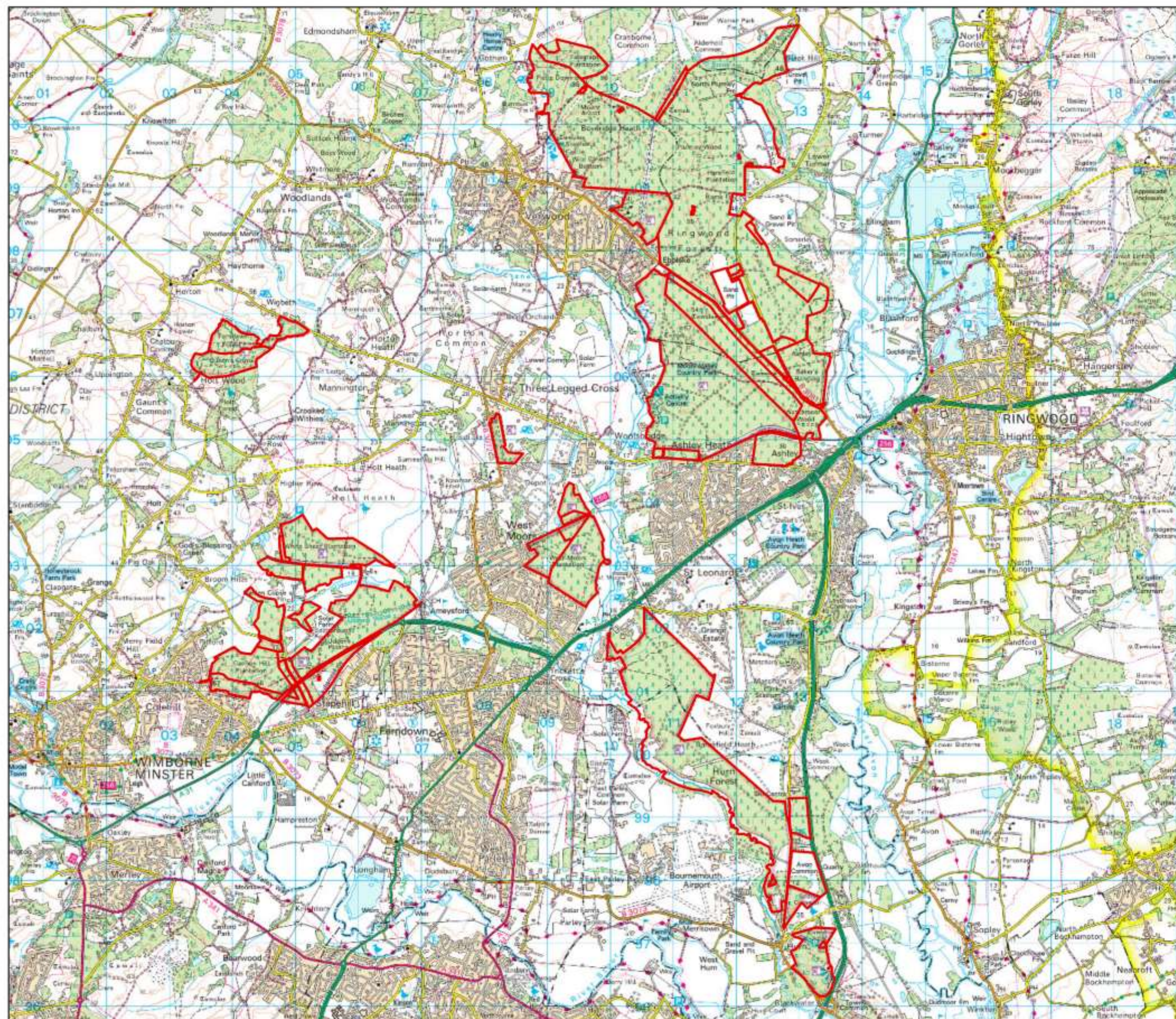
The objectives of the plan are to:

- Continue the restoration of Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) to Native and Honorary Native Woodland.
- Provide opportunities for informal and formal public and community enjoyment.

- Manage designated habitats towards recovering or favourable condition.
- Protect sites of heritage and cultural value.
- Manage woodlands through increased diversity of species and age that will be better-suited to meeting the multiple challenges of predicted climate change.

Location. (see map overleaf).

These woodlands lie within East Dorset, though the Hampshire and Dorset boundary runs through Ashley Heath and Ringwood Forest. With the exception of Queen's Copse, they all abut significant residential developments and are considered to be "doorstep woodlands" providing a major recreational resource to those communities. These woodlands are bound to the south by the Christchurch, Bournemouth and Poole conurbation with a population of 380,948. The East Dorset area alone has a population of 89,384 people (Dorset Council 2017). The New Forest National Park Boundary lies a short distance away to the East. Moors Valley Country Park (Ashley Heath) is one of Forestry England's most popular day visitor attractions with over a million visits estimated annually, attracting people from within the local area as well as from much further afield. As such, Moors Valley is arguably the only woodland within this plan that can be considered a day-visitor attraction.



Date: 10/08/2020

East Dorset Forest Plan




East Dorset Woodland Blocks Location



Forestry Commission woodlands have been certified in accordance with the rules of the Forest Stewardship Council.



Legend

 FE Management Area

0 0.5 1 2 Km 1:60,000 (GB AD)



Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936
False Easting: 400,000.0000
False Northing: 600,000.0000
Central Meridian: 2.0000
Scale Factor: 0.9996
Latitude 19 Degree: 49.5833
10 m. Meru

© Geomapping Plc and BlueSky International 2010

© Crown copyright and database right (2018) Ordnance Survey [100024242]

Landscape and Historical Context

This Forest Plan covers 2708 hectares of land across 6 geographically distinct woodland blocks. Some of these woodlands owe their origins to the extensive planting carried out in the immediate period following the end of World War II and were established on former heathland sites. Some such as Queen's Copse (or Horton Wood) is a (Planted) Ancient Woodland Site, whilst on others such as Whitesheet and Cannon Hill, woodland cover can be dated back further in time.

The Forest Plan area is relatively low-lying with a maximum altitude of 90 metres (Telegraph Hill, Ringwood Forest).

The climate is currently typical of South East England, with a rainfall below 700mm per annum and temperatures ranging from a mean 14.2°C for the warmest month and 5.3°C for the coolest month.

Tenure

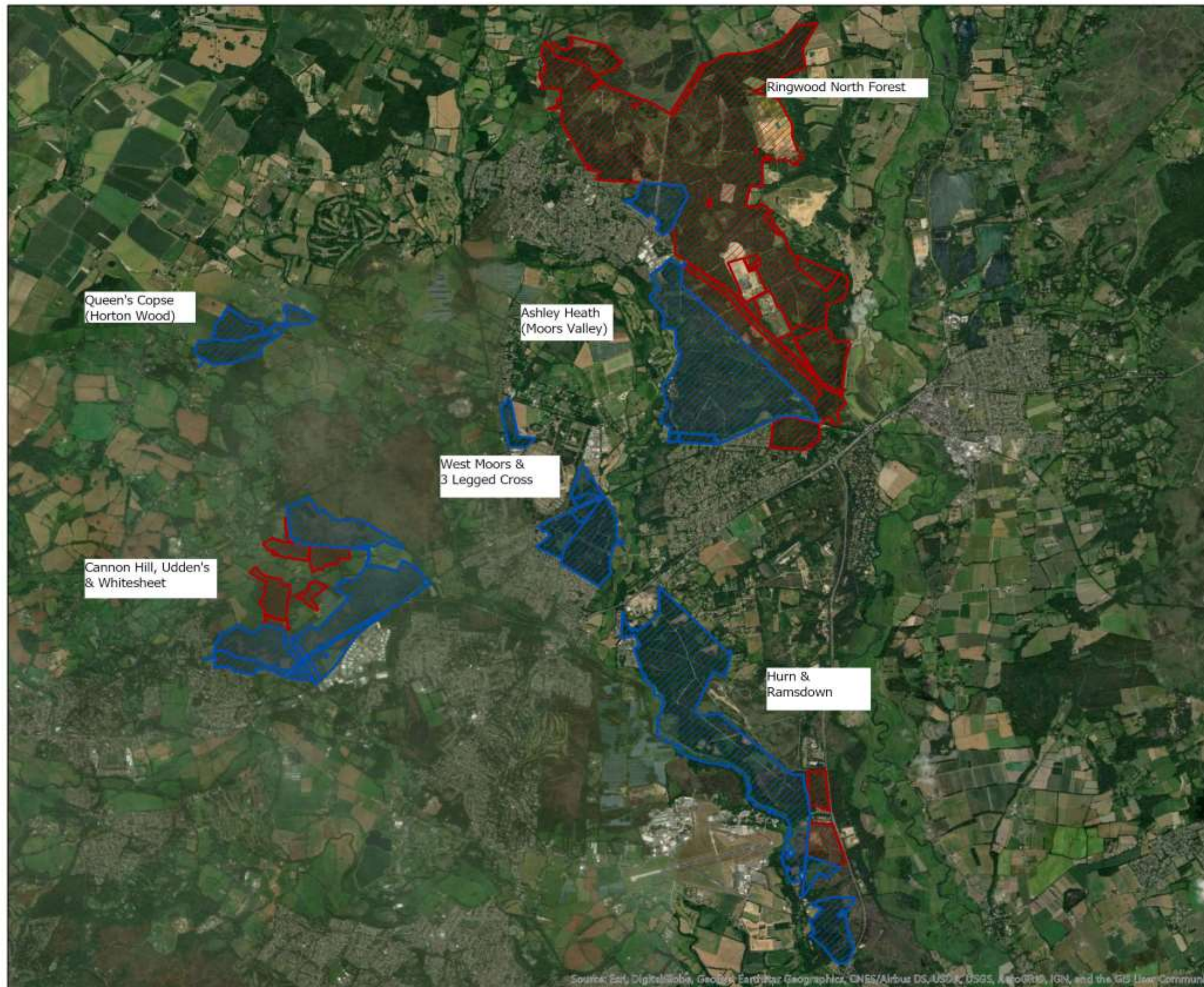
Of the 2708 hectares of land covered within this Forest Plan, 51% is Forestry England managed freehold, the remaining 49% is leasehold.

Current Structure

Many areas within this Forest plan were planted in the 1950's and 1960's (672 ha planted more than 60 years ago). This resulted in large areas of uniform structure. The timing of clearfells and subsequent replanting as well as an increasing use of Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS) will help to promote greater variation of age structure and, along with other measures, will create more resilient woodlands for the future.

Soils are generally nutrient deficient, of low pH and free draining. As a result pine species tend to dominate with Corsican pine representing 43% of current tree cover (as the main component) and Scots pine representing 33%. Broadleaved trees (either as single species or as a mixed stands) represent about 11% and tend to occur on the brown earth and gley soils as opposed to the podsolic soils where pines dominate.

According to Natural England's current Ancient Woodland Inventory, there are:
87.7 ha (3% by area of the Forest Plan) of Planted Ancient Woodland (PAWS).
4.66 ha (<1% by area of the Forest Plan) of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW).



East Dorset Forest Plan



East Dorset Forest Blocks & Tenure



Forestry Commission woodlands have been certified in accordance with the rules of the Forest Stewardship Council.



Legend

- Acquisition Freehold
- Acquisition Leasehold

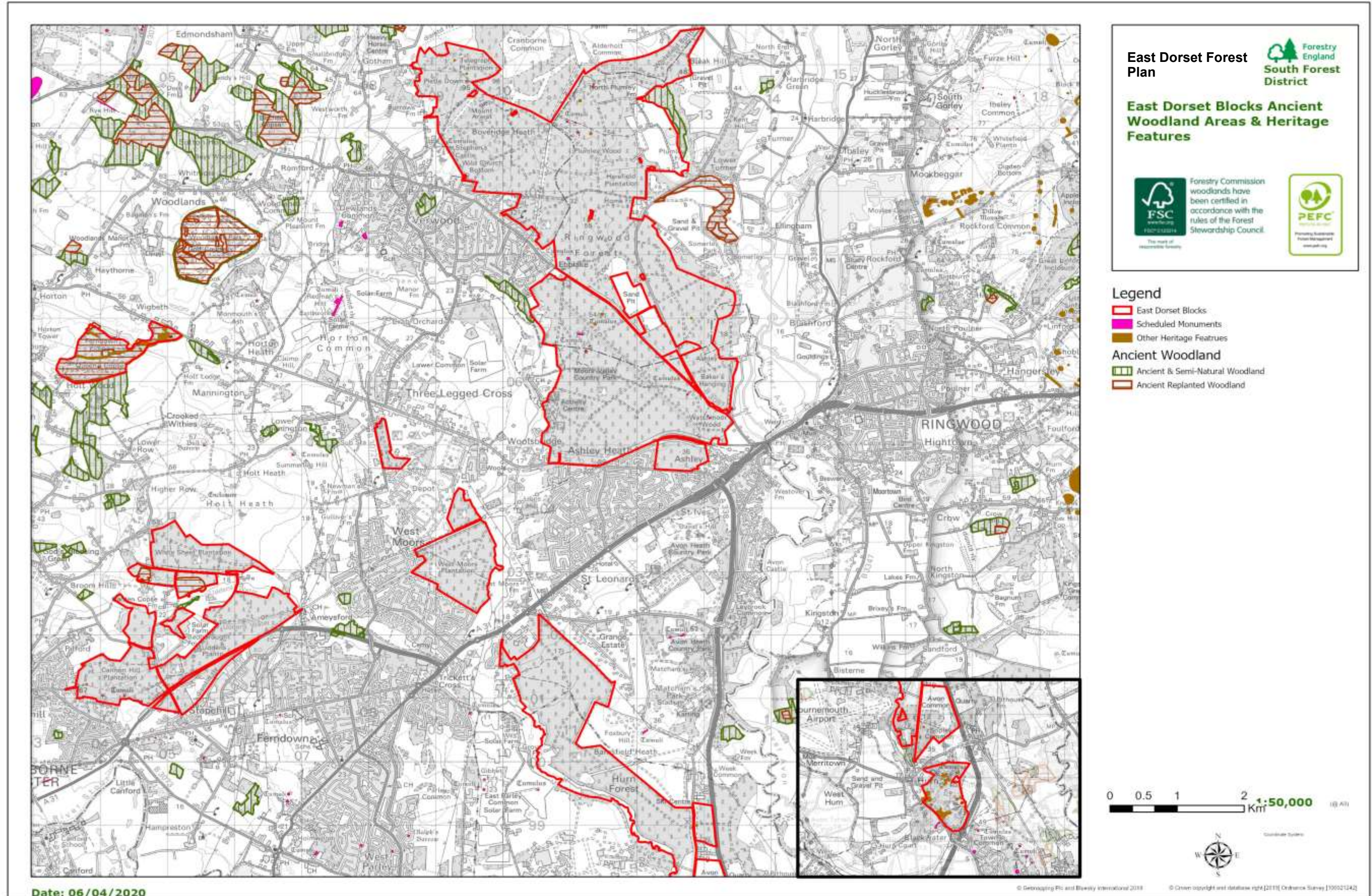
0 0.5 1 2 Km **1:60,000** (8 A1)



Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: 1936 AD
False Easting: 400,000.000
False Northing: 100,000.000
Central Meridian: -3.500
Scale Factor: 0.999
Latitude of Origin: 49.000
Units: Metre

Date: 06/04/2020

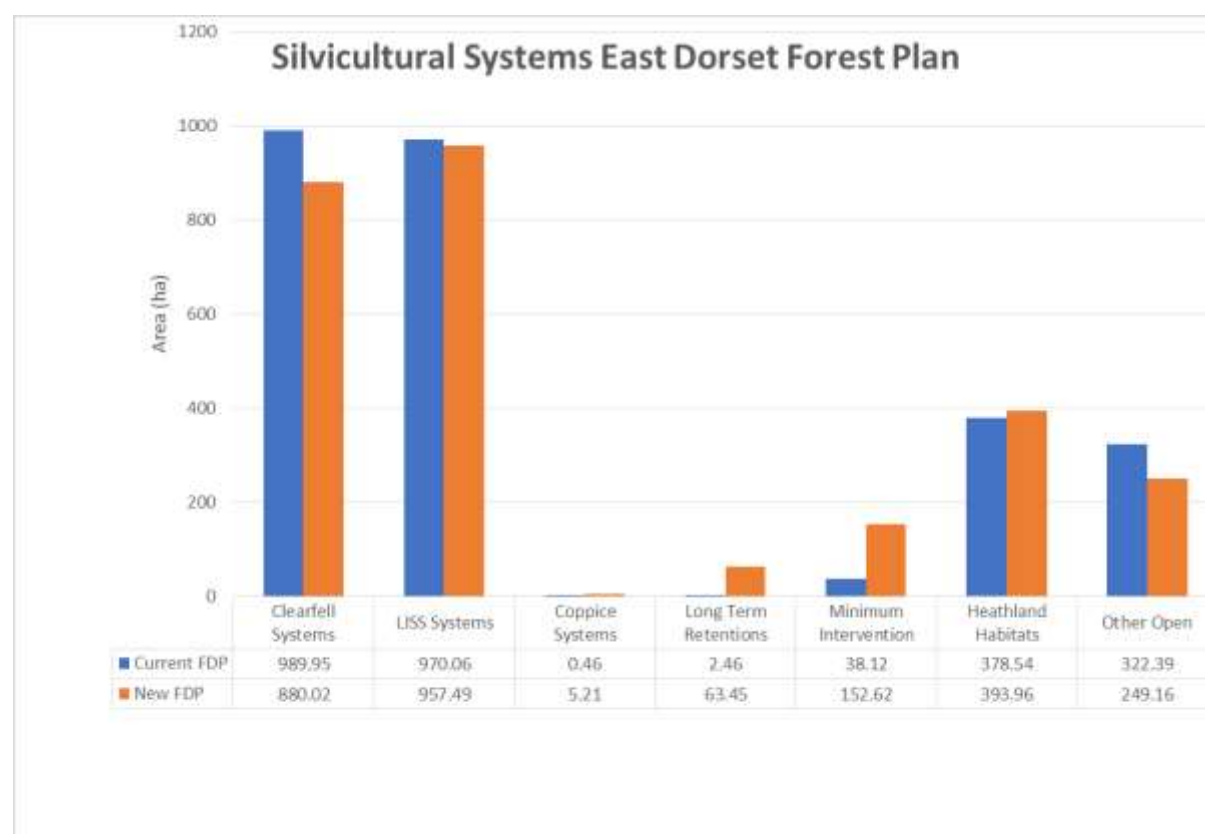
© Geospatial Pt and Blusky International 2018 © Crown copyright and database right [2019] Ordnance Survey [100021542]



Silvicultural Systems

The Forest Plan favours the use of Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS) for the majority of stands and where this is a practical option. LISS will aim to create a continuous cover across the wooded areas. LISS management will aim to further transform even aged plantations to an irregular forest structure over the long term. However LISS will only be effective where natural regeneration of the desired species is occurring. LISS has been used over the last 10 years of the former plan and particularly with Corsican pine natural regeneration has been inconsistent.

Under planting can be considered as part of a LISS approach, but where LISS is not currently effective, the option to fell and restock needs to be available. In short, and for these reasons only, some areas formerly down as under LISS management may need to change to fell and restock systems. This will promote a more rapid response to the structural changes identified. Any coupes subject to this change from LISS to fell will be reviewed at the end of the plan and if conditions are suitable, they should be shifted back to LISS. It should be mentioned that significant areas identified as fell and restock under the former Forest Plan have now been changed to LISS or Long Term Retention (LTR).



Open Space

Open space is an important feature especially for this Forest Plan as it is likely to equate to low-land heath and valley mire habitats. many of which are designated nationally as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), or internationally as Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Species Protection Area (SPAs) and Ramsar sites. Dorset is a national priority for heathland restoration, of which mire restoration is a part. Much of the natural hydrology in many of these systems remains intact, making successful restoration of complete mire systems readily achievable.

In terms of heathlands, ongoing maintenance management will be delivered through traditional management techniques including grazing, bracken and gorse management, controlled burning (where appropriate), clearance of natural regeneration and non-native invasive species removal such as rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*).

Mire restoration has been undertaken within Ringwood North, during the previous Forest Plan. This Forest Plan highlights areas where there are significant mire and wet heath restoration opportunities for the future, particularly within Ashley Heath, Ringwood North, Hurn and Whitesheet. These areas require hydrological restoration primarily through drain blocking.

Areas of permanent open space also include those tracks and rides identified in the Forest Plan as 'heathland corridors' connecting open areas. Open areas will be managed in accordance with best practice guidance to encourage a greater biodiversity of associated flora and fauna.

Temporary open space will also be created as a result of any identified clear fells and will provide important breeding sites, for example, for bird species such as woodlark (*Lullula arborea*) and nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus*).

Biodiversity & Conservation

Woodlands covered by this plan support significant biodiversity. European Protected Species (EPS) are well represented in many of the woodland blocks, and include a number of bat species, Eurasian otter (*Lutra lutra*), hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*), sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) and smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*).

Lowland heath habitats support important assemblages of birds, reptiles and invertebrates including all six species of British (terrestrial) reptiles, woodlark, Dartford warbler (*Sylvia undata*), European nightjar and hobby (*Falco subbuteo*) which are all listed within the SAC, SPA and Ramsar designations for the Dorset Heathlands. There has been significant ongoing work (creation of sand scrapes, management of natural regeneration to prevent shading) over the period of the previous Forest Plan to protect and enhance habitats for reptiles, particularly within Ringwood North and Hurn. This work will continue, with the ongoing maintenance of sand scrapes for breeding sand lizards as an example.

Three locations within the Cannon Hill and West Moors blocks are also managed to maintain and enhance a population of the dingy mocha (*Cyclophora pendularia*). A moth identified as a Section 41 (NERC Act 2006) species and a UK BAP: Priority Species and is currently confined to Dorset and western Hampshire. Queen's Copse contains an area (1.7 ha) of small leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*). Management across this (PAWS) woodland will maintain and hopefully enhance this important population and its associated wildlife. The aforementioned is not a comprehensive list, rather some significant examples.

Veteran Trees & Deadwood

The United Kingdom Forestry Standard (UKFS) classifies a veteran tree as ‘a tree of considerable age that is of interest biologically, culturally or aesthetically because of its age, size or condition, including the presence of deadwood micro habitats.’ Management interventions will aim to leave a proportion of standing and fallen deadwood in areas of ecological value whilst being aware that many areas of this plan (thresholds, parking areas and promoted routes etc) are also subject to high levels of recreational use. Existing veteran trees will be recorded and retained. The next generation of veteran trees will be created as a result of LISS and Long Term Retention (LTR), though under any silvicultural regime, the ability to manage to favour veteran trees will exist. There are currently 7 records of veteran trees within the area of this Forest Plan.

Habitat Designations & Habitats Regulation Assessment (map overleaf)

Six SSSI units are located either within or partially within Forestry England managed land covered by this Forest Plan, and have been assessed by Natural England as currently being in either ‘unfavourable recovering’ or ‘favourable’ condition. We will continue to manage all SSSI’s so that they continue to improve, recover or remain in favourable condition.

Additionally and as a competent authority, Forestry England has undertaken a HRA screening where the forest plan encompasses the following habitat designations:

- Ramsar sites
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protection Areas. (SPA)

The purpose will be to consider what impact, if any, this Forest Plan may have on these designated habitats.

The specific designations that need to be considered are:

Ramsar

- Avon Valley UK11005
- Dorset Heathlands UK11021

SAC

- River Avon UK0013016
- Dorset Heathlands UK0019857

SPA

- Avon Valley UK9011091
- Dorset Heathlands UK9010101

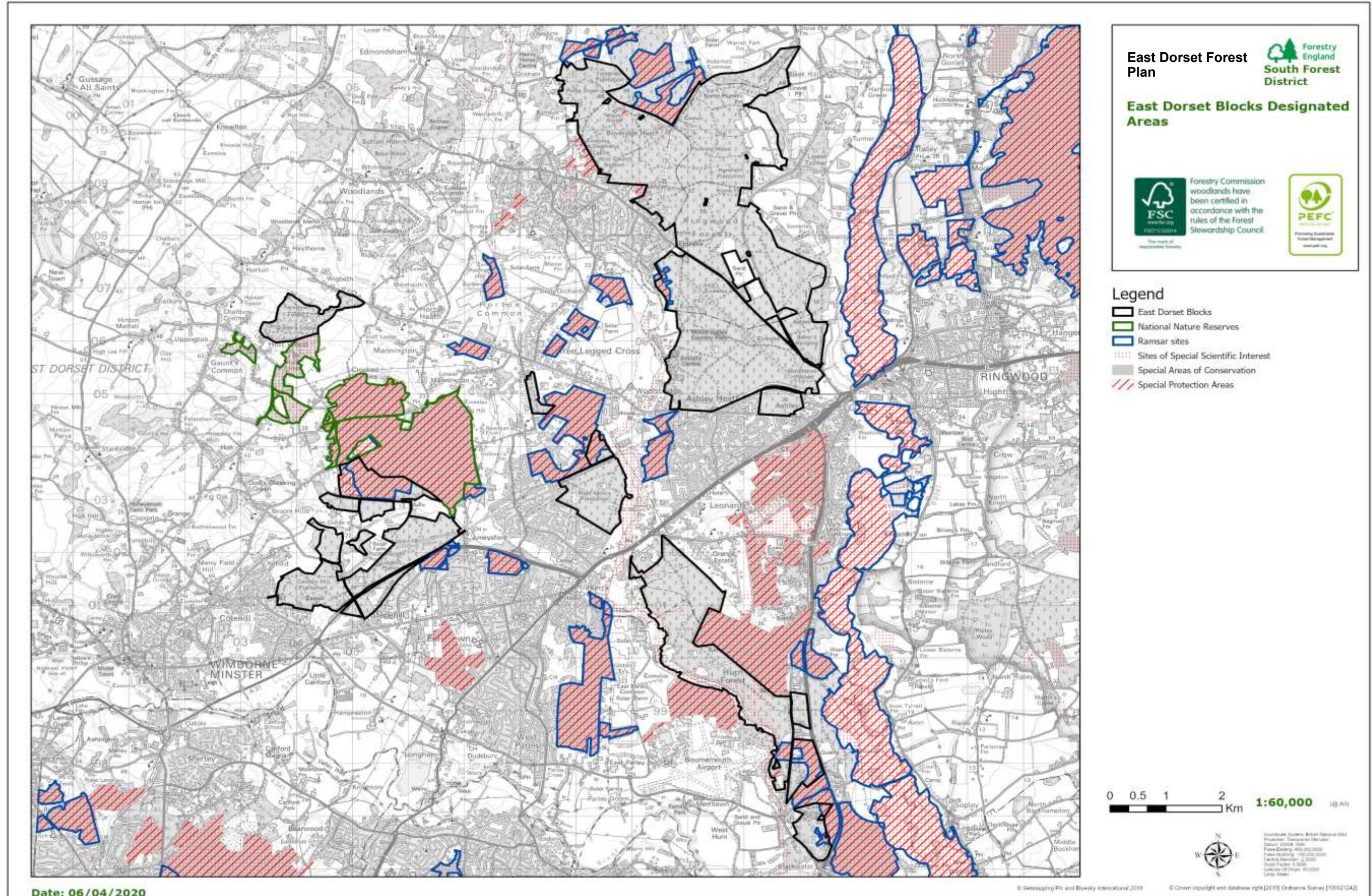
Operational interventions will seek out opportunities for further improvements to structural diversity and ride enhancements to improve ecological connectivity across blocks and also to link up with adjoining sites where appropriate.

Other areas of conservation interest include wet woodland. This will be managed under minimum intervention, long term retention or under a coppice regime. There is an area of worked hazel coppice with oak standards in Daffodil Copse (Cannon Hill).

Historic Environment

There are currently 29 Scheduled Monuments (SMs) within the East Dorset Forest Plan area. There are also a number of undesignated heritage features. All known heritage will be managed as if it is designated/scheduled. In the lead-up to operational activity, professional third-party archaeological advice will be sought to confirm how to best avoid damage to heritage sites and to identify possible opportunities to enhance it by, for instance removing tree cover.

All SMs will have a 5-year management plan that have been agreed and signed by Historic England and will be managed in line with UKFS requirements. There are currently no SMs on Historic England’s Heritage at Risk Register.



People

Public access represents a significant use and purpose of this Forest Plan. As mentioned in the introduction, woodlands within the catchment of this Forest Plan provide multiple opportunities for many kinds of recreational activity for the significant communities and visitors. The role that these sites also play in addressing issues such as wellbeing and exercise for all cannot be overstated. Woodlands within this plan area represent an attractive and more robust alternative than the more sensitive habitats of open heathland and as such access to and within the wood needs to be supported and encouraged through sensitive management. LISS represent this option and will be employed around key thresholds and access points and routes and within the popular visitor facility of Moors Valley Country Park, which supports in excess of 1 million visits a year.

At Cannon Hill, FE has been working with the Friends of Uddens and Cannon Hill for much of the duration of the former plan. The Friends, as a volunteer organisation, continue to deliver important conservation and amenity management within this block (north and south of the A31). Much of the Cannon Hill complex will be under LISS management and will support the ongoing work of the Friends group as well as delivering wider aesthetic management for the local and visiting community.

The Forestry Commission, as it was at the time, voluntarily dedicated the vast majority of its freehold estate under the Countryside Rights of Way Act of 2000 (CROW). See Map 6. In terms of this Forest Plan, this represents 51% of the land. This act shifted a former *de facto* or permissive access (on foot) to a legal right (*de jure*). This has obvious implications for the operational management of such popular sites. 49% of the land in this Forest Plan is leasehold with limited options to develop or encourage access other than by the Public Rights of Way network.

Water

All forest management operations will follow the guidance set out in the UKFS 'Forests and Water' publication. Water bodies and wet habitats such as wet woodland and ponds are mapped and managed (as minimum intervention or LTR) in accordance with this important status. Additionally, this Forest Plan includes multiple SSSI units relating to Holt and West Moors Heaths, Moors River System and Ebblake Bog all of which support wetland habitats and are either within or immediately adjacent to FE forest blocks at Whitesheet, Hurn and Ashley Heath.

When these are functioning properly ('in favourable condition') wetland habitats have a vital role to play in flood alleviation and protecting water quality by attenuating run-off, reducing flood peaks and reducing erosion and sediment release. Forestry England will continue to work with Natural England and other key partners towards identifying potential sites for wetland habitat restoration across the East Dorset woodlands, particularly in relation to vulnerable SSSI units.

Tree Diseases, Pests and Invasive Plants

Tree disease and pests remain an ever-present and increasing issue for woodland management. The key and current tree diseases affecting this Forest Plan include:

Dothistroma Needle Blight (DNB). This fungal disease predominantly affects Corsican pine (*Pinus nigra*) but can infect other pine species such as Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) and radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*). DNB is endemic within the Corsican pine stands covered by this plan and whilst its long term impact is yet to be confirmed, it is currently having a significant impact on arguably the tree species best suited (in economic terms) to many of the conditions in East Dorset. Corsican pine currently represents 43% of tree cover in this Forest Plan area. Scots pine represents 33% of tree cover and lodgepole and radiata pine are represented within the other pines category with 3% cover. Pine species represent 79% of tree cover.

Phytophthora ramorum on larch species. Whilst a significant risk, growing conditions through much of this Forest Plan are not ideal for larch species. About 13% of Queen's Copse has a main component of larch. However, Queen's Copse is largely a PAWS and therefore all larch will ultimately be removed as part of this restoration process.

P. ramorum is linked to a vector species, *Rhododendron ponticum*. This species is also present and continued management aims to minimise the amount of *R. ponticum* within this Forest Plan. Significant areas of this species have been cut and treated in the Cannon Hill Block south of the A31.

Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxinea*). Ash is a minor component for most blocks within this plan (represented within the other broadleaves category at 3% of total cover). It is however a more significant component in Queen's Copse and parts of the Cannon Hill block. As a native species, ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) would be a choice for PAWS restoration. Within the area of this Forest Plan ash will not be felled for sanitation purposes outside of planned operational visits unless there is a significant health and safety concern (trees that are close to car parks, trails, residential property for example). Trees will be retained so that disease-tolerant specimens remain and those that are not and succumb will provide important dead wood habitats.

Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) is also present and continued management aims to minimise the amount of this invasive, non-native plant. Much work has been undertaken (by volunteers) over a number of years to eradicate this plant from sections of the Udden's Water within the Cannon Hill Block.

Addressing the impacts of tree disease is an issue and represents a significant threat to growing trees for any objectives. LISS management will be an objective for this Forest Plan where practical (outside of PAWS).

Guidance and action plans regarding plant health are constantly evolving to adapt to new plant health threats. The sudden emergence of a disease or pest can result in the need to fell a coupe earlier than planned or alter restocking plans. We will continue to monitor for disease and pests as required and take the appropriate action where possible. Any changes to the Forest Plan will be agreed with the Forestry Commission in accordance with Practice Delivery Note 01.

Deer

Deer will be managed in accordance with the South England Forest District ‘Deer Management Strategy’ and in the wider landscape through partnership working with the relevant agencies.

Grey Squirrels

Though present, grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) is not considered a major issue within the woodlands covered by this Forest Plan in that they are mostly coniferous. Squirrel control will occur where we have vulnerable broadleaved crops.

Climate Change

Climate change represents one of the greatest challenges facing the world today. Conventional forest management systems have developed in a climate that has undergone (is undergoing) fluctuations but remained relatively stable since the end of the last ice-age about 10, 000 BP. However, the average global temperature is now rising and there is evidence that rainfall patterns are changing. There is also likely to be an increase in the incidence of extreme weather and the frequency and severity of summer drought.

The UKCP18 project suggest greater chance of hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters. Met Office UK Climate Predictions. UKCP18 Climate Change Over Land. 2018.

Summer and winter changes by the 2070’s (High Emission Scenario for Central England).

Summer rainfall change	Winter precipitation change	Summer temperature change	Winter temperature change
57% drier to 3% wetter	2% drier to 33% wetter	1.1° C warmer to 5.8° C warmer	0.7° C warmer to 4.2° C warmer

Woodland management needs to mitigate these threats and how that will be done has been discussed in many of the previous paragraphs, but there are 2 main themes as to how it can be addressed within this Forest Plan:

- Through adaptation including species choice/diversification, to ‘future-proof’ these woodland by selecting species/trees from an appropriate provenance.
- Through the ongoing restoration of damaged mire systems.

Current modelling of climate change for the UK suggests that we now need to be considering our tree provenance from 3-4° further south, this is central France. Trees are an important (and the most economic) tool for locking-up carbon that we currently possess.

Restored mires and wetland habitats help to mitigate for the effects of extreme weather events by reducing the rate of flow through the system, acting as sponges to buffer heavy rainfall events and releasing flows downstream more gradually over a longer time period, and holding on to water in drier periods for longer. As well as buffering the impacts of a more volatile climate, this also improves the stability of watercourses that might otherwise be subject to erosion from flash flooding, and provides a greater diversity of more stable microhabitats for a variety of flora and fauna.

Climate change (coupled with other influences such as global movement of wood-based products) will continue to increase the number of diseases and pests that can seriously impact upon tree health. We are likely to see more tree diseases and pests in the future.

Wildfire Resilience

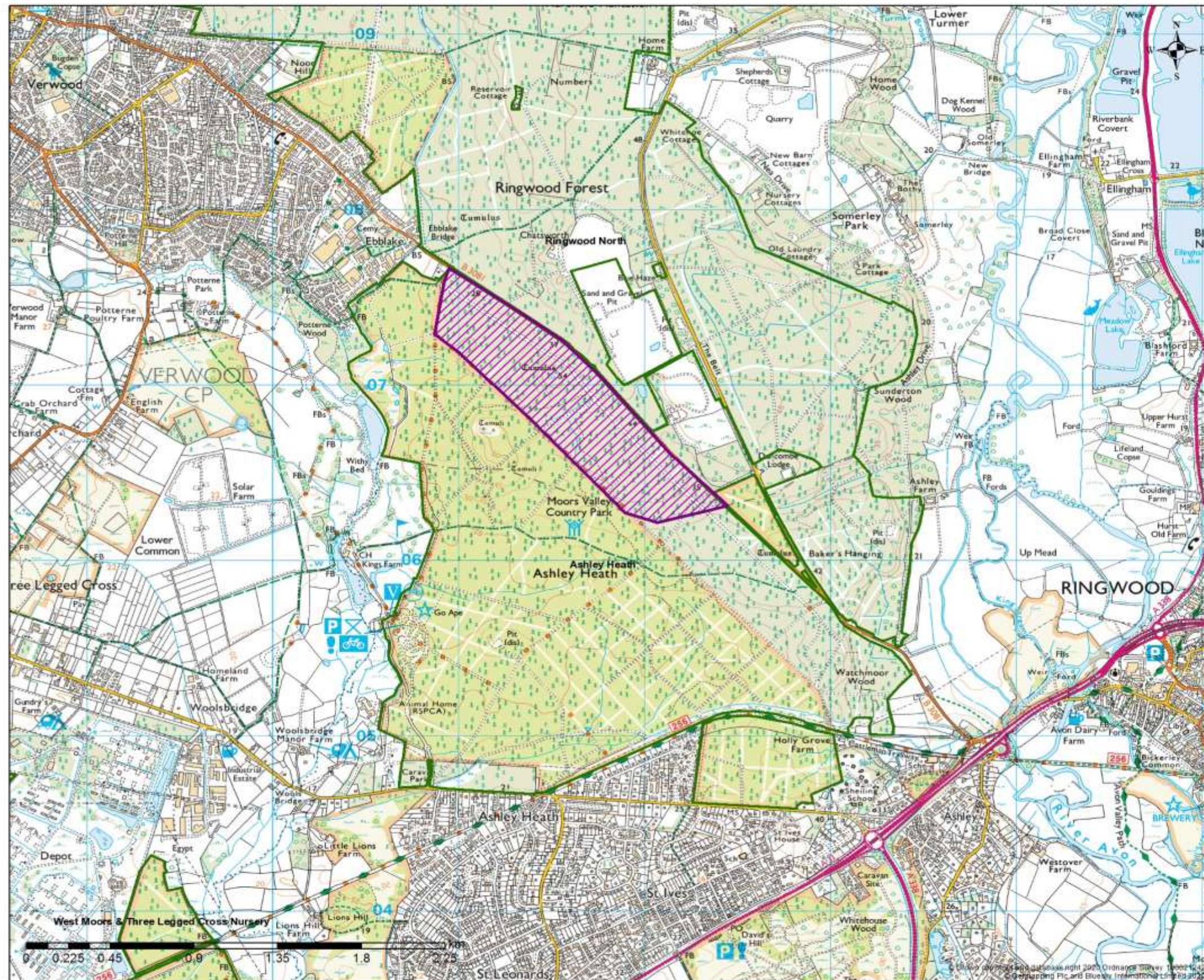
Climate change modelling and recent history both indicate that it is very likely that the number of wildfires will increase. LISS management will break-up even age areas of trees, giving them more structural and species diversity which may help reduce the potential for wildlife to establish and proliferate. However, LISS is not a total panacea; trees regenerating within the woodland matrix can act as ‘ladders’ for wildfire. It is also a reality that open habitats (an area with less than 20% canopy cover) are the most combustible of the habitats represented within this plan.

This Forest Plan will reduce wildfire risk by:

- Managing the vegetation to maintain a network of fire breaks, reducing the fuel loading across an entire site especially along roads and rides. Particularly important where forest blocks abut residential property.
- Fire breaks coupled with the retention of mature trees as a fuel break around such areas. Fire breaks will be routinely managed to maintain their efficacy.
- Use of broadleaved trees as fuel breaks where possible, given that the only broadleaved tree to grow relatively well on many of the soils covered by this plan is birch (*Betula spp*).
- Increased vigilance through the use of targeted signage during periods of high risk.
- Liaison with local Fire & Rescue services as a consultee for this plan.

Sands and Gravels Extraction: Purple Haze (see map overleaf).

A 71.9 ha area of land at Ashley Heath is identified in the current Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan 2013 (Adopted). The land affected is leasehold, and Forestry England is the leaseholder and occupier. This issue is subject to a separate planning process and managed by the freeholder and their representatives and as such it is not within the remit of this Forest Plan. For the purposes of this exercise we have included the area in question within this plan as there is no planning application/ permission at the time of writing. Any planning application submitted on behalf of the freeholder will require mitigation and landscape restoration plans as part of this process. If granted, this planning permission will take priority over this forest plan and an amendment to the forest plan is considered likely in order to reflect this permission and the land affected.



 Forestry England

Title: Proposed Mineral Site MVCP
Date: 6 April 2020
Author: Jonathan Blanco Diaz
Scale @ A3: 1:20,000

Blocks

 Blocks



FSC
The mark of responsible forestry

Forestry Commission woodlands have been certified in accordance with the rules of the Forest Stewardship Council.



PEFC
The mark of responsible forestry

Ashley Heath (Moors Valley Country Park and Jack’s Garden)

Location: Postcode BH24 2ET (Visitor Centre).
NGR: SU 1145 0588 (to centre of block)

Area: 27ha.
2.0miles². 5.3km²

Local Authority: Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
New Forest District Council

Ashley Heath, or Moors Valley Country Park consists of 527 hectares of conifer-dominated plantation woodland and open habitats of lowland heath and mire. About 68% of the land is Forestry England freehold, for the remainder Forestry England is the leaseholder. The topography can be described as gentle, lying between 20 and 50 metres above sea level. Ebblake Bog SSSI is 9.45ha by area and located in the north-west corner of the site. It is also designated as a SPA, SAC and Ramasar site and is important for its wet heath and mire communities. Similarly, the wetland corridors throughout the block provide important wet heath and mire connectivity, linking together areas of open space. Ebblake Bog is part of a Higher Level Scheme (HLS) grazing project.

Herpetofauna is well represented across the block, with good populations of sand lizard and smooth snake. The trackside habitats of Ashley Heath provide quality reptile habitat, which is used by adder (*Vipera berus*) and has also recently become home to coral necklace (*Illecebrum verticillatum*), a rare plant restricted to just a few sites in southern and south-west England.

There are 7 Scheduled Monuments within the block. All are bowl barrows and date to the Neolithic or Bronze Age periods.

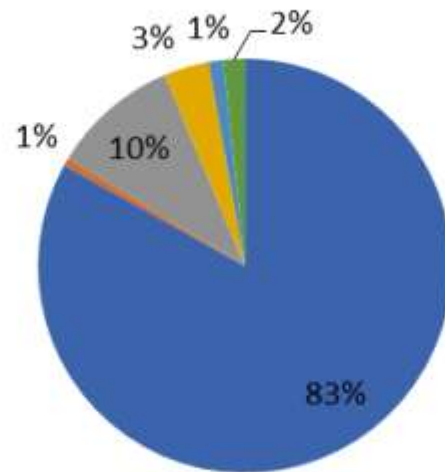
Ashley Heath contains Moors Valley Country Park, and is managed in partnership with Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. Much of the focus for recreational activity and infrastructure is around the visitor centre at the western side. Moors Valley is a popular day visitor attraction for both ‘locals’ and for those from further afield. Current estimates suggest the site receives in excess of 1 million day visits a year. It is one of the most visited sites in Forestry England’s portfolio. The site offers: a car park (for which there is a charge) with a capacity in excess of 500 spaces, a visitor centre with a café and toilets and picnic facilities, walking and cycling trails, high ropes and tree top experiences, orienteering and Segways. A new car park is currently nearing completion and is located within sub compartments 2522b and 2522i and is of approximately 0.74 ha by area and is not reflected in the following table.

Since the publication of the last plan, Forestry England has obtained the freehold of approximately 8 hectares of woodland on the southern boundary of the site bound by the Horton Road, entrance to the park and the Forestry England site office and compound, effectively much of compartment 2532. Additionally, approximately 73ha of leasehold land is within the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan with a planning application likely to be submitted in 2020. The forest plan may need to be revisited once the outcome is confirmed.

Summary Statistics of Habitat Types: Ashley Heath (Moors Valley Country Park)

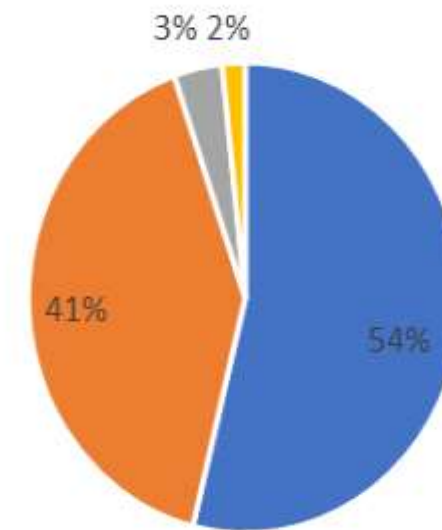
Current Habitat Types

- Predominantly Conifer
- Mixed Woodland
- Heathland Habitats
- Mire/Bog/Riverine habitats
- Built Up - car parks
- Agricultural



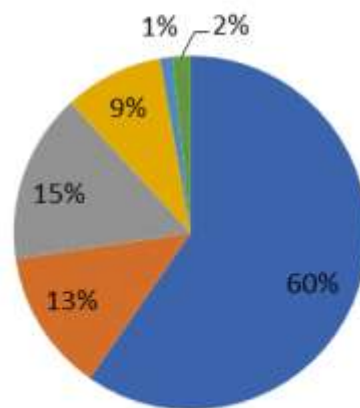
Species Diversity 2020

- Corsican Pine
- Scots Pine
- Other Conifers
- Native Broadleaves



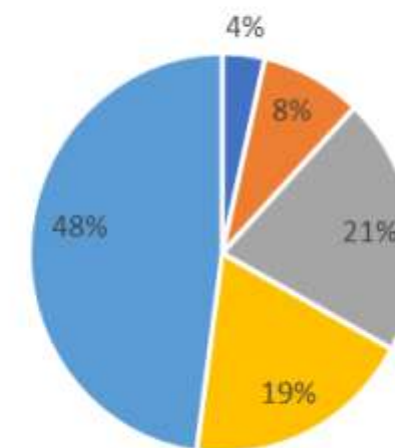
Our Long Term Vision

- Predominantly Conifer
- Mixed Woodland
- Heathland Habitats
- Mire/Bog/Riverine habitats
- Built Up - car parks
- Agricultural

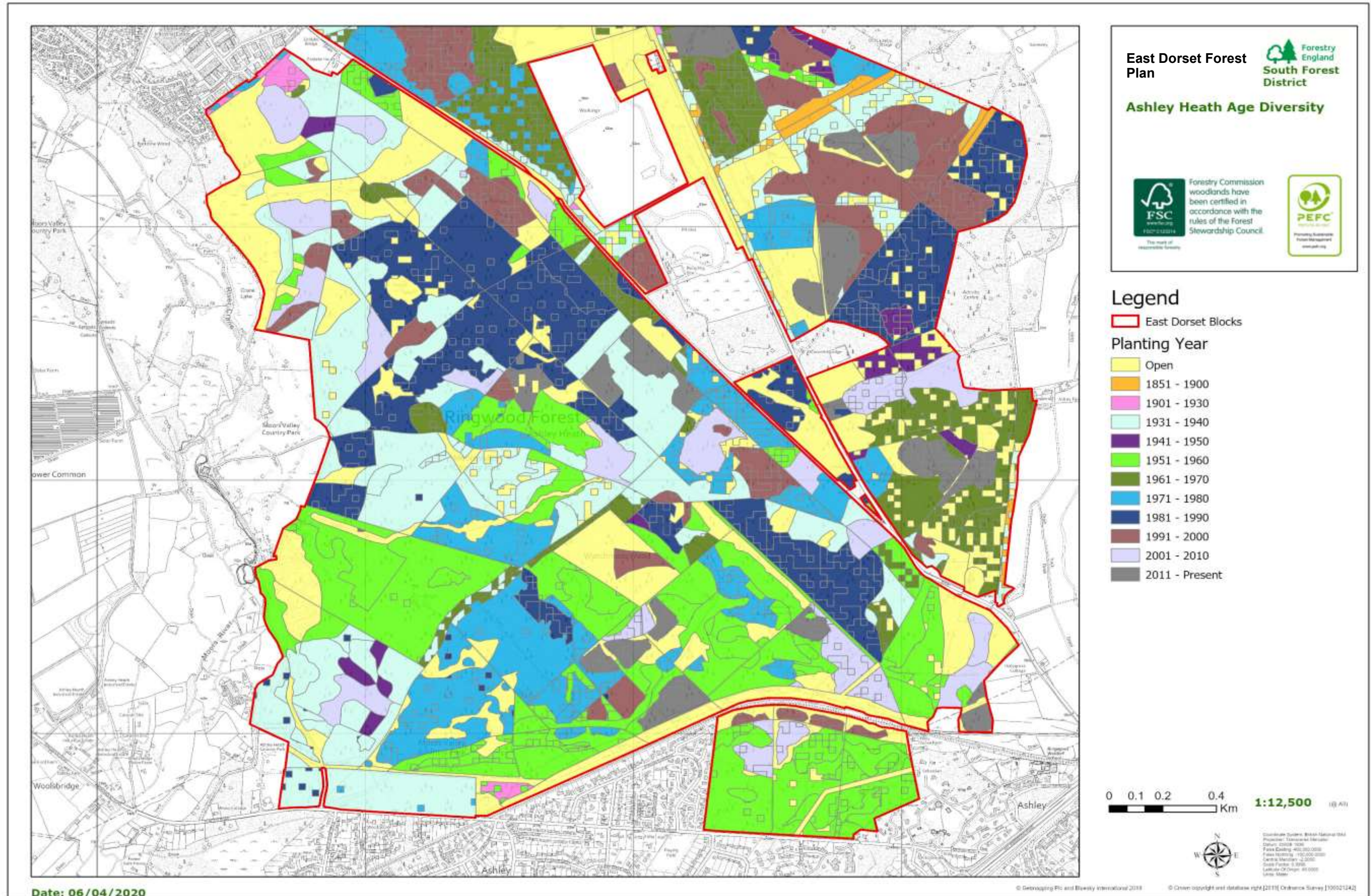


Age Diversity 2020

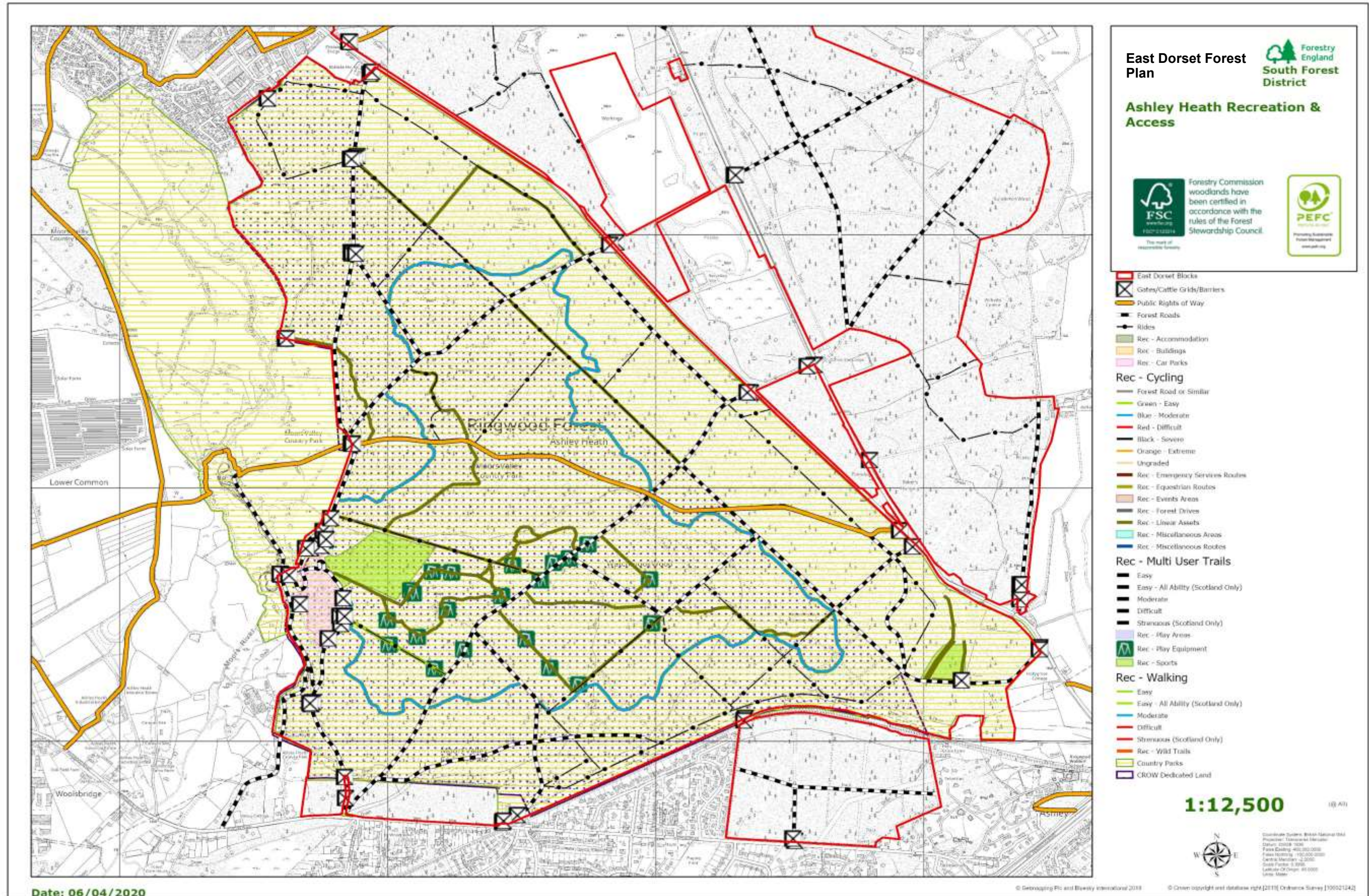
- 0 to 10 yrs
- 11 to 20 yrs
- 21 to 40 yrs
- 41 to 60 yrs
- 60+ yrs

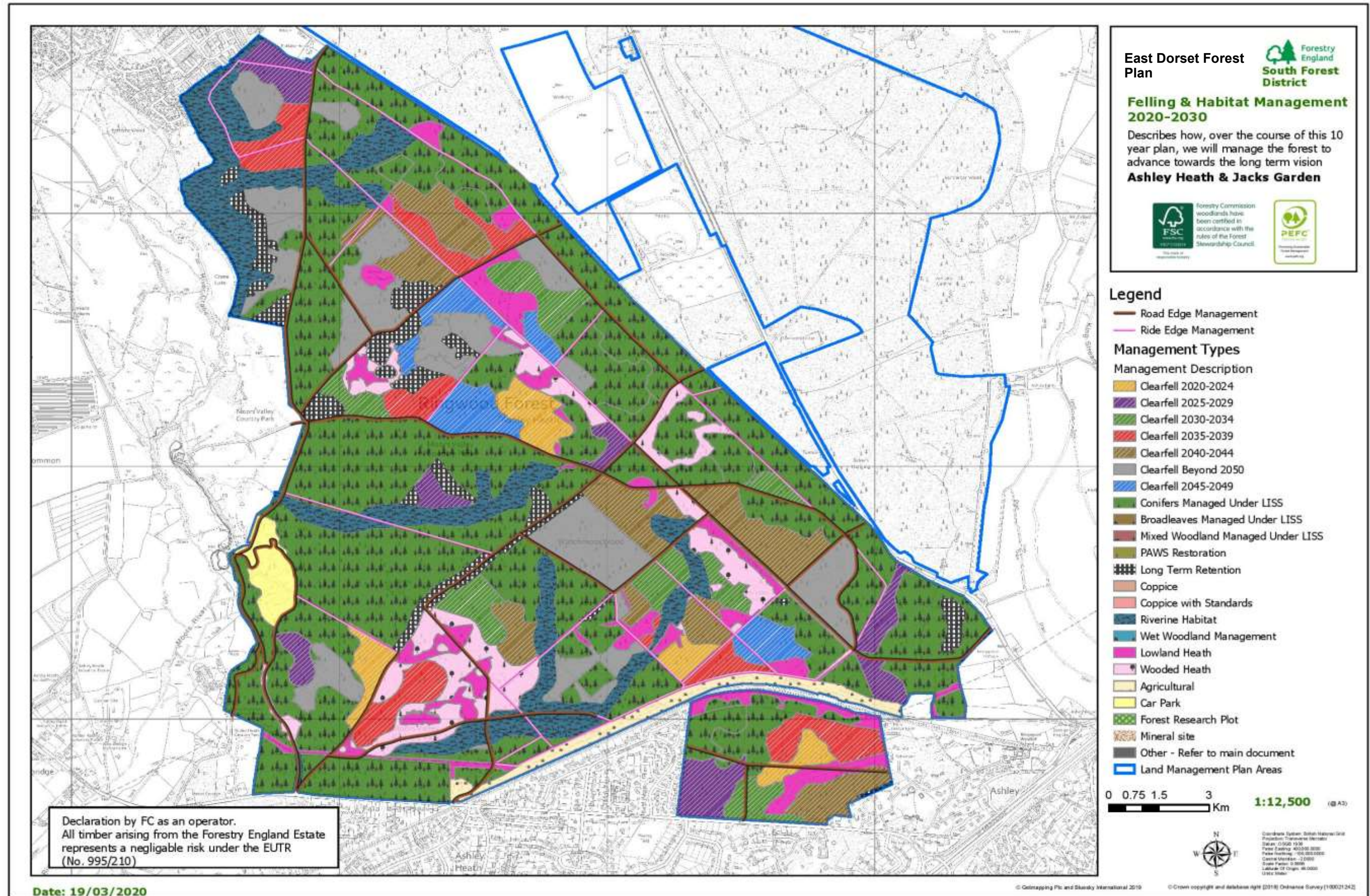


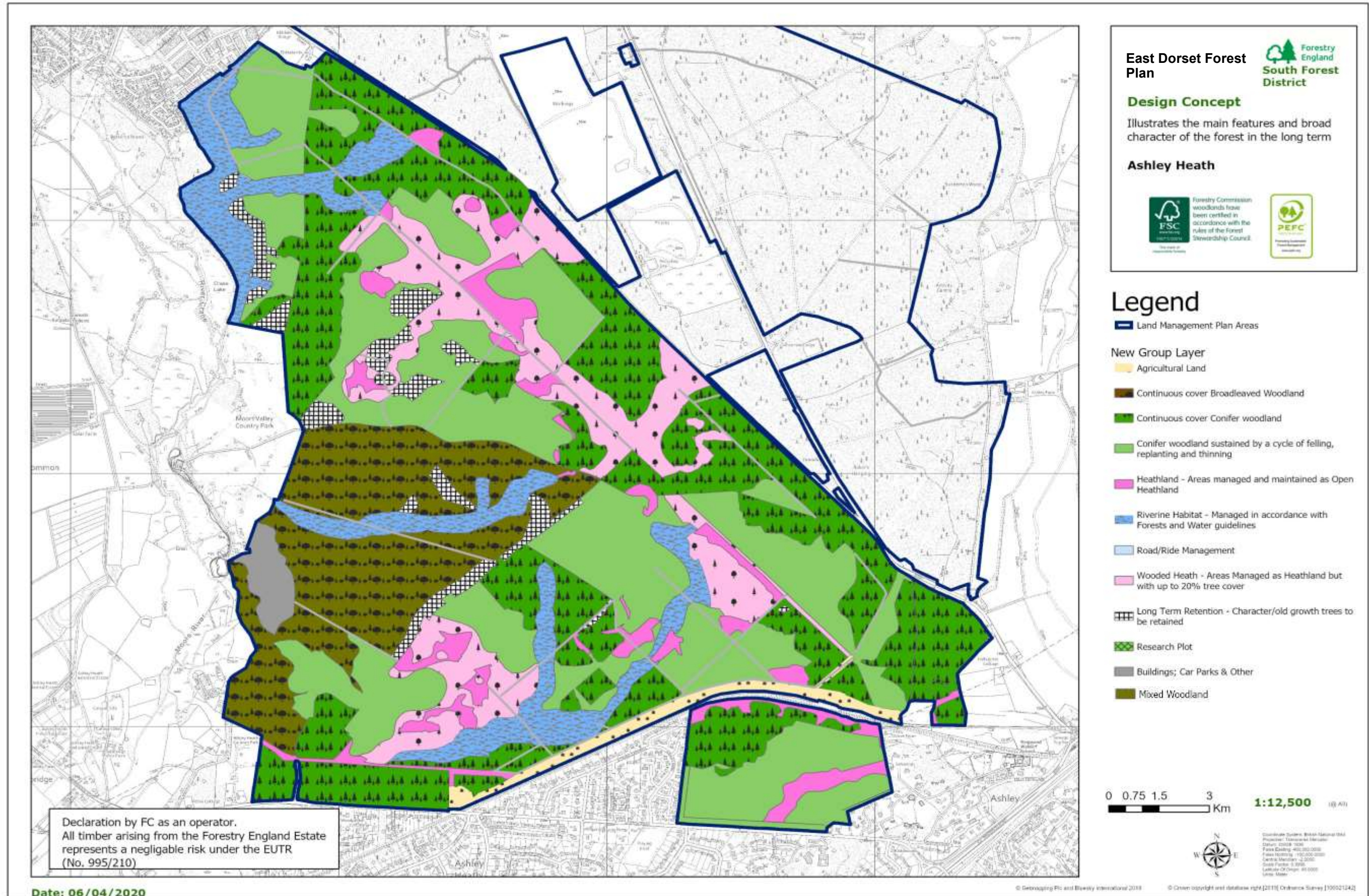












West Moors Plantation (including Three Legged Cross Nursery).

Location: SU 0941 0318 (West Moors)
SU 0822 0497 (Three Legged Cross)

Area: 145 ha
0.6 miles²
1.45km²

Local Authority: Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

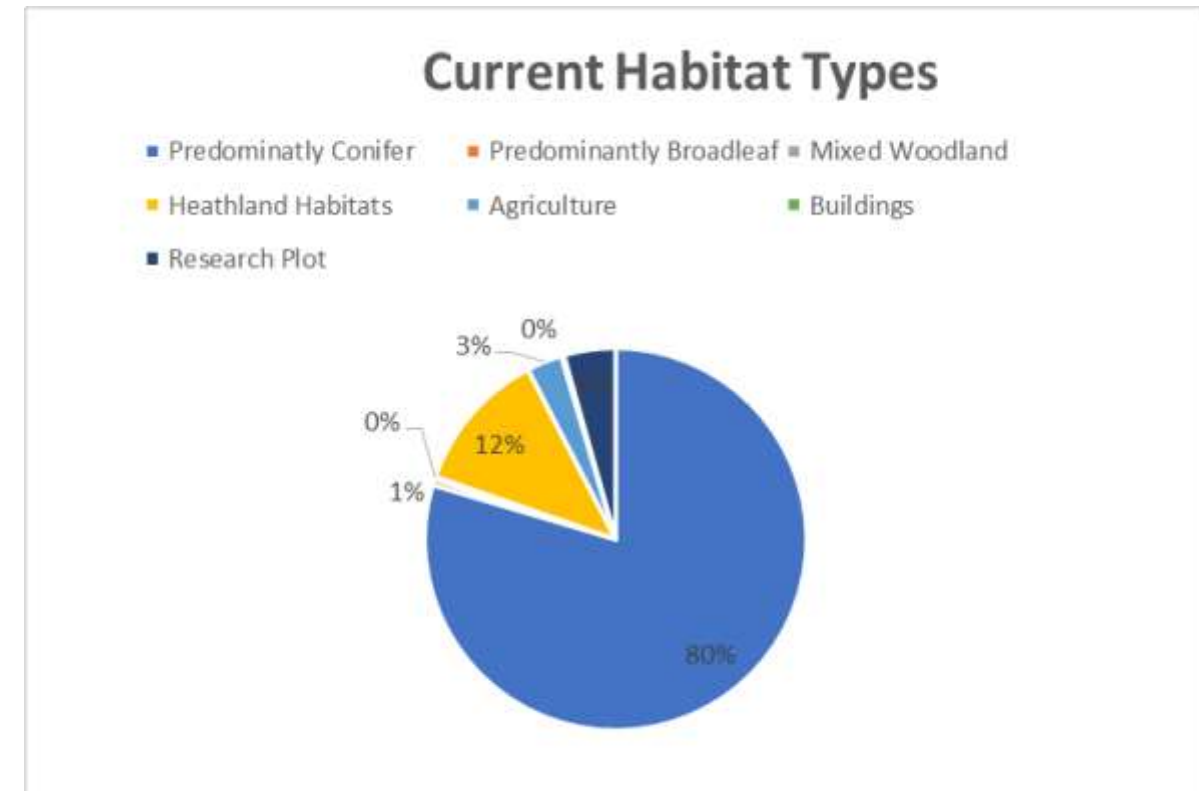
West Moors Plantation consists of 145 hectares of pine-dominated woodland and heathland habitats within a largely flat landscape. West Moors Plantation is bound to the east by the floodplain of the Moors River, to the north by a Ministry of Defence fuel depot and to the south and west by the village of West Moors with an estimated population of 7,500 (West Moors PC), all of which is within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the plantation. It is this proximity to a significant doorstep population that makes this area such an important community resource. West Moors Plantation is also served by the Castleman Trailway which today is a recreational route and runs in a SW to NE direction and separates the main part of the West Moors from Gundry's Plantation. West Moors Plantation and Three Legged Cross Nursery are Forestry England Freehold land and dedicated under the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000.

Three Legged Cross is a 16 ha former tree nursery.

There are no designated habitats within West Moors Plantation itself. The SSSI units of the Moors River System abut the site on its eastern boundary. Gundry's Plantation however is largely within the Holt & West Moors Heaths SSSI, as well as the Dorset Heaths SAC and the Dorset Heathlands, SPA and Ramsar sites. There are no designated habitats within Three Legged Cross Nursery though it does abut the same designated habitats as West Moors Plantation and identified earlier on its SE boundary. This block currently supports significant populations of the dingy mocha moth that feeds on willow species during its larval stage. This moth is a Section 41 (NERC Act 2006) species and a UK BAP: Priority Species Coral necklace is also found across this block. Other conservation considerations include the presence of badger (*Meles meles*) setts and there are records of adders.

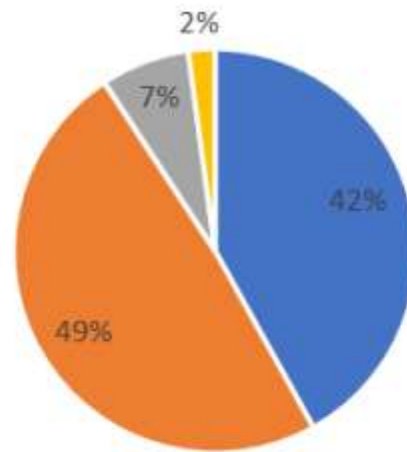
There are no scheduled monuments within West Moors Plantation or Three Legged Cross Nursery.

Summary Statistics of Habitat Types: West Moors Plantation & Three Legged Cross Nursery.



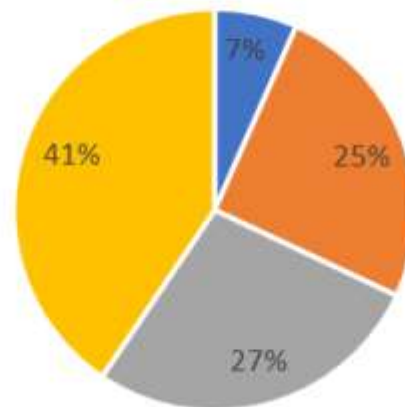
Species Diversity 2020

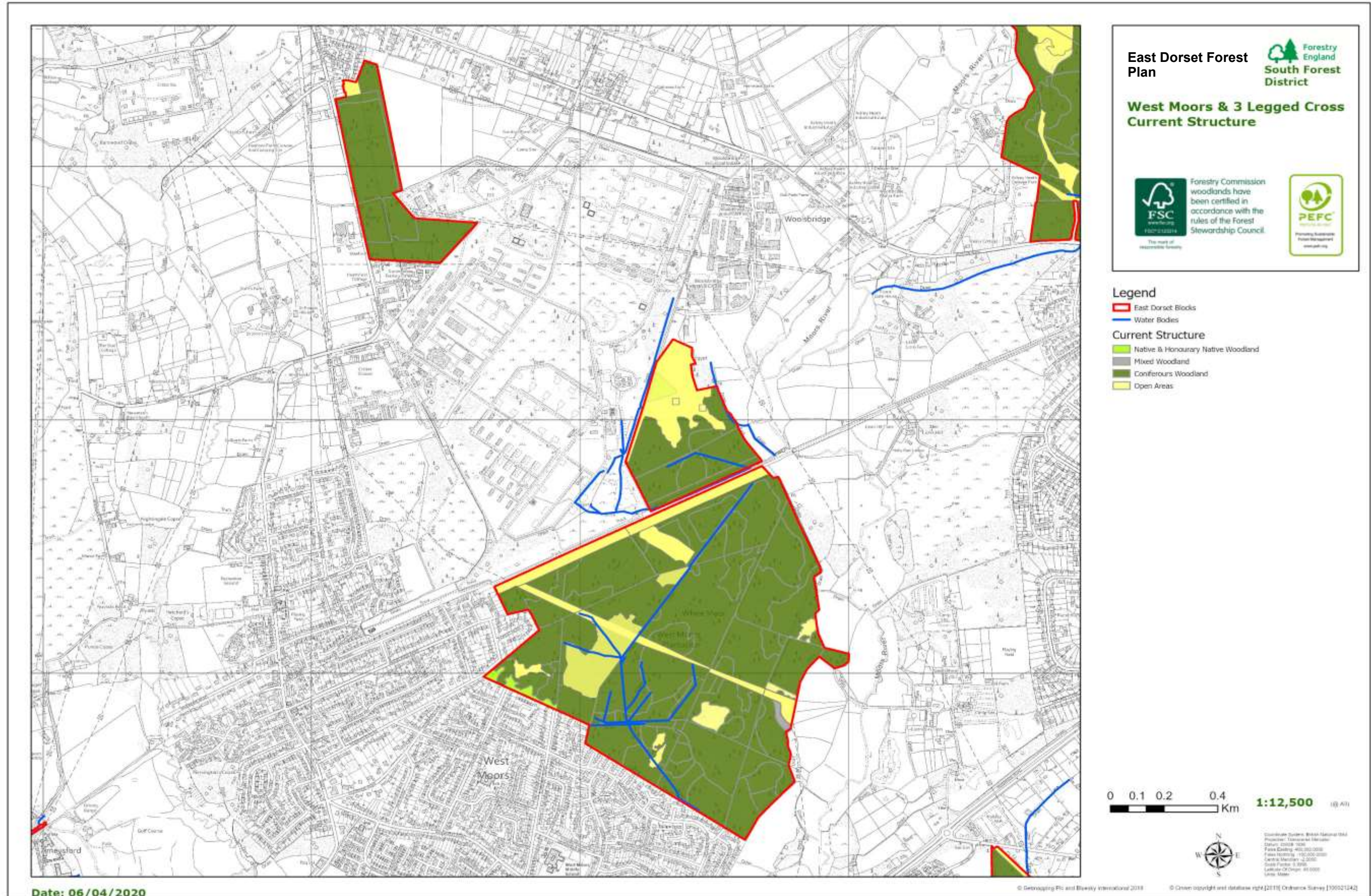
■ Corsican Pine ■ Scots Pine ■ Other Conifer ■ Native Broadleaves



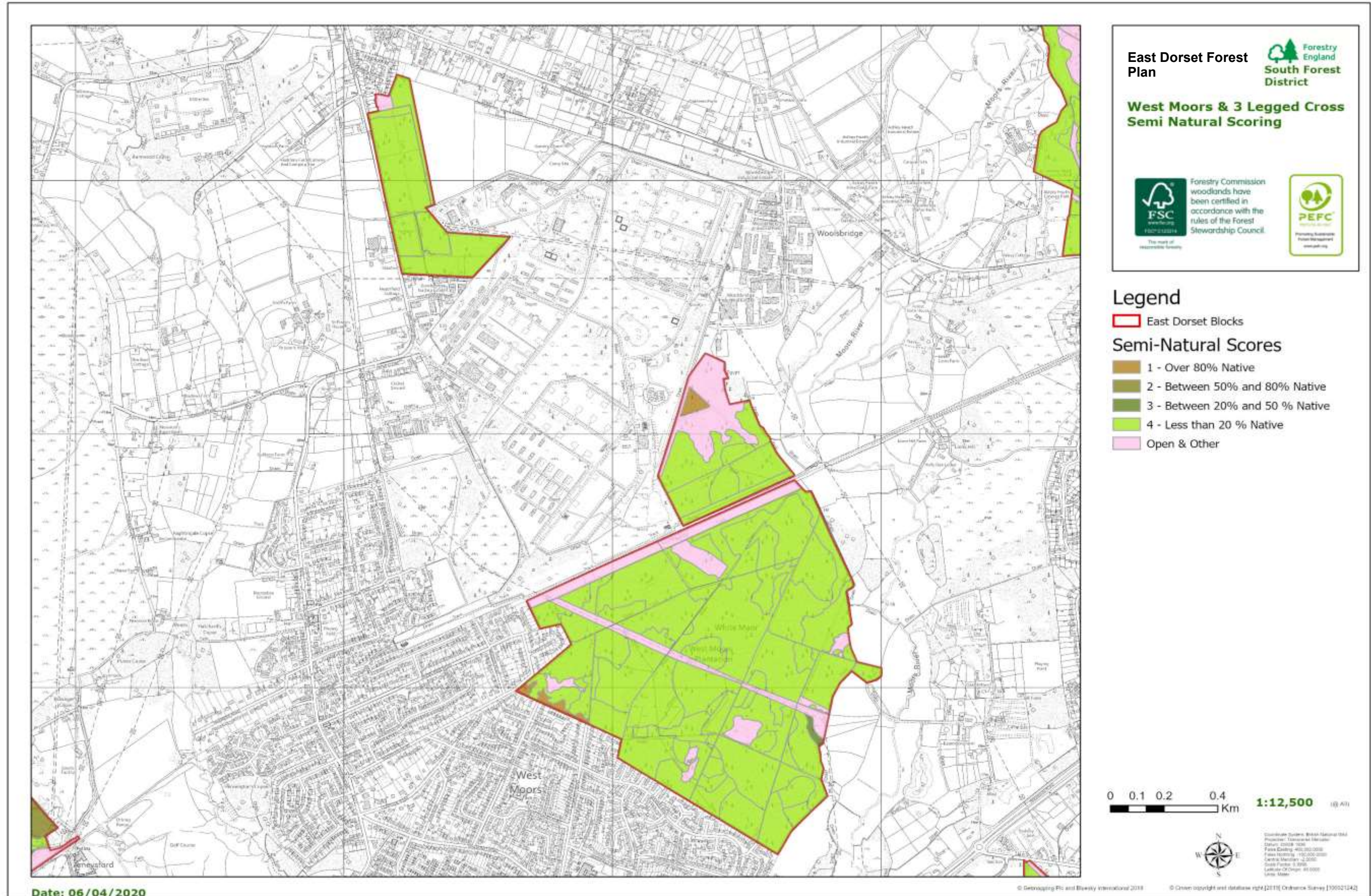
Age Diversity 2020

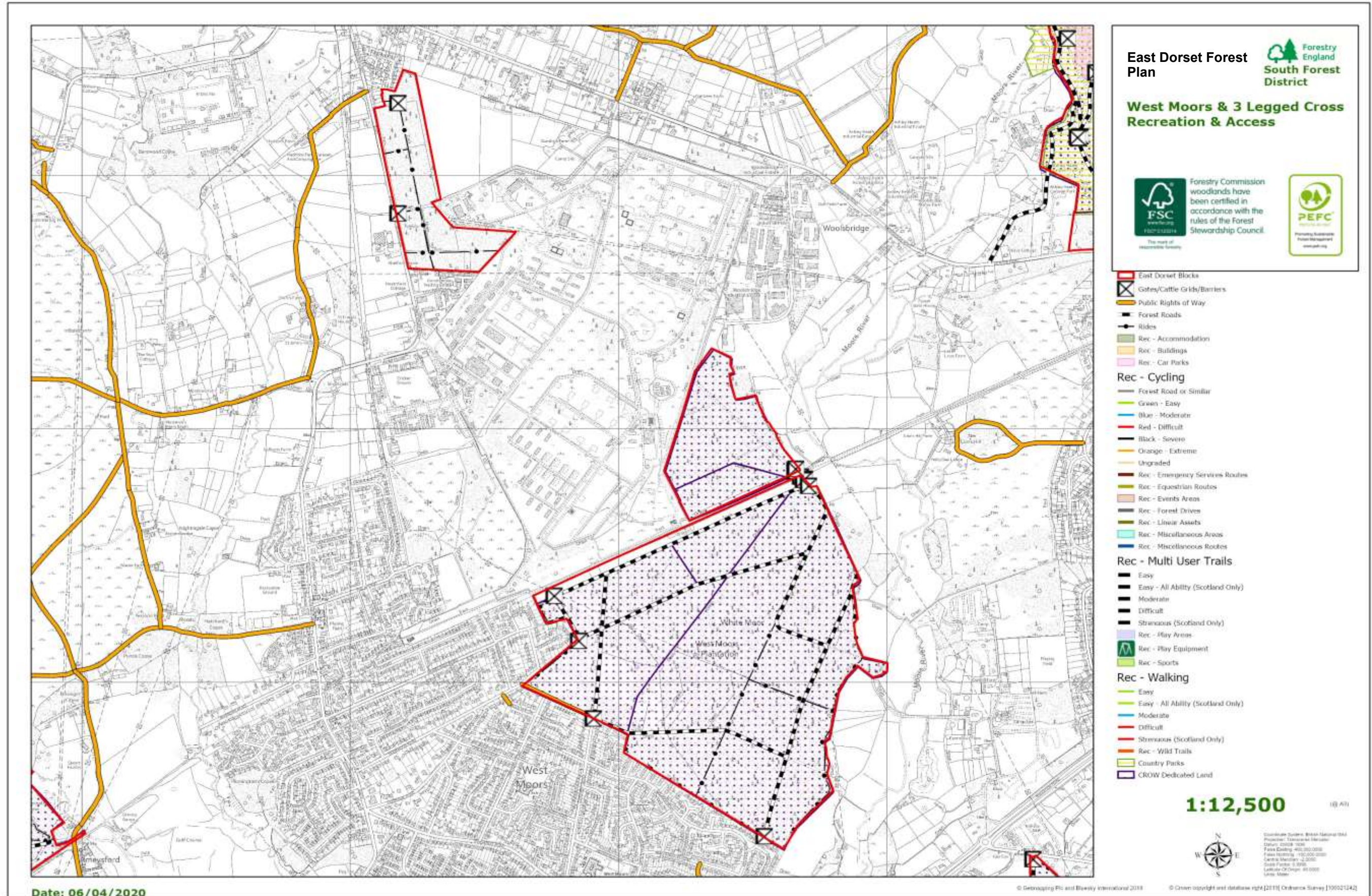
■ 11 to 20 yrs ■ 21 to 40 yrs ■ 41 to 60 yrs ■ 60+ yrs



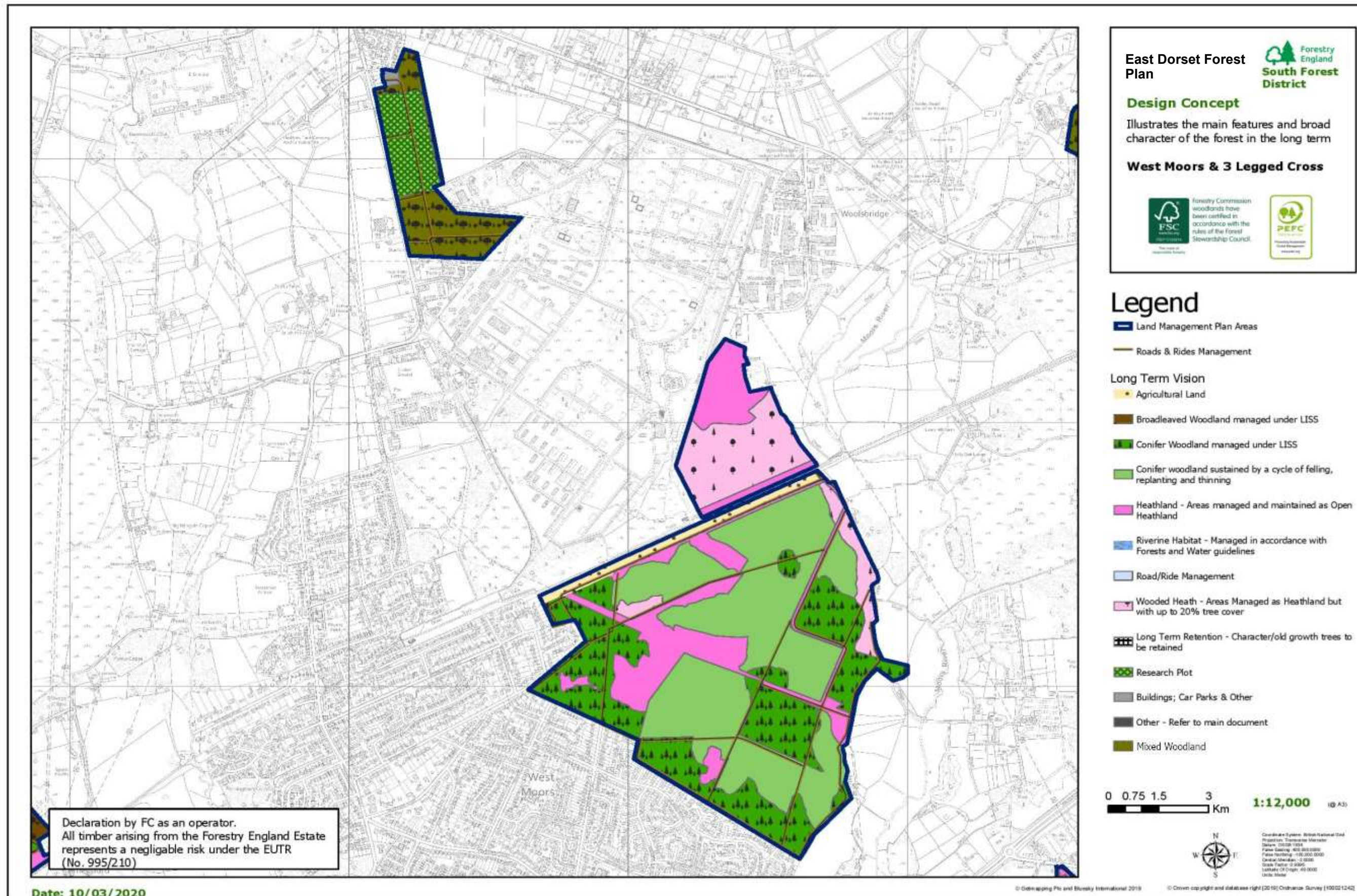












Hurn Forest (including Ramsdown Plantation & Sopley)

Location: Hurn Forest SZ 1173 9967
Ramsdown Plantation SZ 1317 9677

Area 491ha
1.9 miles²
4.9 km²

Hurn Forest is situated to the south of the settlements of West Moors and St Leonards, but is isolated from them by the A31. Ferndown lies to the west, with the Christchurch and Bournemouth conurbation to the south. Hurn is sandwiched between Bournemouth International Airport and the A339 Bournemouth Spur Road. The Moors River runs along the entirety of the western border.

There is 48ha of leased land at Sopley, the remainder of Hurn Forest is Forestry England Freehold and dedicated under the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000.

Hurn Forest has a predominantly coniferous character, again dominated by pine species, although there are areas of broadleaved woodland associated with the wetter habitats. Ramsdown contains, in parts, a more diverse array of conifer species. Open heathland habitats are a significant feature of this block.

There are multiple national and international designations within and adjacent to the Hurn Forest Block. These are associated with the Moors River catchment and floodplain (Moors River System SSSI) and with heathland habitats (St Leonards and St Ives Heaths SSSI, Town Common SSSI) as well as the Dorset Heaths SAC and Dorset Heathlands SPA and Ramsar sites. There is potential scope to restore drained peatland in the two tributary arms of the Moors River System SSSI that extend into Hurn, which would improve the habitat mosaic interest of fen woodland and wet and dry heath transitions.

In terms of European Protected Species, Eurasian otter, European water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) and a number of bat species have been recorded, as well as good populations of sand lizard and, smooth snake. This block supports quality reptile habitat, which is also used by adder. Badger setts have been recorded throughout the block. Notable invertebrate species include dingy mocha moth, silver-studded blue butterfly (*Plebejus argus*) and grayling butterfly (*Hipparchia semele*). Notable recorded bird species tend to be those associated with heathland habitats and currently would include: Dartford warbler, Eurasian hobby and European nightjar.

Since the last Forest Plan, there has been a major ongoing project to reduce the amount of invasive rhododendron in Ramsdown, mostly within compartment 2952

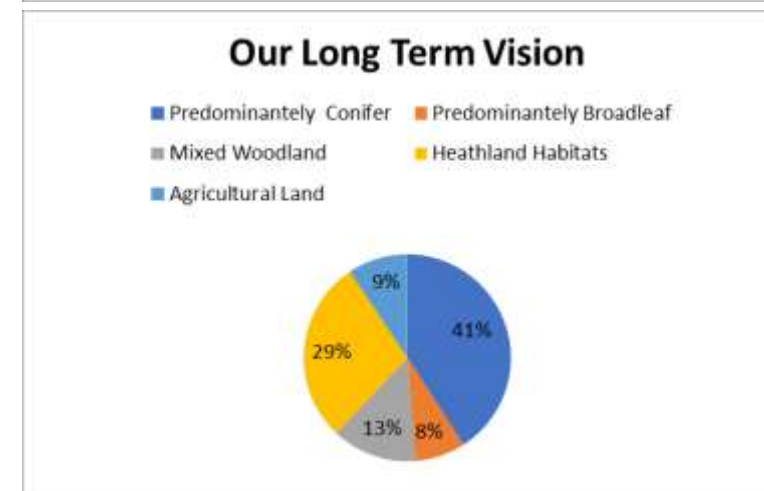
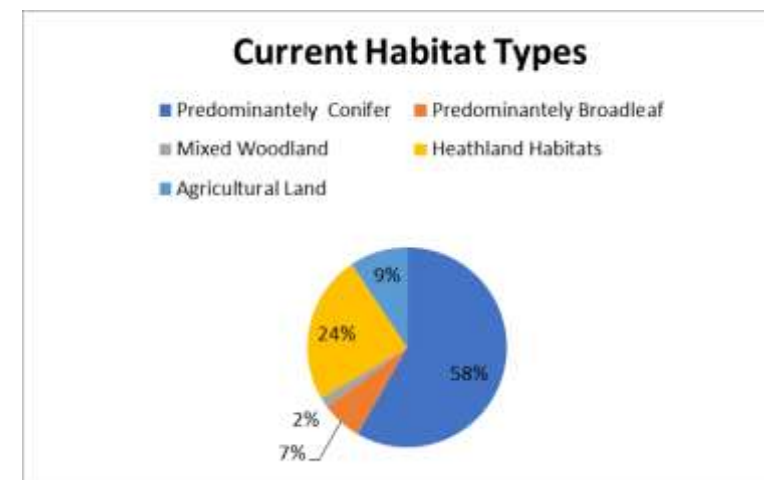
There are 6 scheduled monuments, 3 of which however only just clip Forestry England managed land. All schedulings here relate to barrows. There is significant unscheduled heritage especially within Ramsdown Plantation relating to WWII infrastructure, probably an RAF base. Recently when installing recreational infrastructure at the northern end of the block, further evidence was discovered again probably relating to use during WWII.

Hurn Forest is a popular resource for local communities and there are formal car parks at Ramsdown, Hurn Lane and Matcham's Lane. There is also a large holiday park in the north-west corner that directly accesses the forest.

Within the period of this plan a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) has been created in northern Hurn by way of mitigation for the development of housing on the former hospital site at St. Leonard's. New features included trails and other recreational infrastructure for all forest users. Additionally, at the southern end of the block, at the Blackwater Junction, 1.607ha has been transferred to Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council to facilitate road widening and the inclusion of a cycle Lane and the required mitigation for wildlife populations.

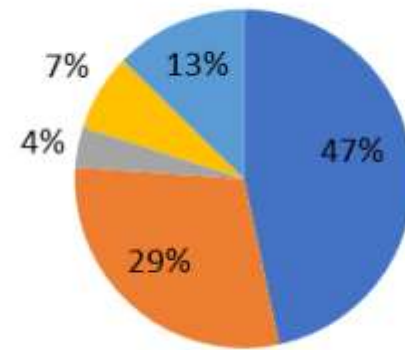
Lastly, all land identified as 'agricultural' (predominantly along the western side between the forest and the Moors River) will remain agricultural land.

Summary Statistics of Habitat Types: Hurn Forest, Ramsdown Plantation and Sopley.



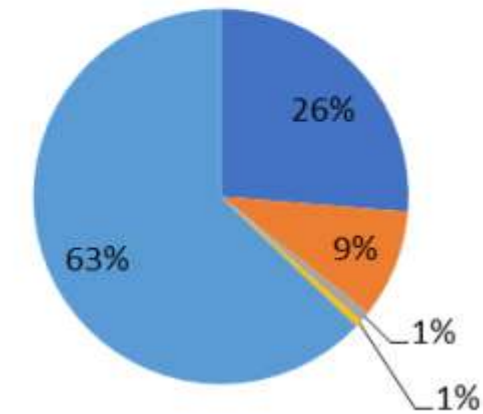
Species Diversity 2020

■ Corsican Pine ■ Scots Pine ■ Douglas Fir
■ Other Conifers ■ Native Broadleaves



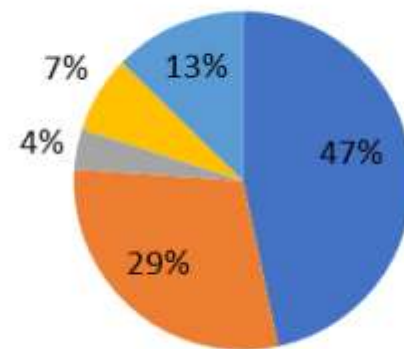
Semi-Natural Scores 2020

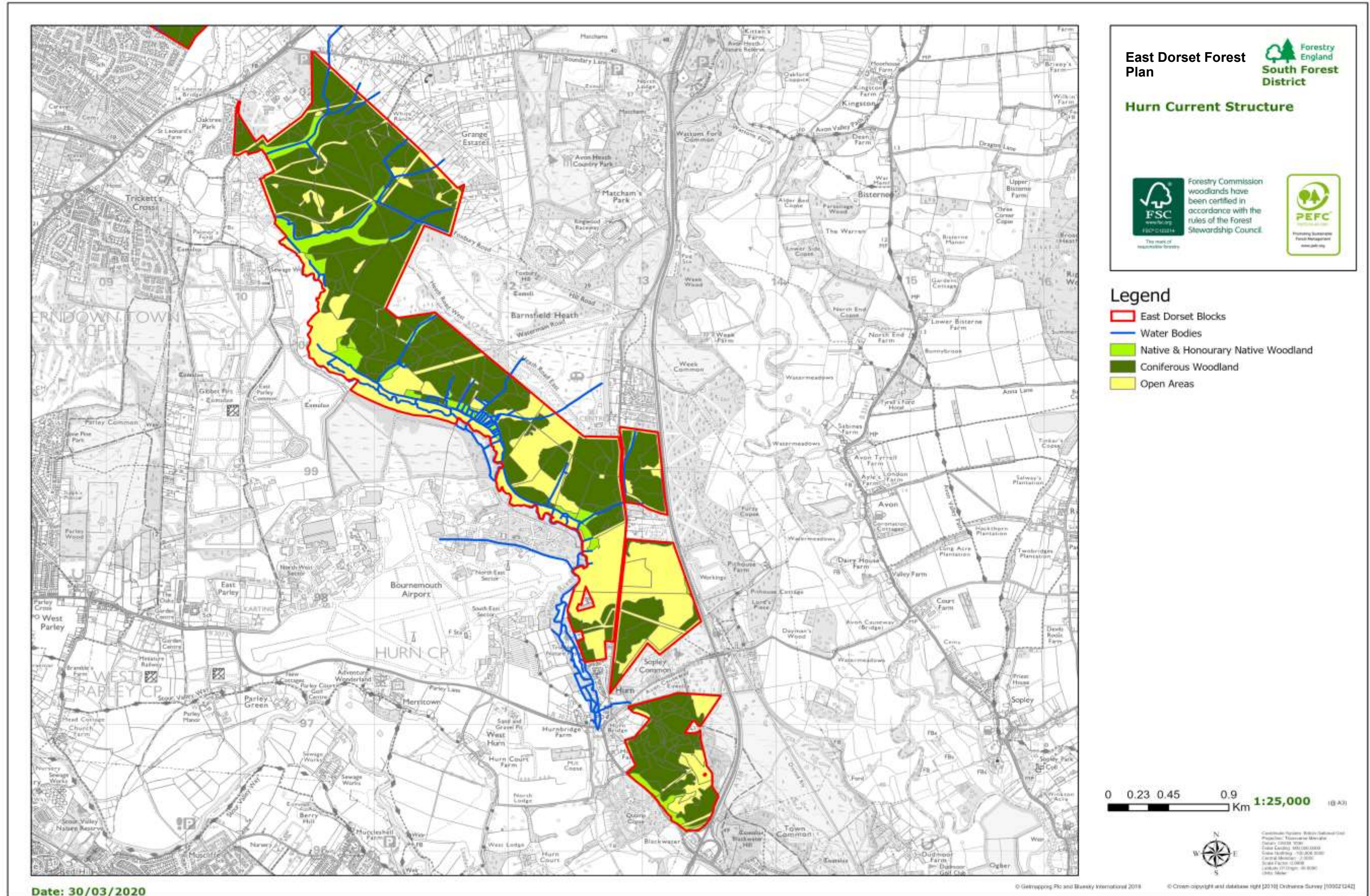
■ 0 ■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4

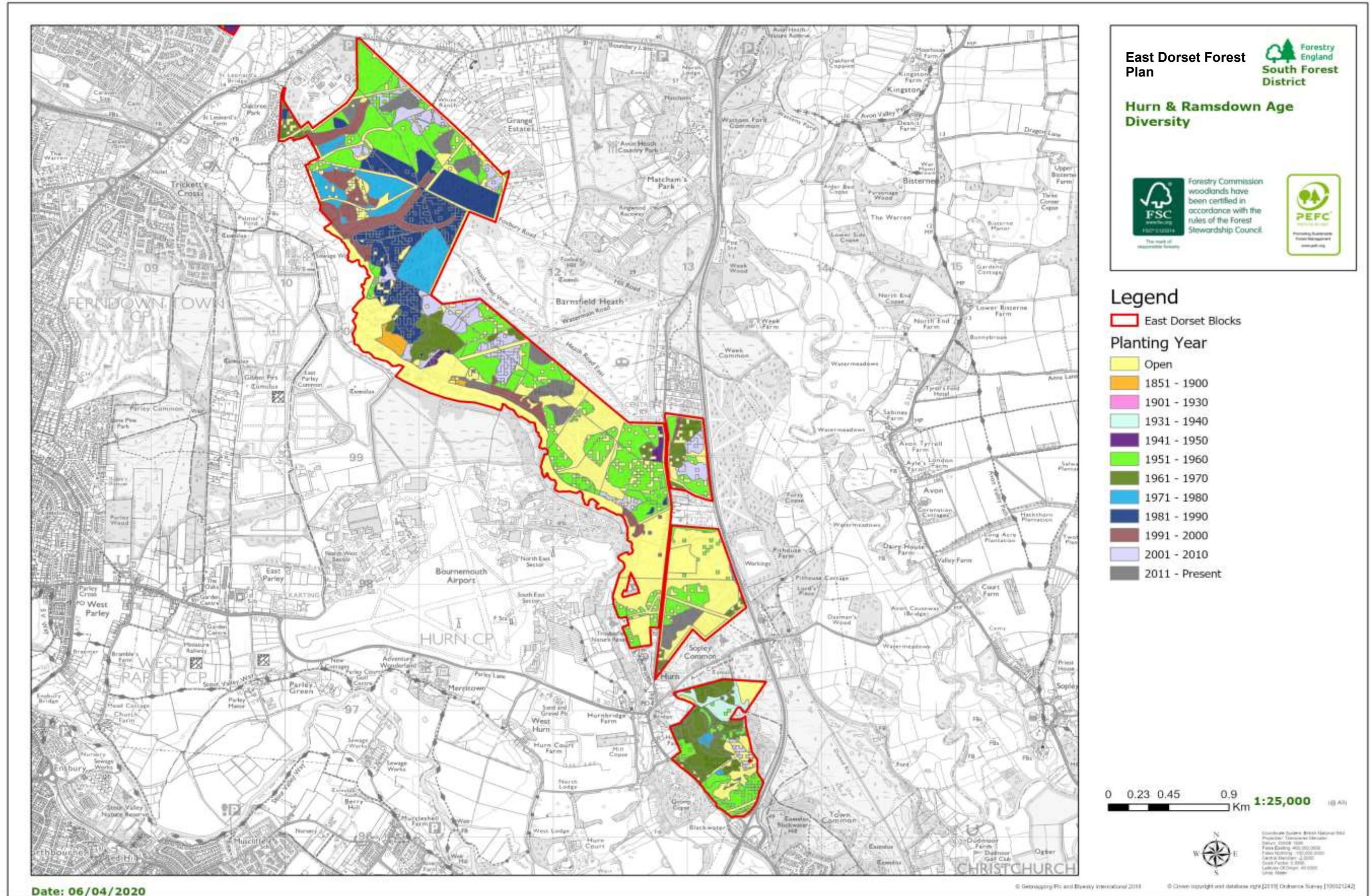


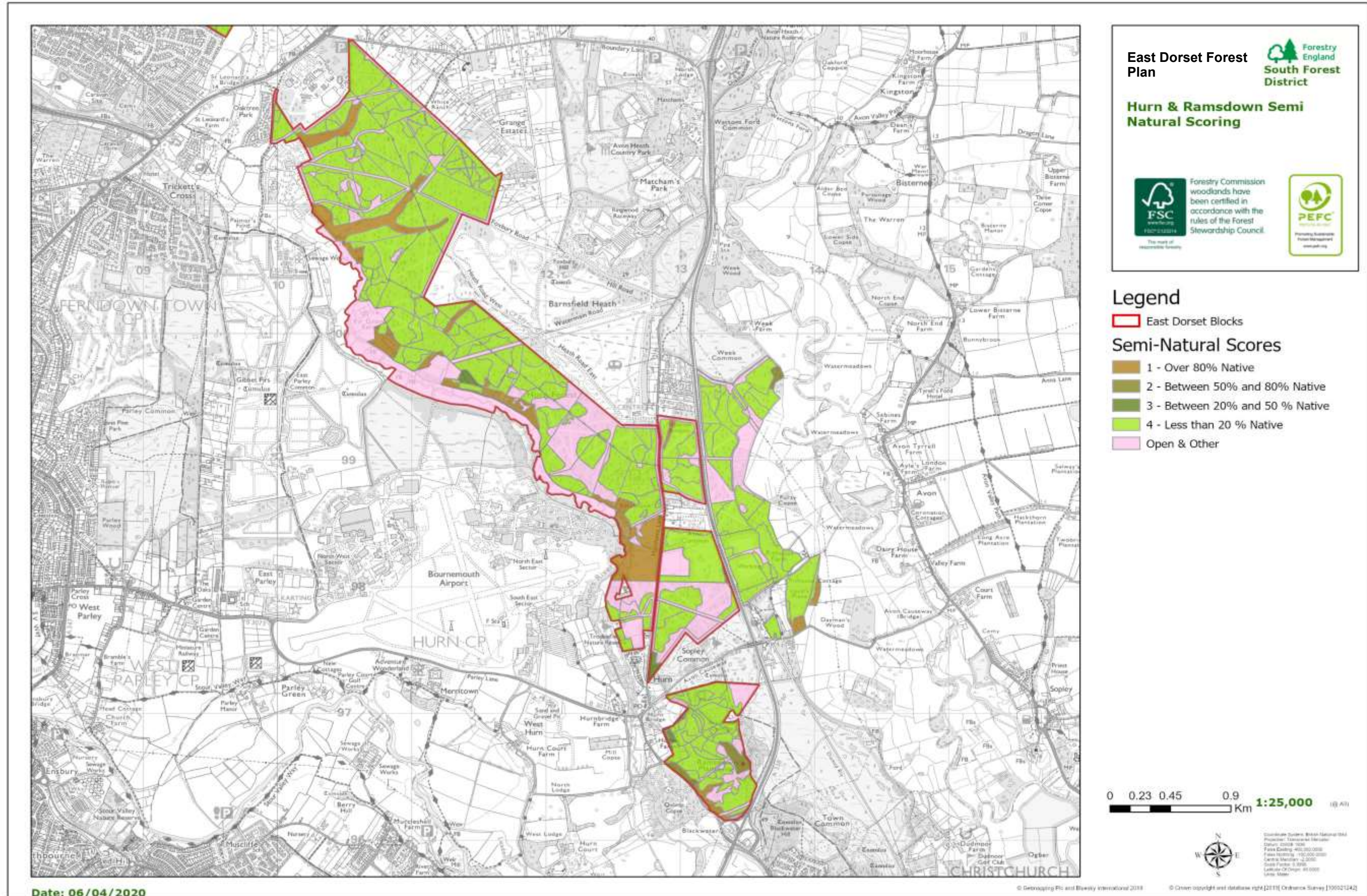
Species Diversity 2020

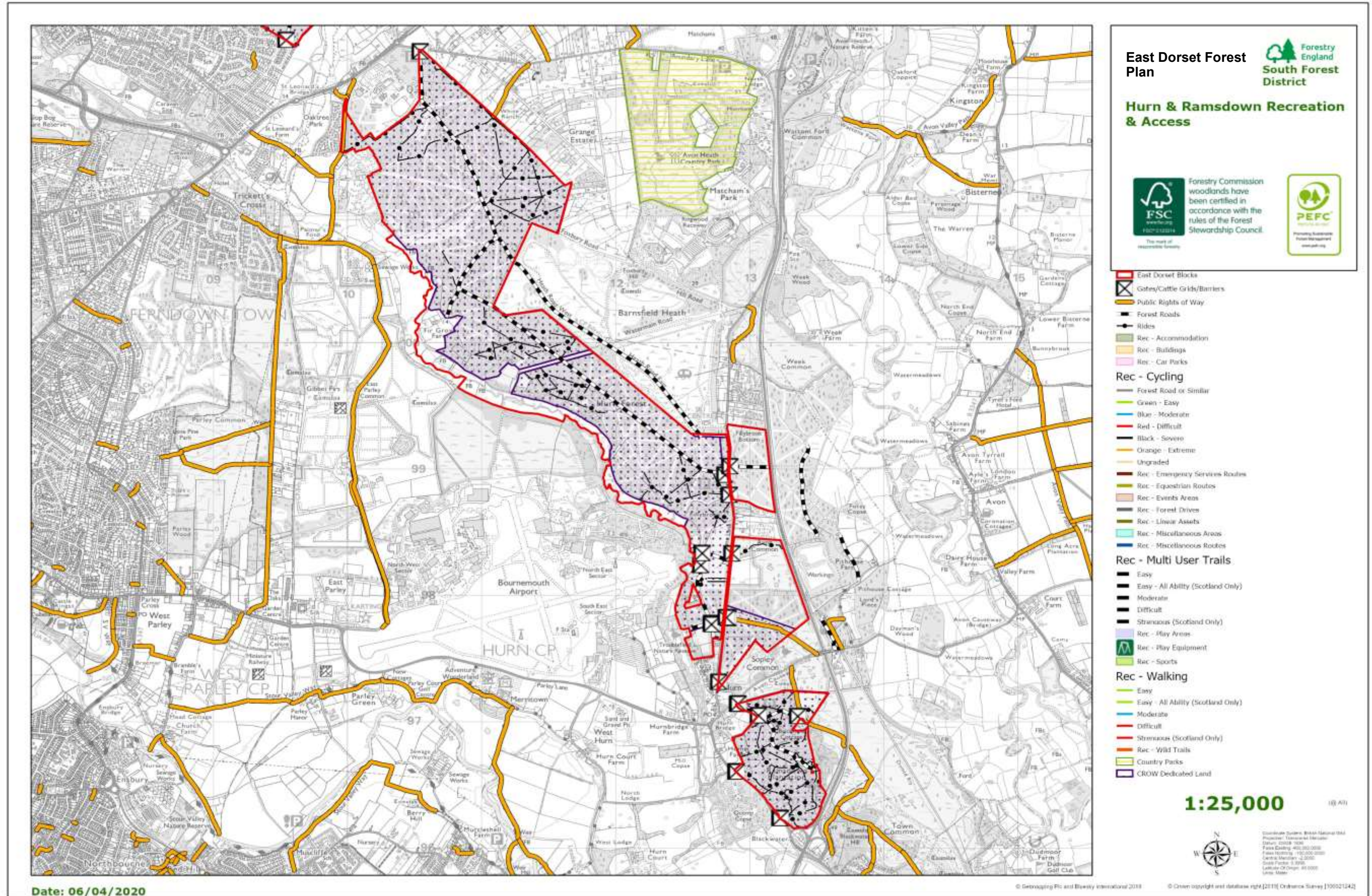
■ Corsican Pine ■ Scots Pine ■ Douglas Fir
■ Other Conifers ■ Native Broadleaves

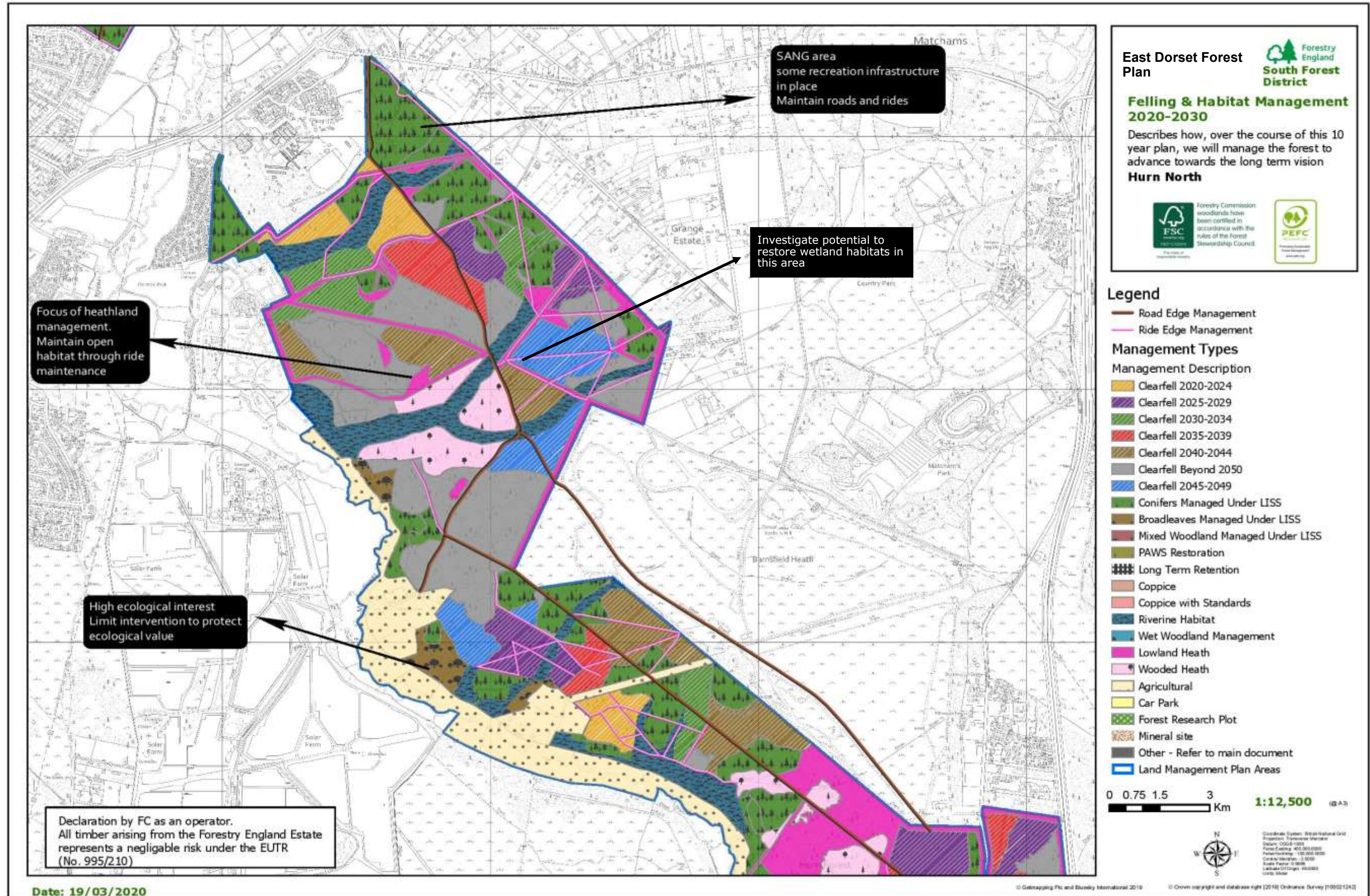


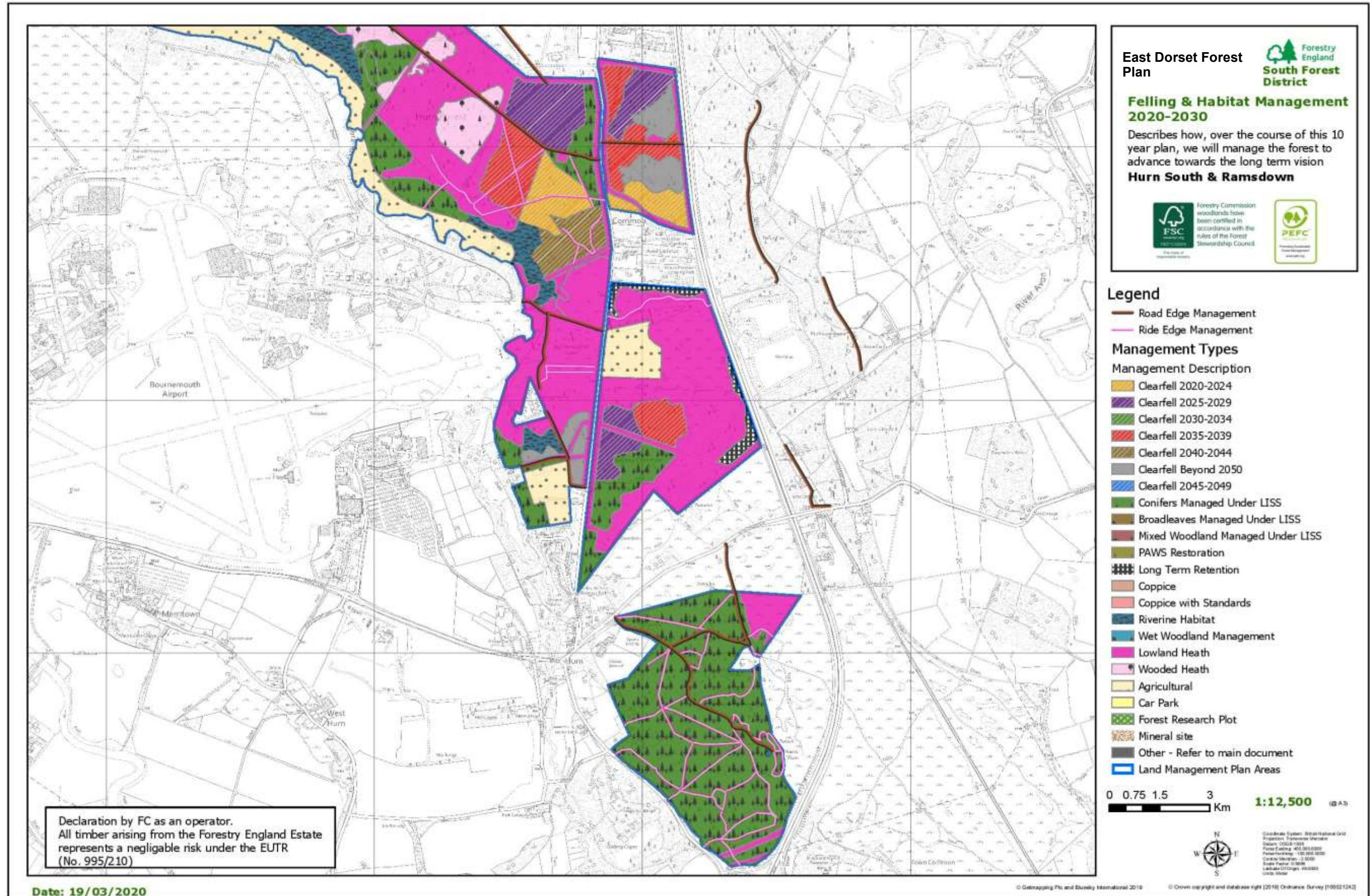


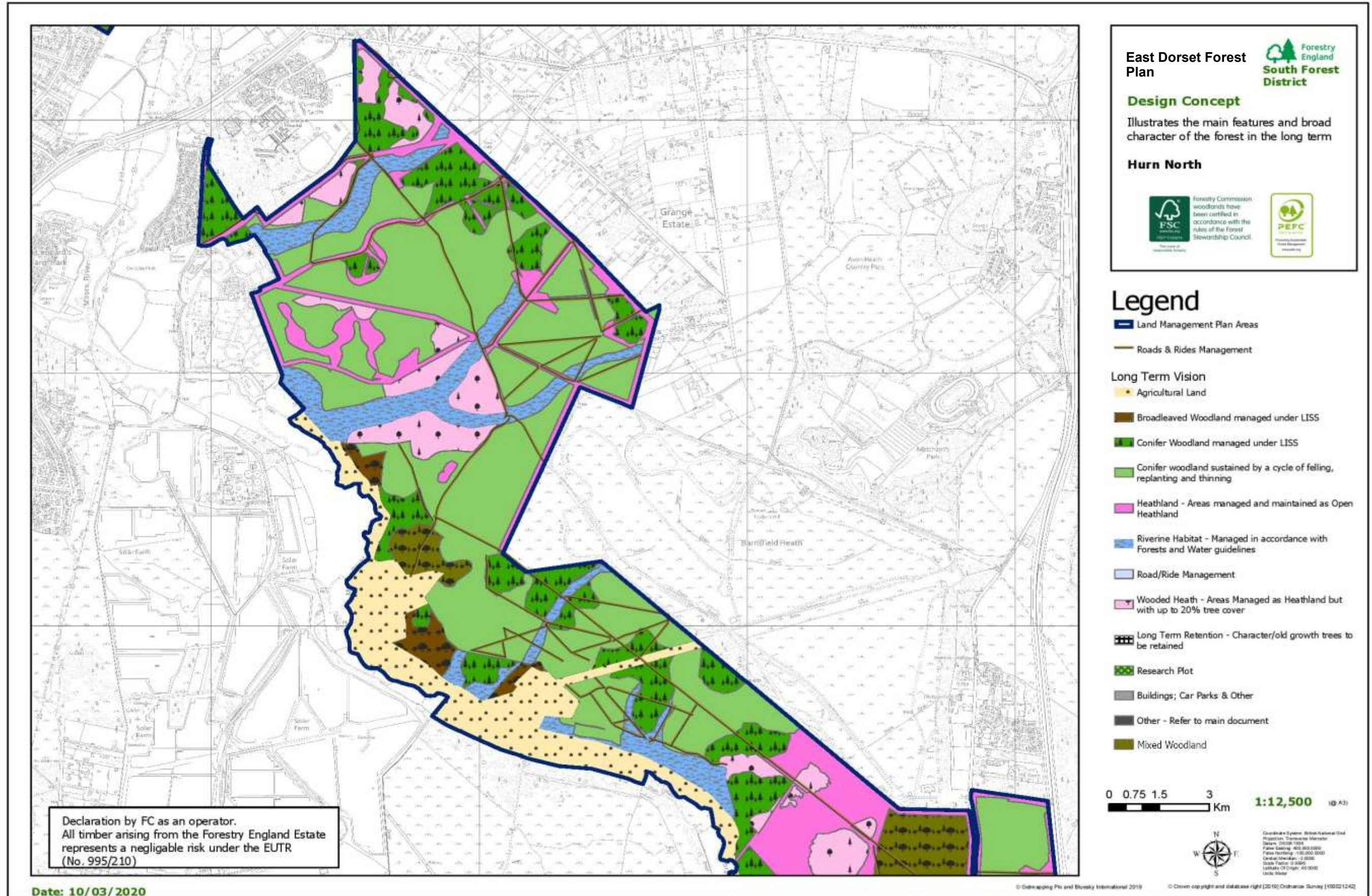


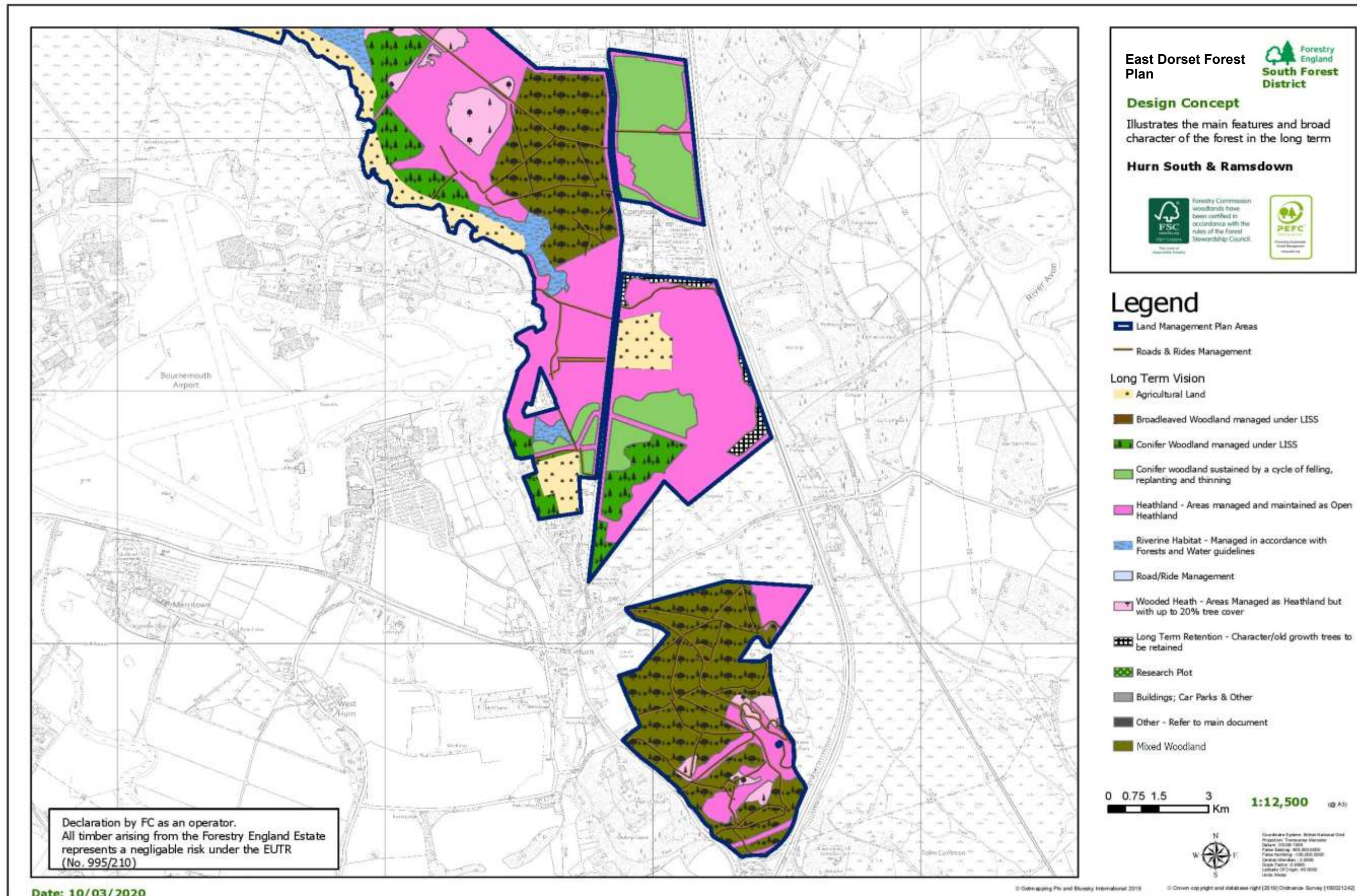












Cannon Hill, Udden's Plantation & Whitesheet

Location: Cannon Hill SU 0504 0215

Area: 386.2ha
1.5 miles²
3.9km²

Local Authority: Colehill and Wimborne Minster East

With a total area of 386 ha this block comprises a number of diverse woodland and open habitats. The Cannon Hill block is bound by Ferndown and the A31 to the south, by Wimborne to the South West and by Holt Heath NNR to the north. Woodland structure ranges from conifer plantation to mixed woodland to broadleaved woodland with elements of ancient woodland and hazel coppice. There is also significant open habitat at Whitesheet Plantation. The general plan here is to build on the work of the previous two forest plans aimed at increasing structural and age diversity within the wooded areas, the ongoing restoration of the planted ancient woodland and the removal of tree cover across the designated habitat at Whitesheet, as well as other opportunities for habitat improvement such as the infill of some of the drainage ditches.

Of the total area of land managed here by Forestry England, 309ha is freehold (77ha is leasehold).

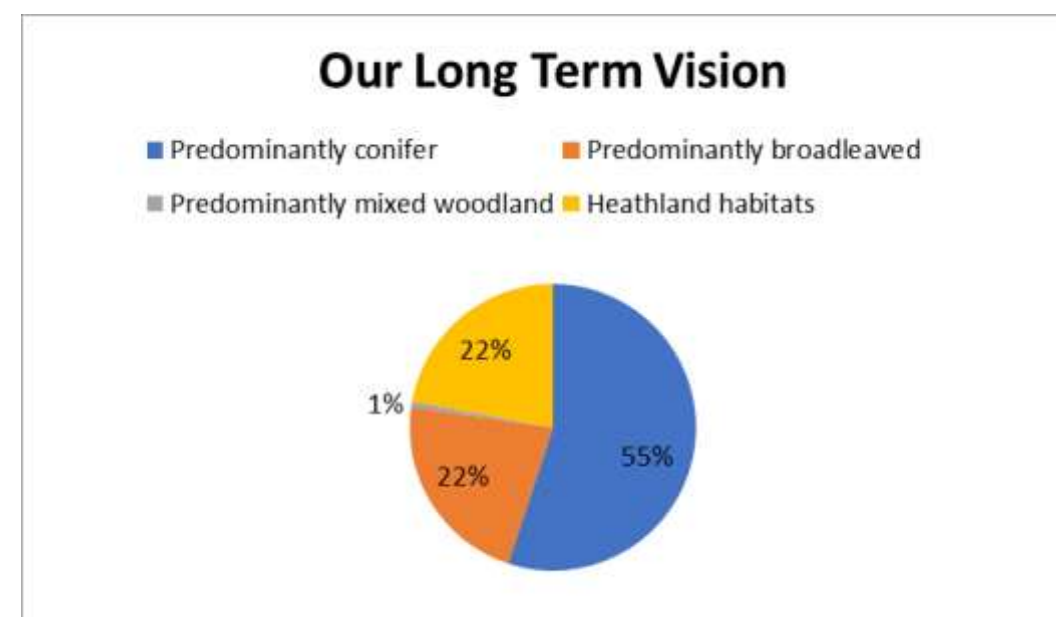
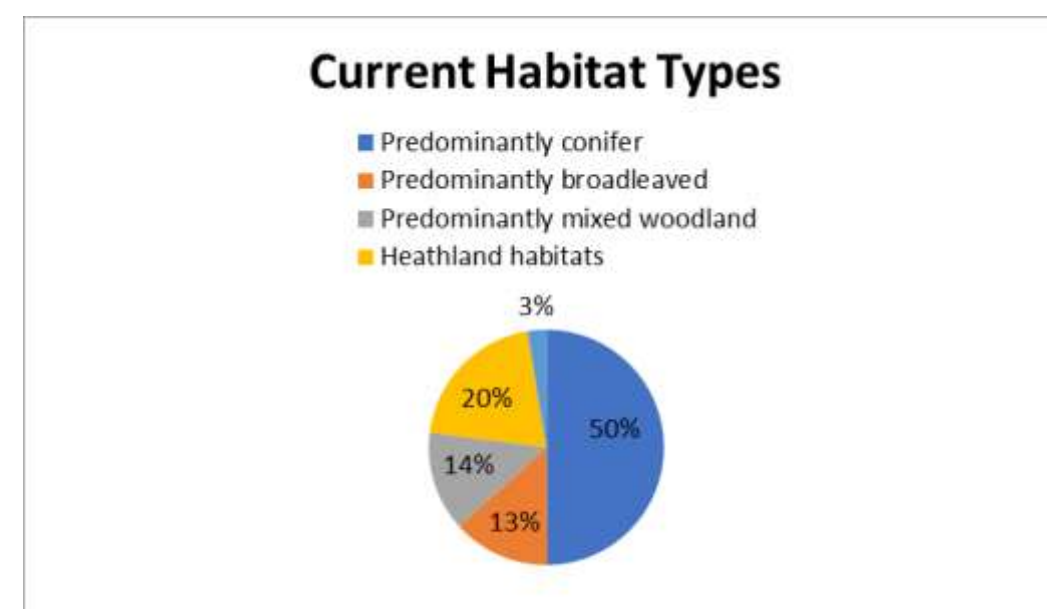
Much of Whitesheet plantation is designated as part of the Holt & West Moors Heaths SSSI, as well as the Dorset Heaths SAC and Dorset Heathlands SPA and Ramsar sites. Over the period of the former plan, significant areas of non-native trees have been removed from the eastern end of the site. Whitesheet is also part of a HLS grazing agreement to improve its biodiversity and habitat condition. Whitesheet has been the subject of considerable interest from Natural England and other partners involved in Natural Flood Management in relation to issues of wet heath and mire drying out, due to the historic forestry ridge and furrow profiles and networks of herringbone drains. Unfortunately water quality issues from adjacent ground currently prevent restoration from taking place, as this would divert potentially contaminated water into a wider area. Part of Park Copse is designated as a planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) and both Daffodil Copse and Stable Copse contain elements of native woodland. The plan proposes management in these areas to maintain and expand the native woodland interest.

Notable species found within the wider block include the EPS species hazel dormouse, sand lizard and smooth snake and the UK BAP Priority Species dingy mocha. Three areas within Park Copse, Whitesheet and Udden's are actively managed to maintain and enhance the habitat for the dingy mocha. This largely involves the coppicing of willow (*Salix caprea*) along ride edges and within hedges.

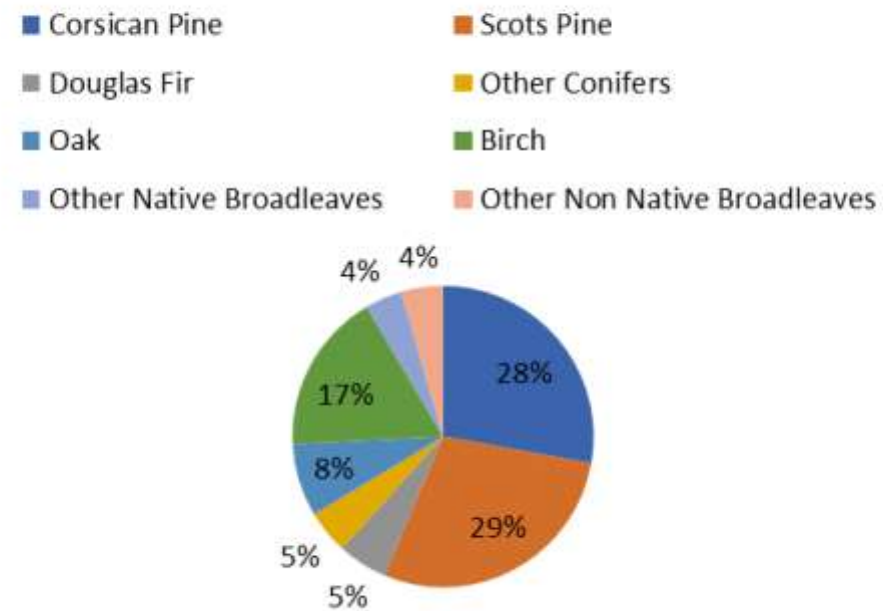
Cannon Hill is a significant 'door step' woodland with the community of Colehill immediately abutting the forest in the south-west corner. Its primary importance is for informal recreation. Over the last 8 years Forestry England has worked with the 'Friends of Udden's and Cannon Hill.' This local group has delivered much ongoing work to improve the woodland for both people and wildlife.

Blunt's Farm is the area to the south of Udden's Plantation and the A31 and to the east of Udden's Drive. It comprises of compartments 2720, 2722 & 2723 which total just over 30ha by area. This area has been allocated within the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan (5.2.5) as "an existing strategic employment allocation that performs a key role in meeting future employment needs identified for Eastern Dorset in the Bourne mouth, Dorset and Poole Workspace Strategy (2016)." Any future use of this land will be subject to an approved planning application that will then take priority over this Forest Plan.

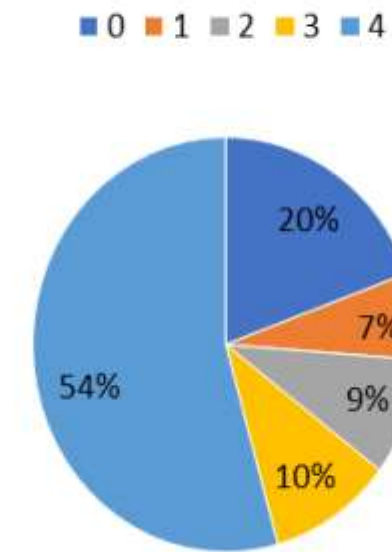
Summary Statistics of Habitat Types: Cannon Hill, Udden's Plantation & Whitesheet



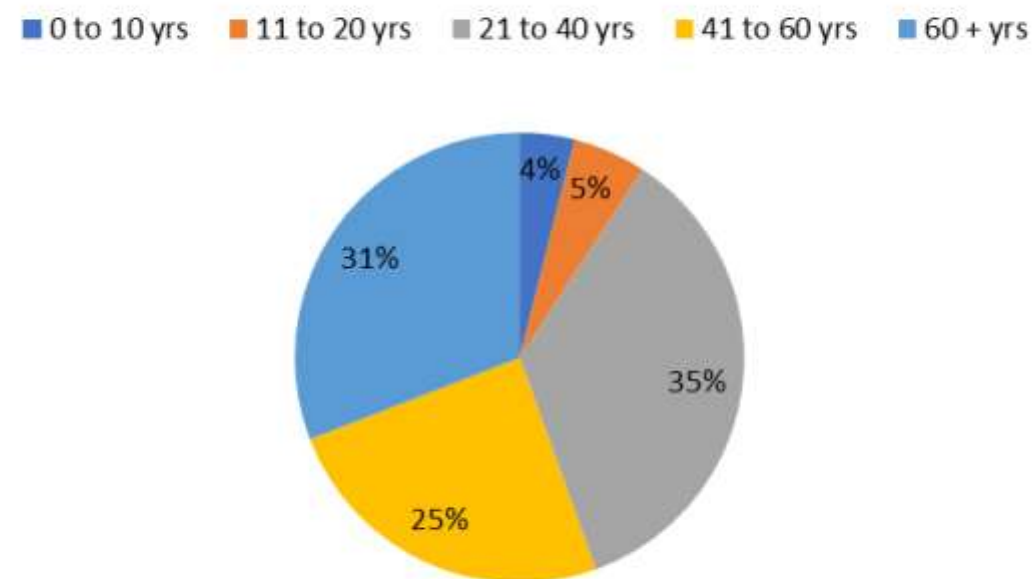
Species Diversity 2020

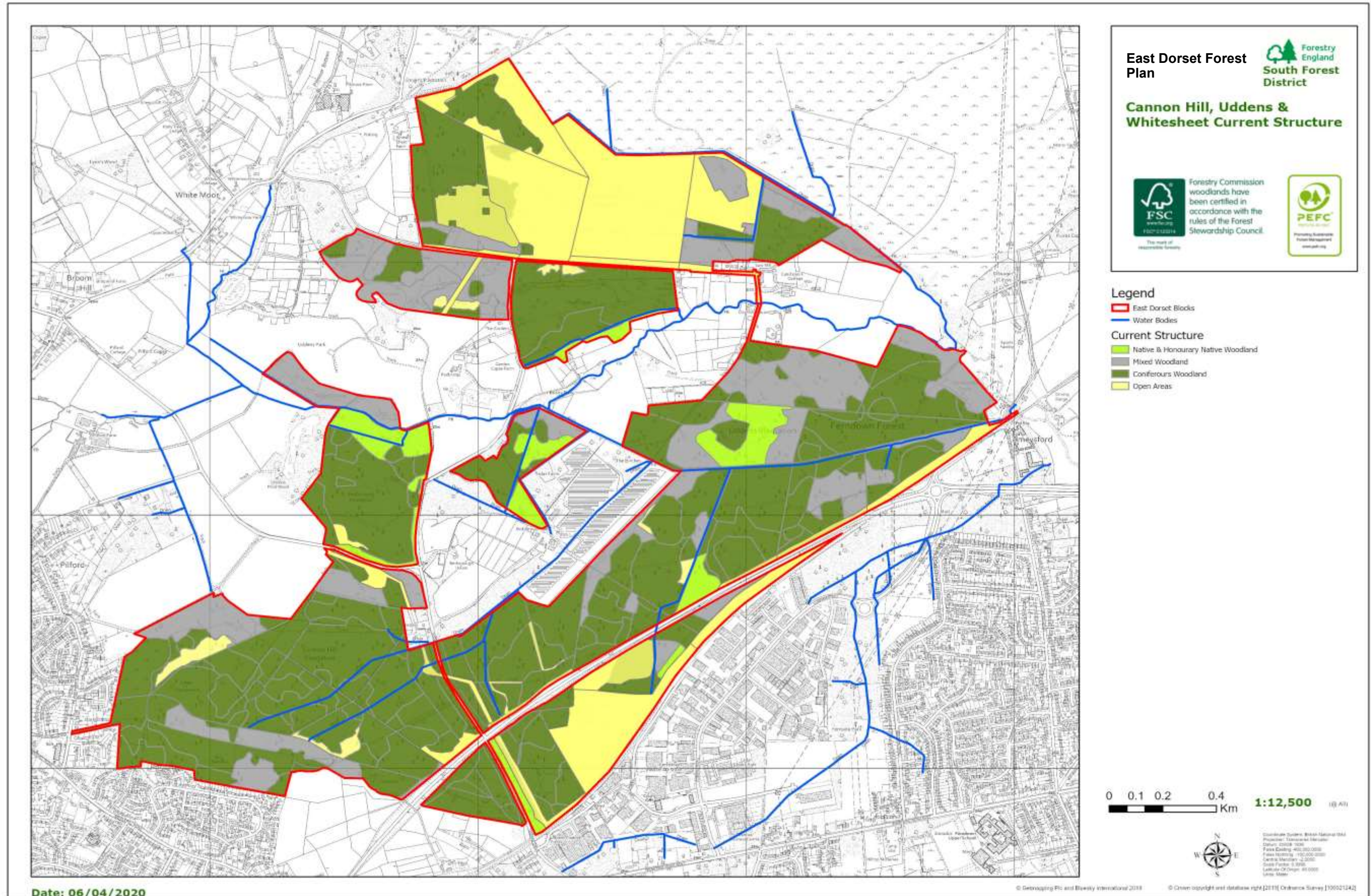


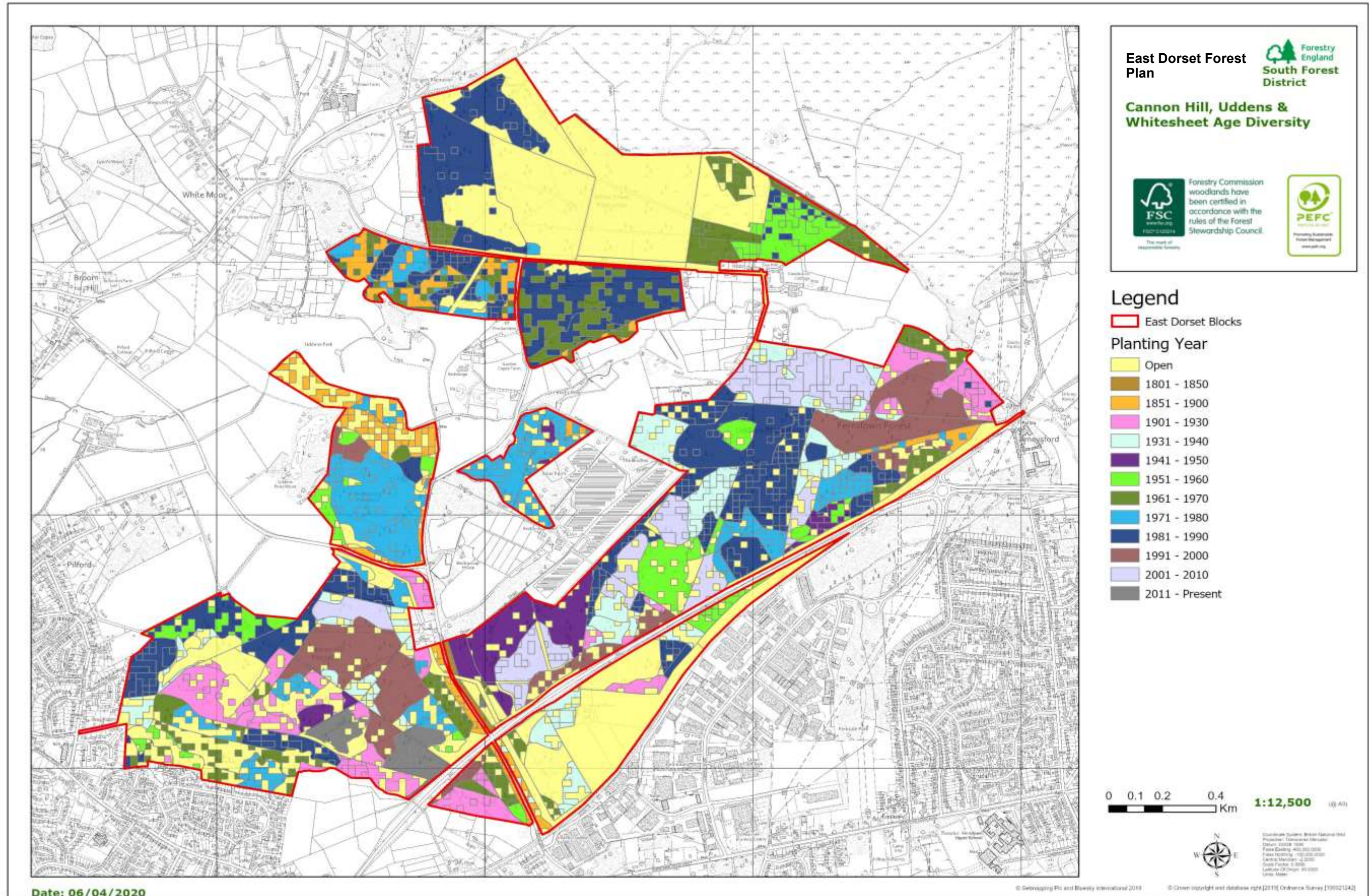
Semi-Natural Scores 2020

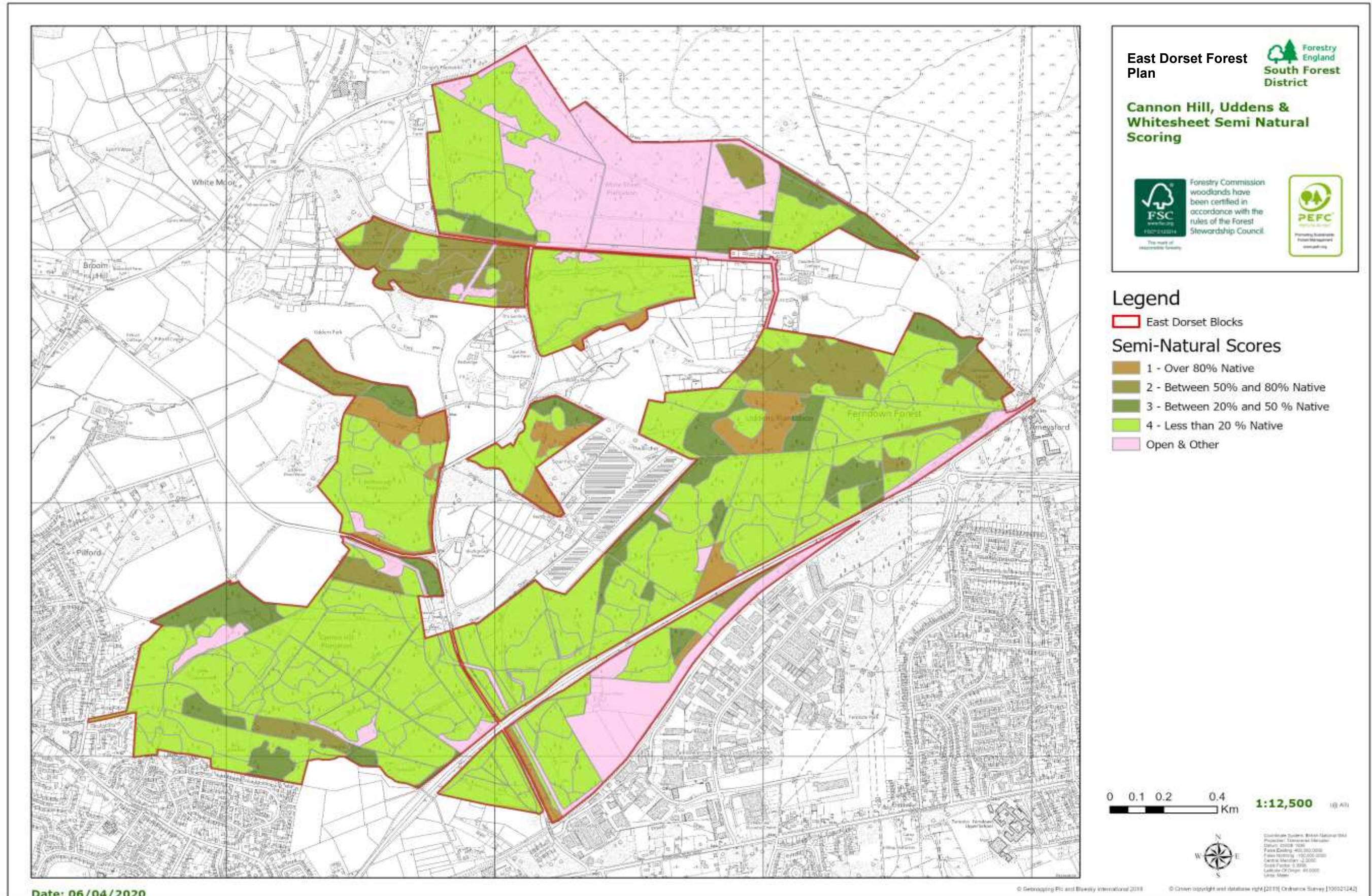


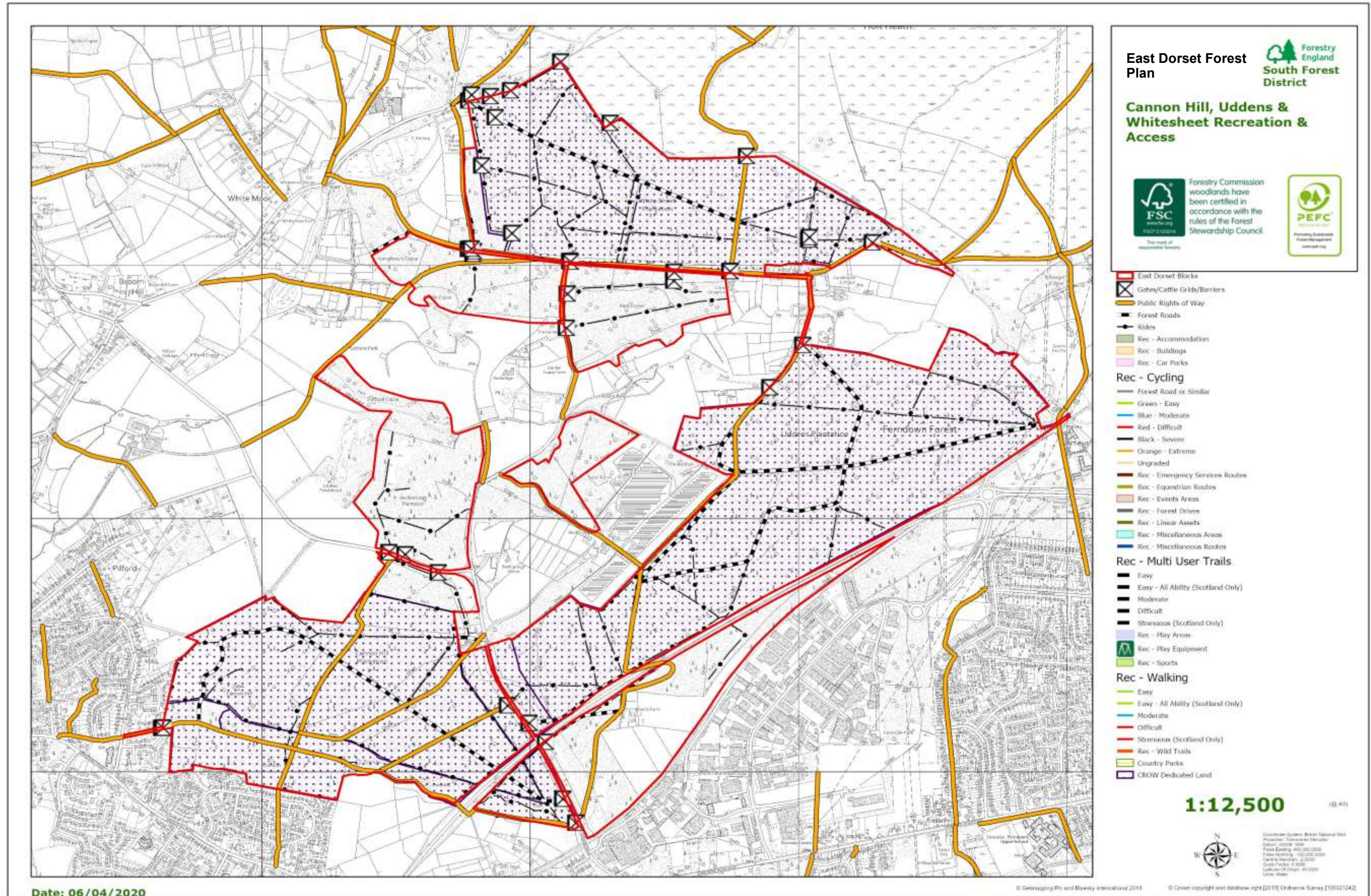
Age diversity 2020

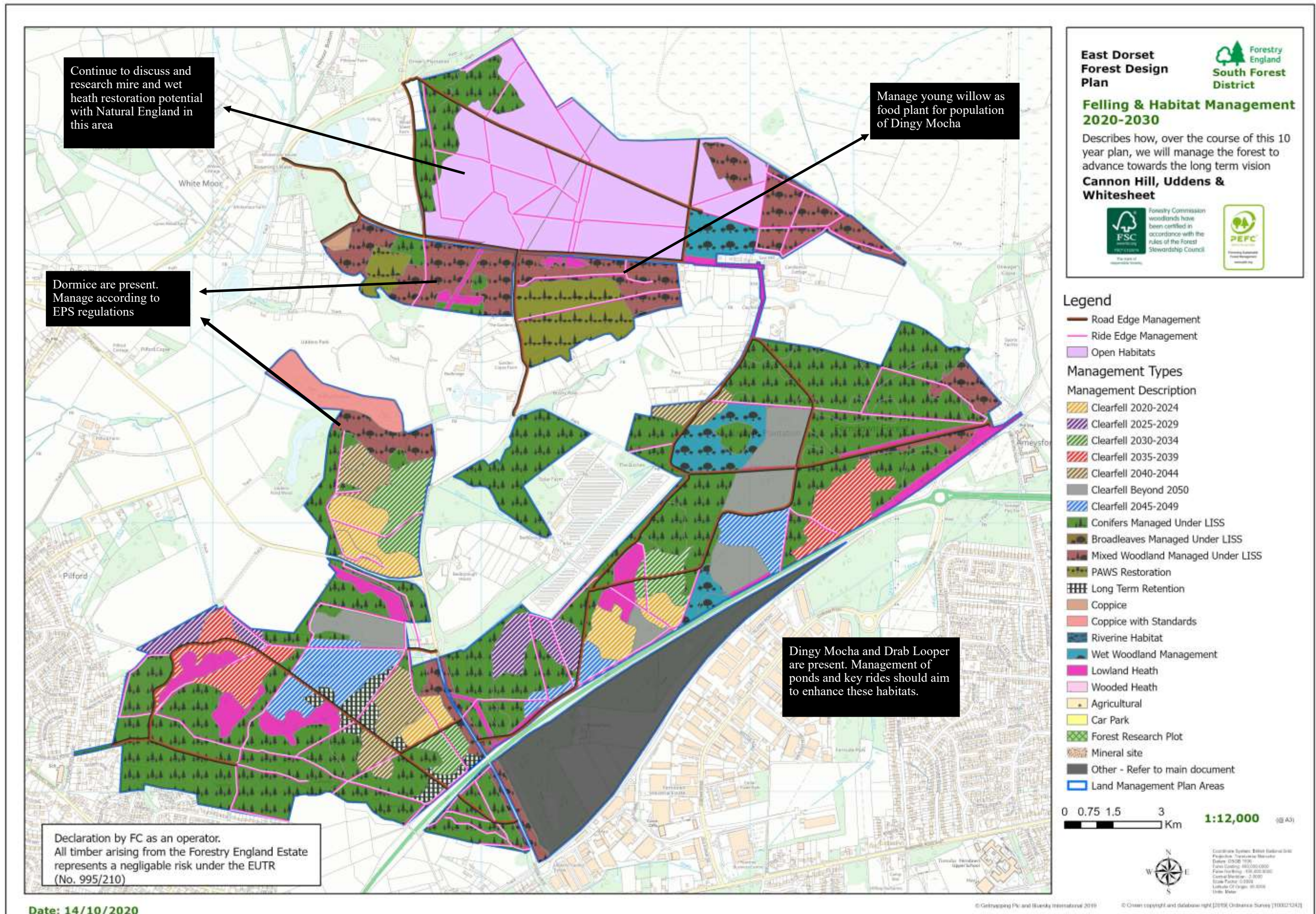












East Dorset Forest Plan



Design Concept

Illustrates the main features and broad character of the forest in the long term

Cannon Hill, Uddens & Whitesheet



Legend

Land Management Plan Areas

Roads & Rides Management

Long Term Vision

Agricultural Land

Broadleaved Woodland managed under LISS

Conifer Woodland managed under LISS

Conifer woodland sustained by a cycle of felling, replanting and thinning

Heathland - Areas managed and maintained as Open Heathland

Riverine Habitat - Managed in accordance with Forests and Water guidelines

Road/Ride Management

Wooded Heath - Areas Managed as Heathland but with up to 20% tree cover

Long Term Retention - Character/old growth trees to be retained

Research Plot

Buildings; Car Parks & Other

Other - Refer to main document

Mixed Woodland

Open Habitats

0 0.75 1.5 3 Km

1:12,000 (A3)



Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB36
False Easting: 400,000.000
False Northing: 600,000.000
Central Meridian: -2.000
Scale Factor: 0.9996
Latitude of Origin: 49.000
Units: Metre

Declaration by FC as an operator.
All timber arising from the Forestry England Estate
represents a negligible risk under the EUTR
(No. 995/210)

Date: 10/03/2020

© Geomapping Plc and Blomley International 2019

© Crown copyright and database right (2019) Ordnance Survey (100021242)

Ringwood North (including Somerley).

Location: SU: 1133 0882
 Area: 1081ha
 4.2miles²
 10.8km²

Local Authority: Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole.
 New Forest District Council.

Ringwood North covers 1081 ha of land of which all but 44.8 ha is leasehold land. The current Forest Plan covers 934 ha because 148 ha of leasehold land was re turned to the freeholder for ongoing minerals extraction.

The village of Verwood is to the south-west with many properties abutting the forest. The village of Alderholt lies to the north. The B3081 road from Ringwood to Verwood separates Ringwood North from Ashley Heath (Moors Valley).

Podsollic soils tend to dominate and this is reflected in the fact that 77% of the current structure is coniferous woodland of which 78% is pine with only 5% being occupied by native broadleaves. 73% of the tree cover is less than 60 years of age. Open habitats, predominantly heathland, occupy about 8% of the area.

There are two SSSI areas (both units of Cranborne Common, the larger part of which is adjacent to the northern boundary of this block) only 3 designated areas within this block totalling an area of about 21.85ha. Several internationally designated sites (Dorset Heaths SAC and the Dorset Heathlands SPA and Ramsar sites) are adjacent to the northern and western boundaries of the forest.

Since the last plan, mire and pond restoration projects in the northern sections have been initiated. Mire restoration opportunities were mapped by Neil Sanderson in 2007 for the document *Nature Conservation Vision for Ringwood Forest*. This has been used to guide an ongoing programme of wetland restoration, with input from Natural England and the Dorset Heaths and Mires Partnership. There is considerable potential for further wetland restoration to be undertaken in this block during the timescale of this Forest Plan, subject to securing the appropriate consents and sufficient funding. The areas with the greatest interest are:

- In the vicinity of Stephen's Castle SSSI and Wild Church Bottom
- Pistle Down
- Further work to the west of Plumley Wood
- Sleep and Whitefield Bottoms.

This block supports a diverse flora and fauna. European Protected Species are represented by widespread populations of hazel dormouse and a number of bat species, many recorded through an ongoing bat monitoring scheme. Good populations of smooth snake and sand lizard are present, and are well monitored by interest groups and local experts. Ringwood North has had a long history of active habitat management for reptile species, particularly sand scrapes for sand lizards and clearance of naturally regenerating pine and birch off heathland habitats to reduce shading on basking sites.

Woodland bird species recorded include; crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*), common firecrest (*Regulus ignicapillus*) and northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*). European turtle dove (*Streptopelia turtur*) was known to be breeding but it is uncertain whether it is still present. The open habitats support Dartford warbler, woodlark and European nightjar, Eurasian hobby is also recorded as a breeding species.

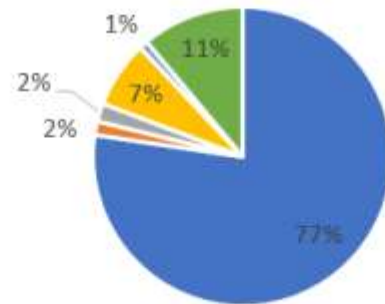
There are 11 scheduled monuments covered by 8 schedulings, all relate to barrows and date to the late Neolithic to Bronze Age periods. There are at present 8 unscheduled monuments.

Ringwood north is a popular recreational resource for the local community. Much access is on foot directly from residential properties. There are formal parking areas at Ebblake Bridge, The Chase and at Drove End. Informal parking exists elsewhere. As the vast majority of this block is leased to Forestry England, it is not dedicated under the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000. As such public access (away from the public rights of way) is permissive.

Summary Statistics of Habitat Types: Ringwood North

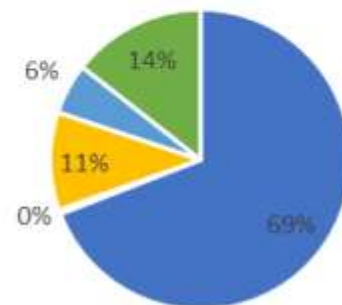
Current Habitat Types

■ Predominantly Conifer ■ Predominantly Broadleaf ■ Mixed Woodland
■ Heathland ■ Mire/Bog/Riv Hab ■ Minerals



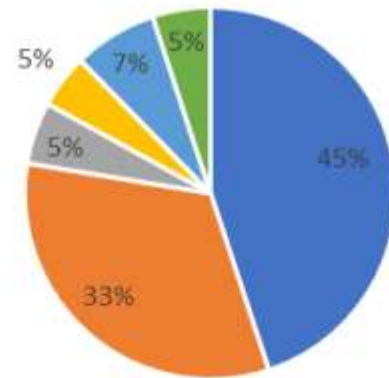
Our Long Term Vision

■ Predominantly Conifer ■ Predominantly Broadleaf ■ Mixed Woodland
■ Heathland ■ Mire/Bog/Riv Hab ■ Minerals



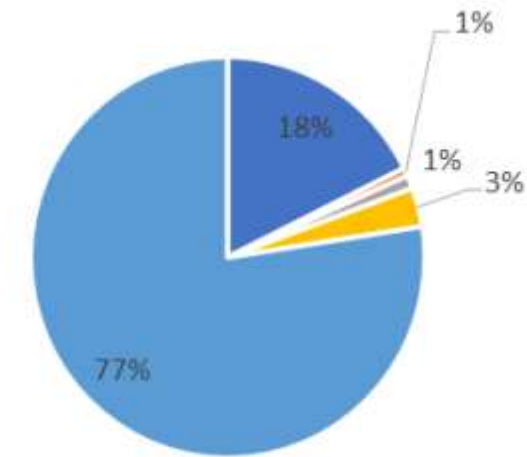
Species Diversity 2020

■ Corsican Pine ■ Scots Pine ■ Western Hemlock
■ Douglas Fir ■ Other conifers ■ Native Broadleaves



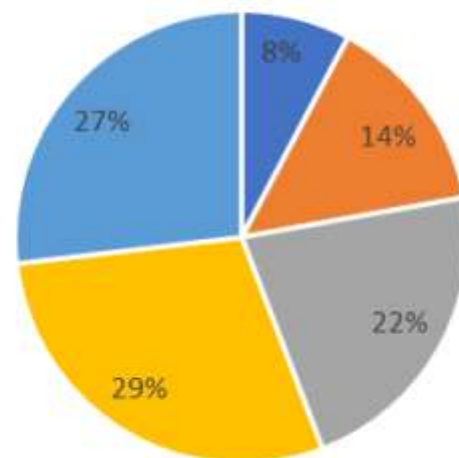
Semi-Natural Scores 2020

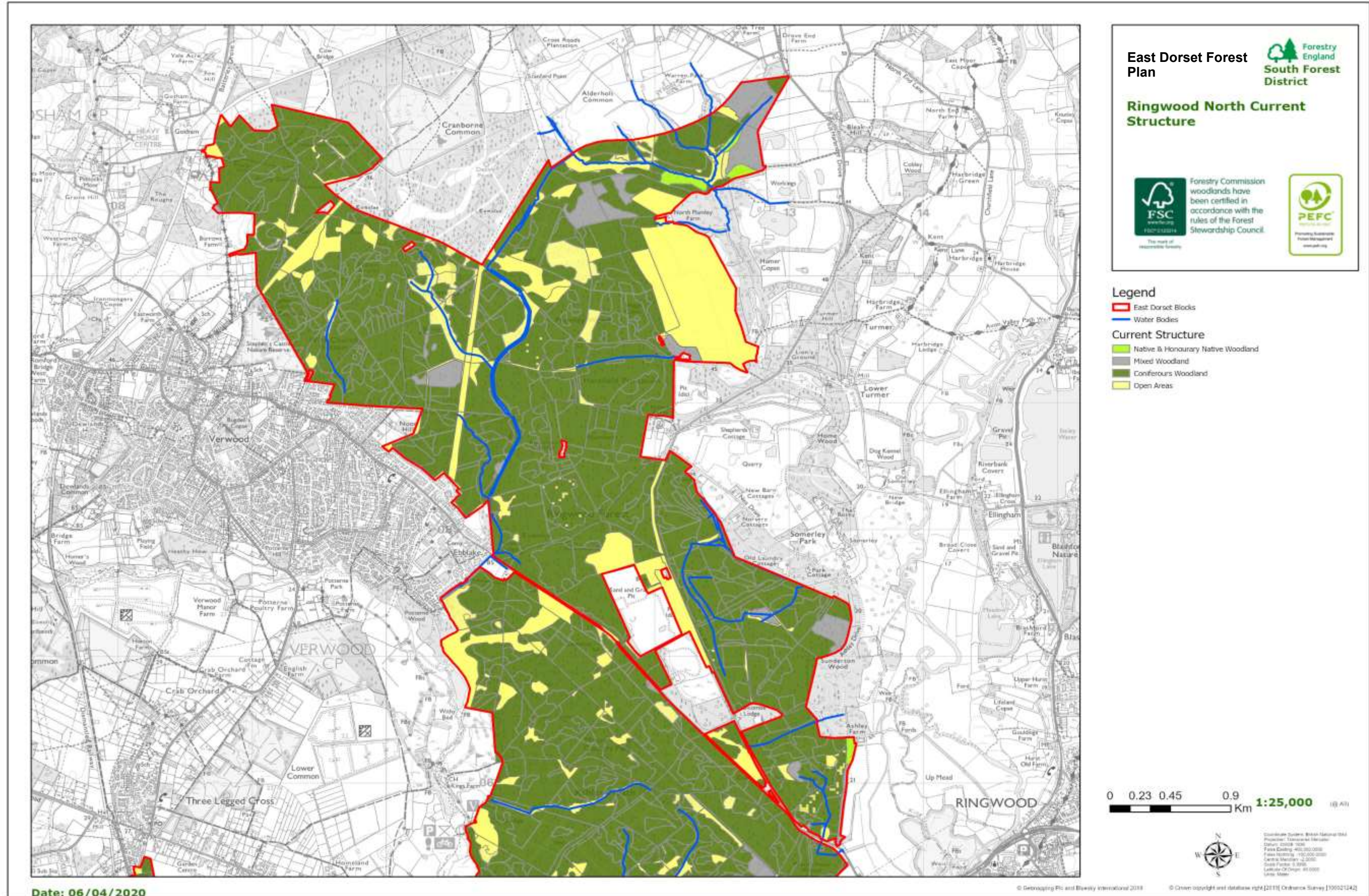
■ 0 ■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4

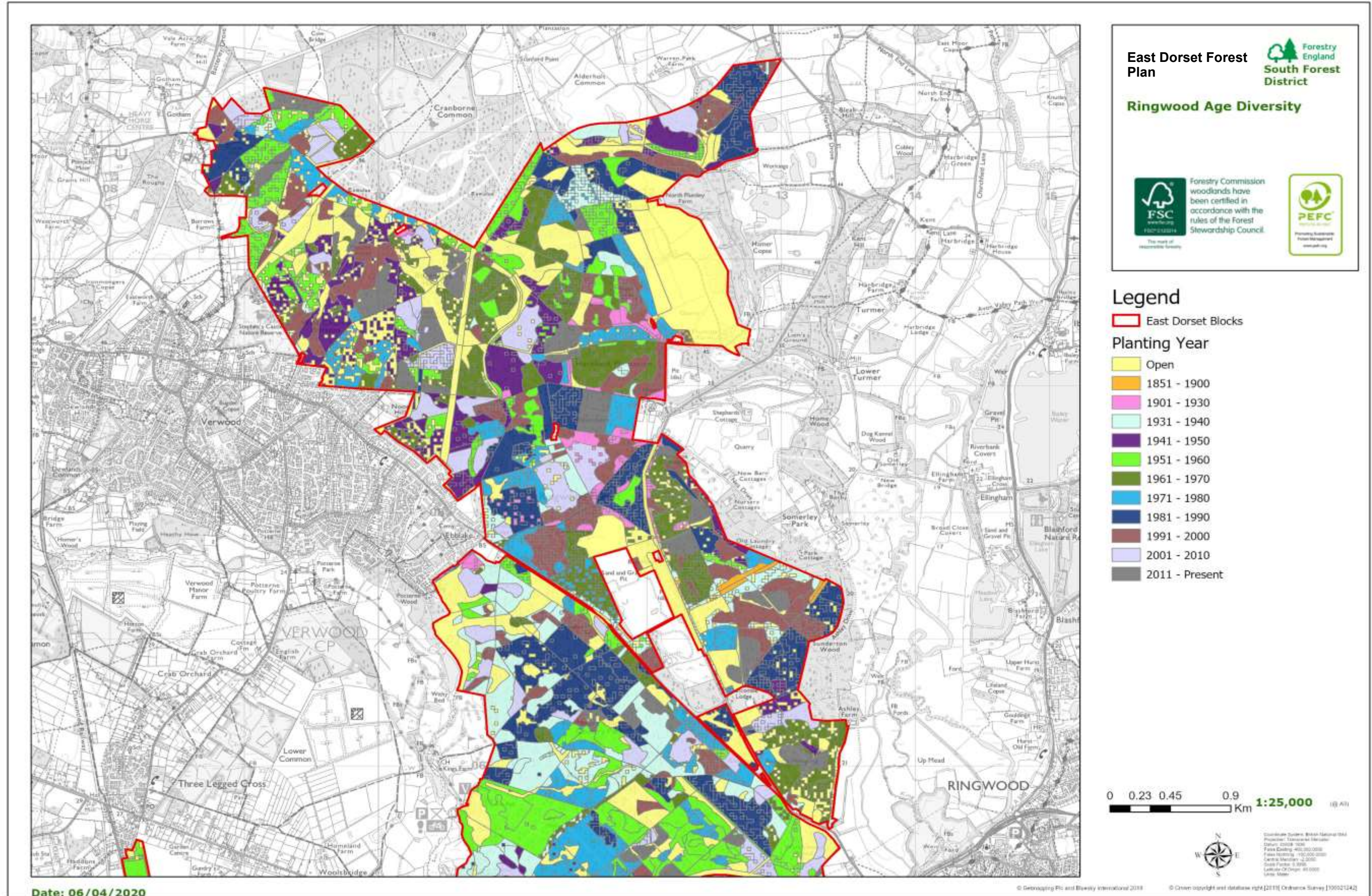


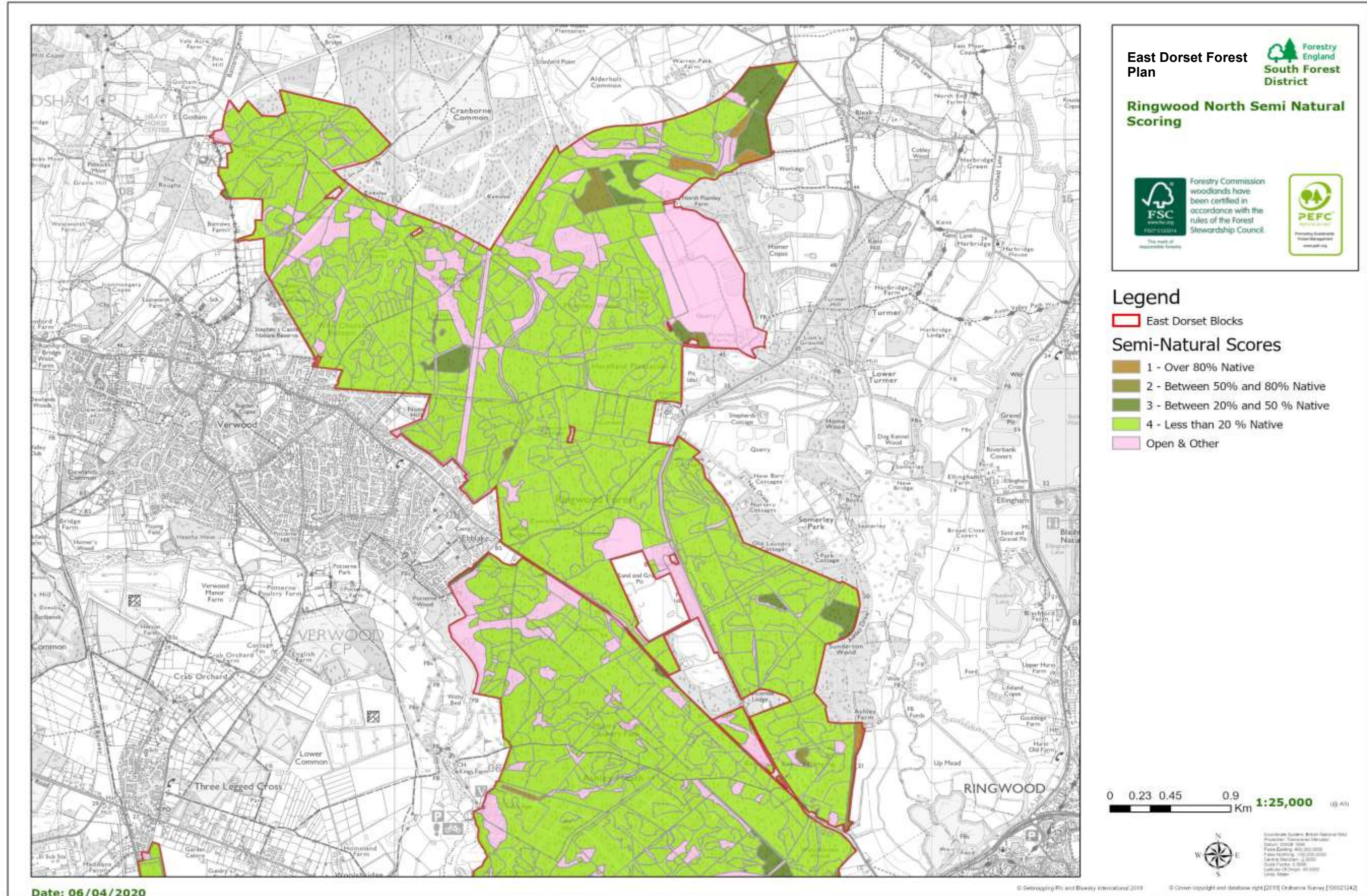
Age Diversity 2020

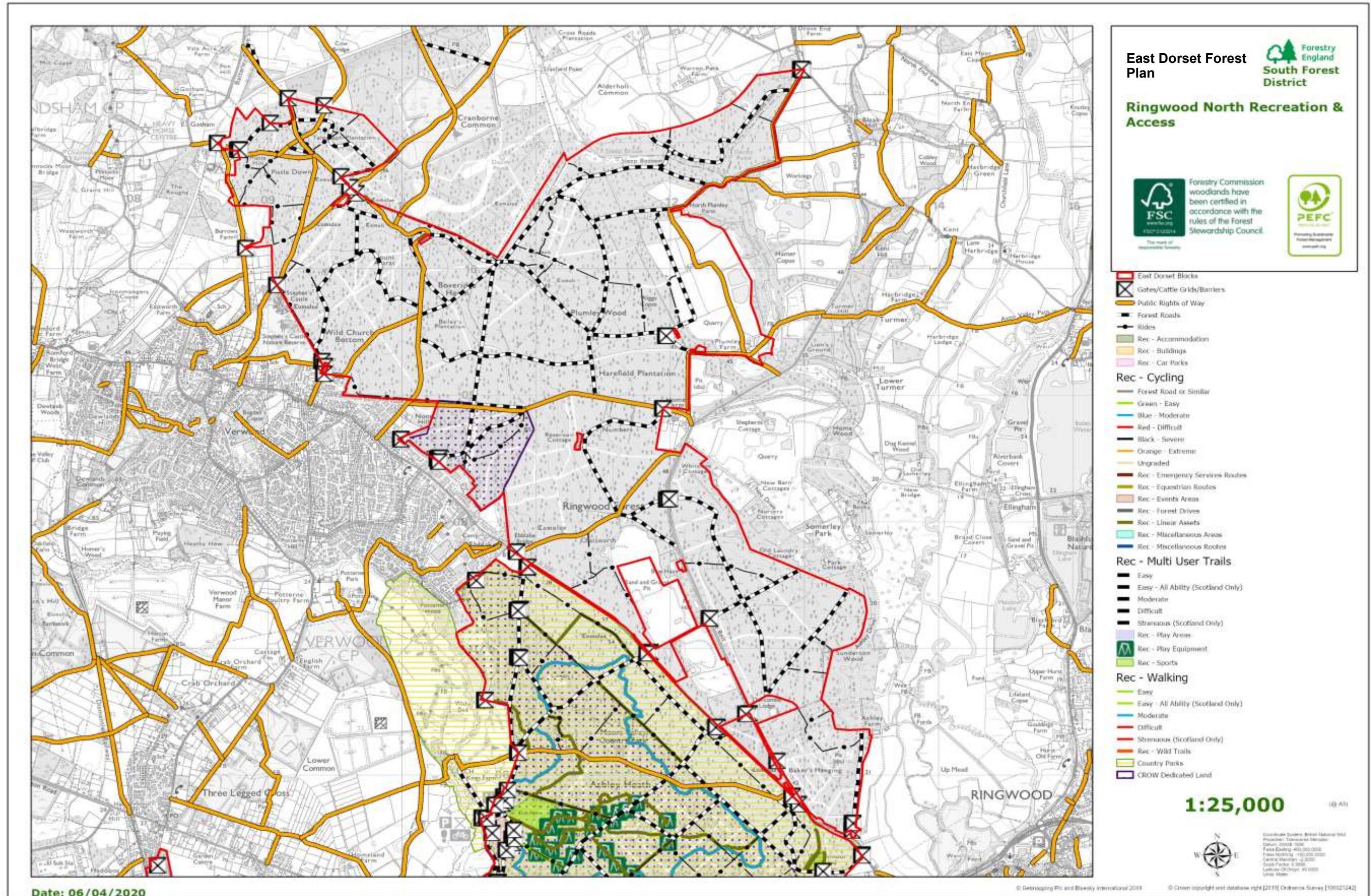
■ 0 to 10 yrs ■ 11 to 20 yrs ■ 21 to 40 yrs ■ 41 to 60 yrs ■ 60+ yrs

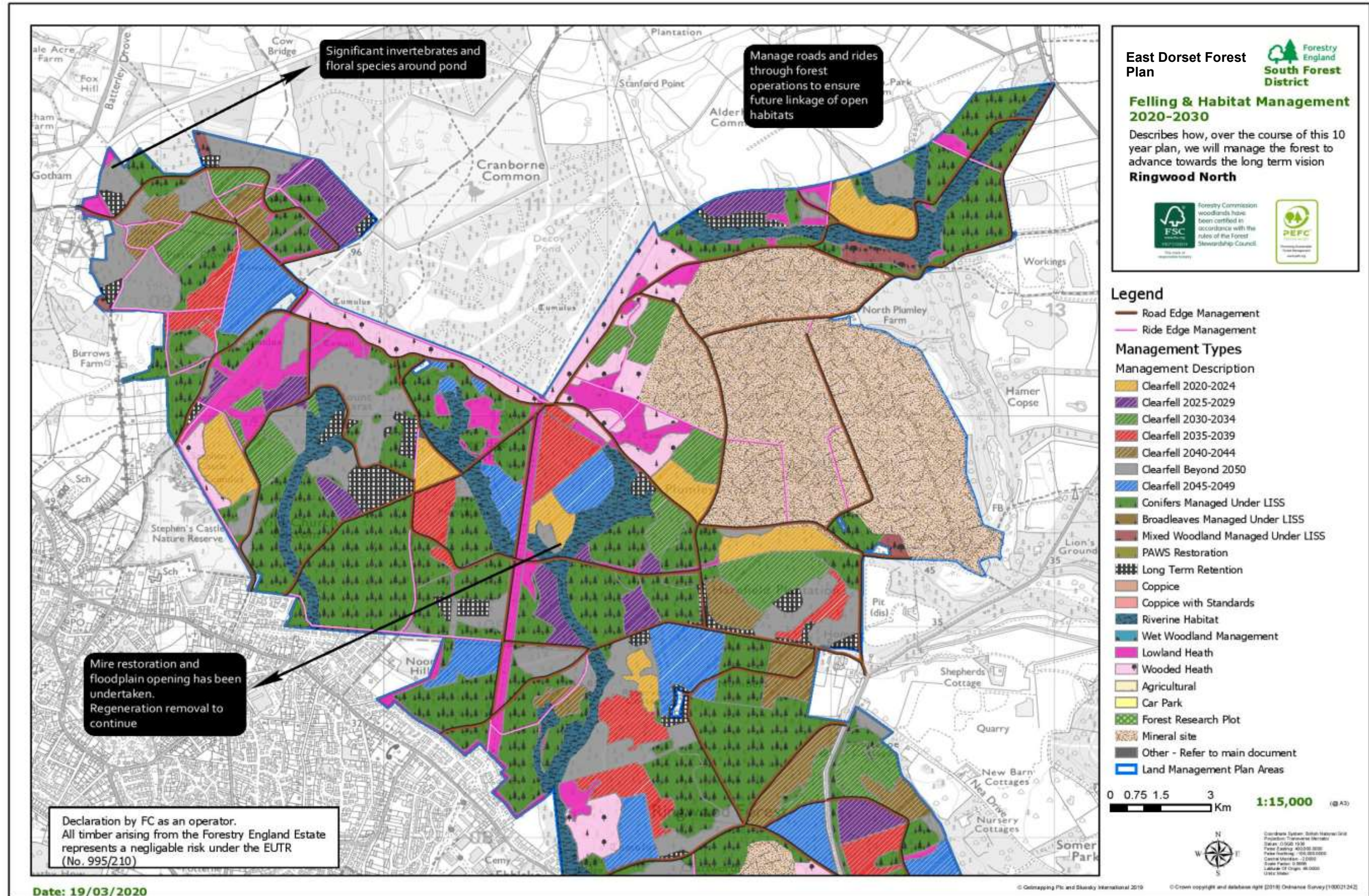


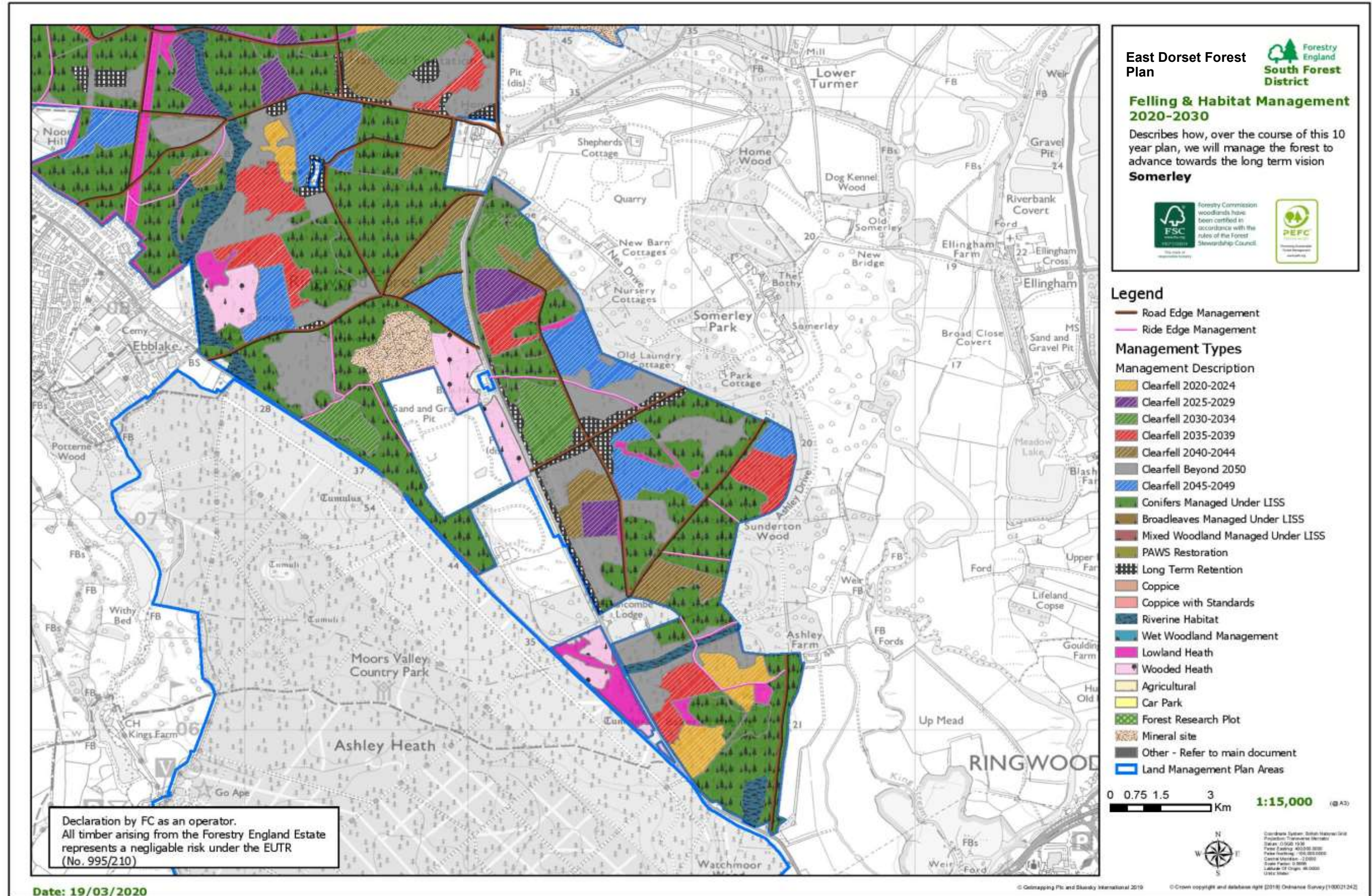


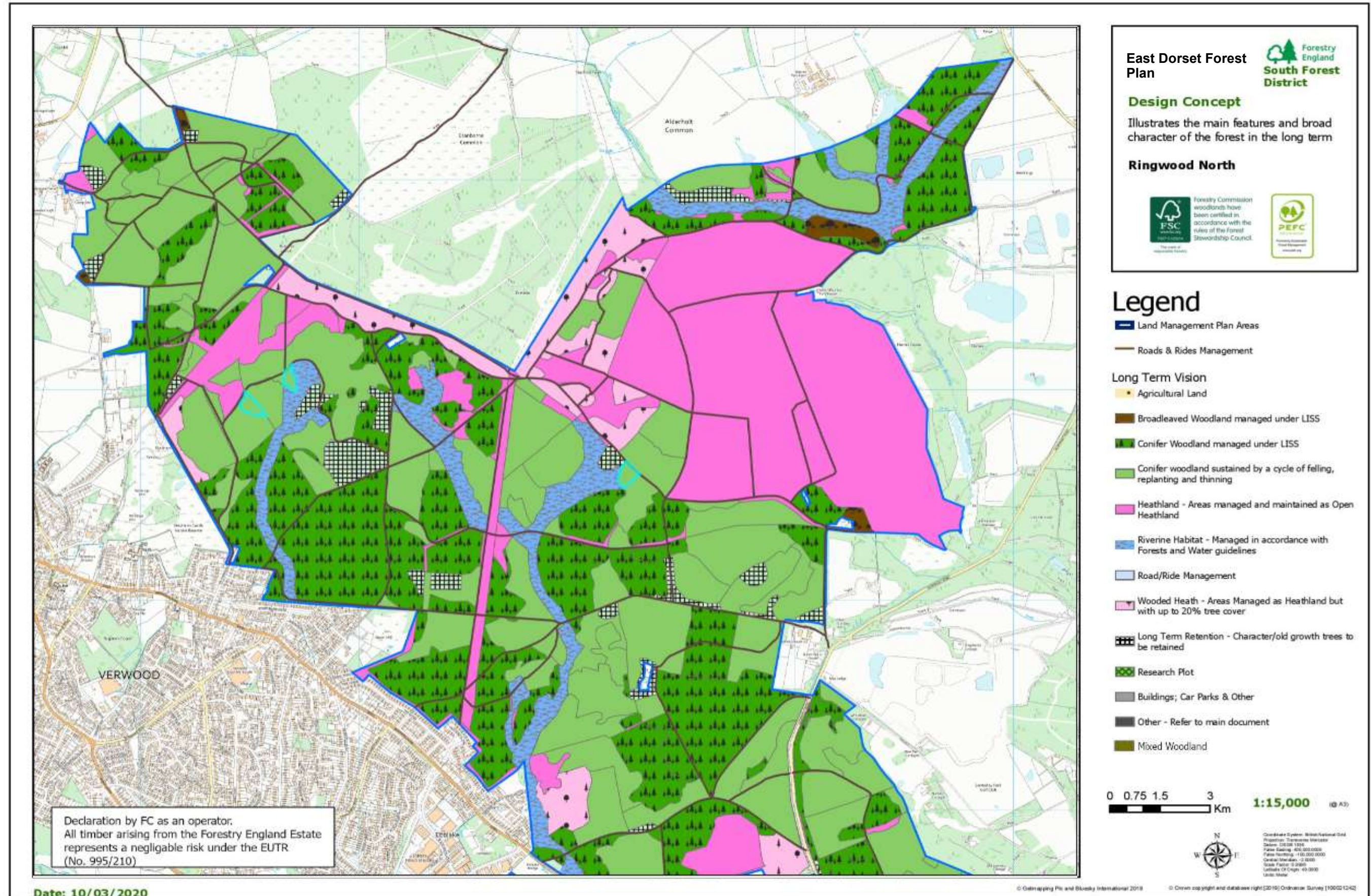


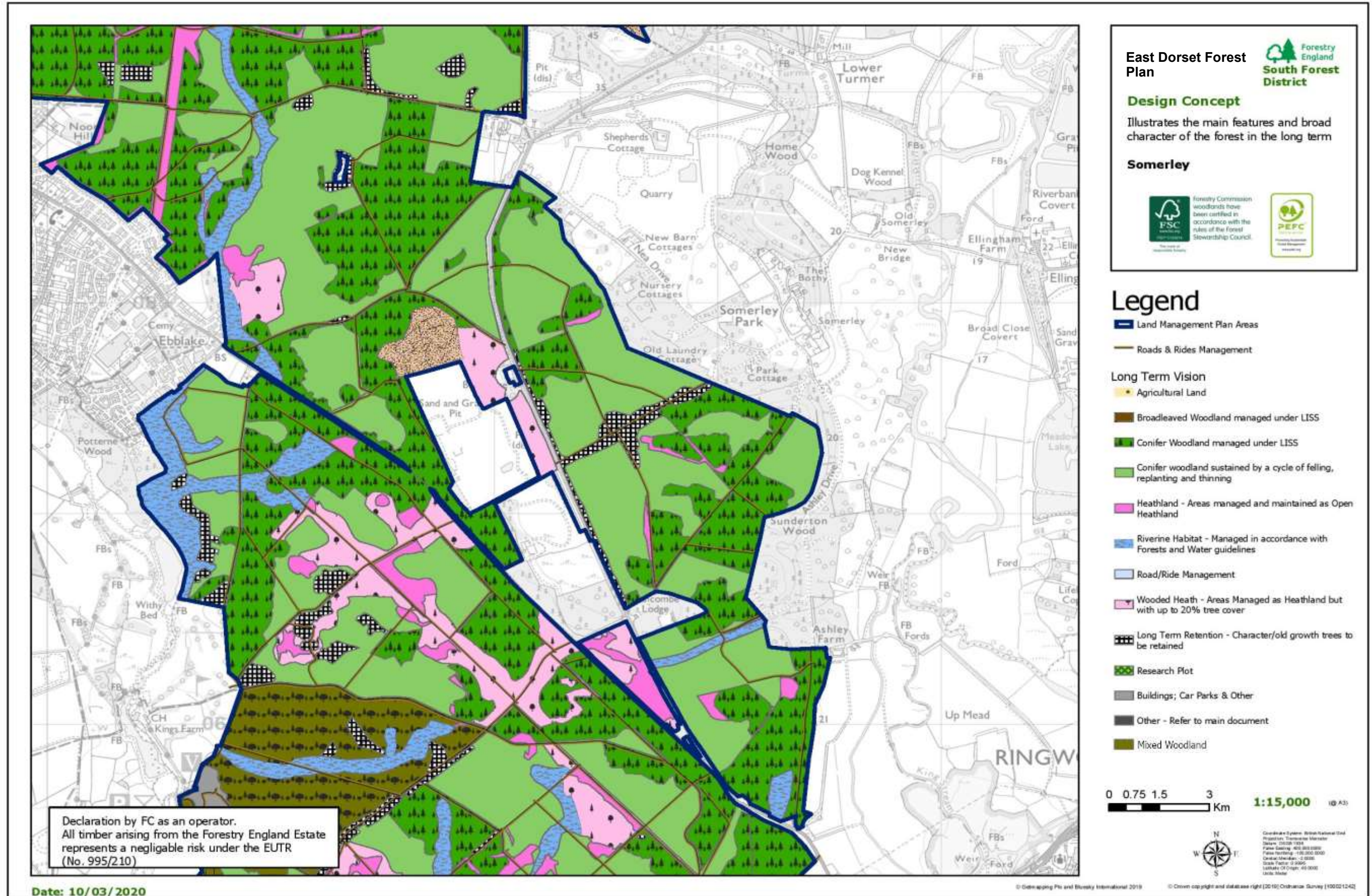












Queen's Copse (Horton Wood)

Location: SU 0400 0641

Area: 77.3ha
0.3 miles²
0.8km²

Local Authority: Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

Queen's Copse covers an area of 77 hectares. Located near the village of Horton, it is on the edge of Cranborne Chase and lies on fertile clay soils. Queen's Copse is Forestry England Freehold.

52% of the woodland is predominantly conifer and was established between the 1950's and 1970's. The remaining habitat is 30% broadleaved woodland and 18% mixed woodland. As much of the wood is Planted Ancient Woodland (PAWS) or Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW), the Forest Plan centres around the gradual reversion to 100% broadleaved woodland. Although a group of the older Douglas fir in compartment 2602 will be retained for raptor nesting sites. In compartment 2603 and away from the small-leaved lime, open areas will be maintained and should be linked to the maintenance of rides to enhance habitat especially for lepidoptera.

There are relic areas of semi-natural woodland including an impressive stand of native small-leaved lime. Additionally there are areas of reasserting semi-natural woodland especially alongside the stream corridors and wetter areas. Native tree regeneration is present as an understorey across large parts of the site. There is also a small area of worked sweet chestnut coppice in the northern end.

The habitat is considered suitable for hazel dormouse. Although there are no confirmed records, it should be assumed that this species is present. Numerous badger setts have been recorded throughout the wood. Queen's Copse is a priority site for Lepidoptera under the joint Butterfly Conservation - Forestry Commission strategy 2014 (Priority C). The woodland habitats present support populations of white admiral (*Limentis camilla*), which is supplemented by a forest road and ride network which has been highlighted as being of significant entomological and botanical interest.

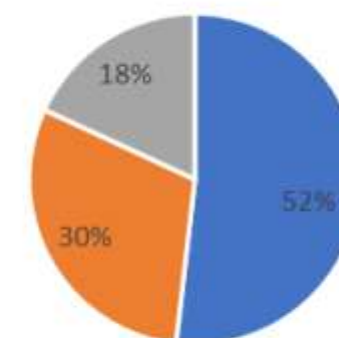
There are no scheduled monuments within Queen's Copse. However, a desk-based exercise commissioned in 2010 and undertaken for Forest Enterprise by AC Archaeology ([Queen's Copse, Horton, Dorset: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Assessment](#) Doc No: ACW255.1/1/0. AC Archaeology. April 2010) indicates 11 areas of importance, "A possible prehistoric burial mound and a series of extant earthwork banks....A series of water management features, including a possible duck decoy pond, were also identified." These unscheduled features will be treated as if they are scheduled.

Queen's Copse is land dedicated under the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 and the site is well-served with Public Rights of Way. Generally access is via the entrance off the Horton Road where there is parking for a very limited number of vehicles. Little is known of the recreational activity of this site.

Summary Statistics of Habitat Types: Queen's Copse

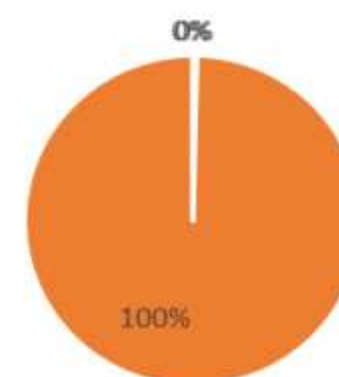
Current Habitat Types

■ Predominantly conifer woodland ■ Predominantly broadleaved woodland
■ Predominantly mixed woodland

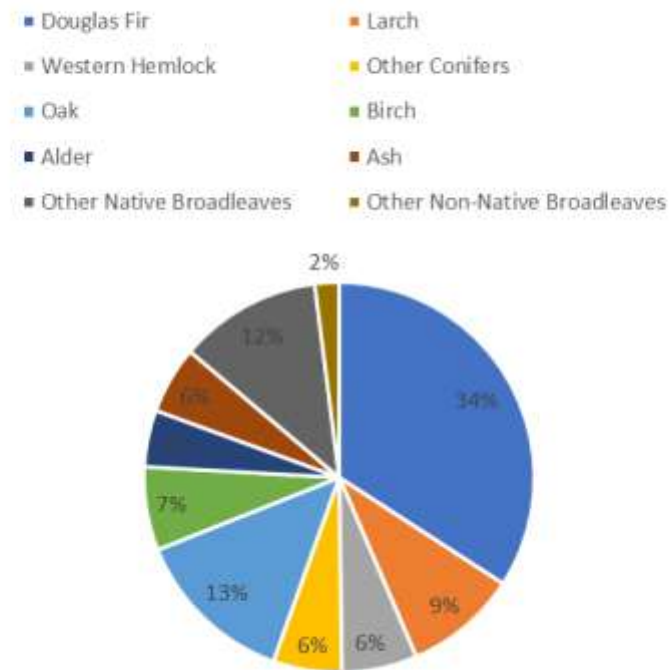


Our Long Term Vision

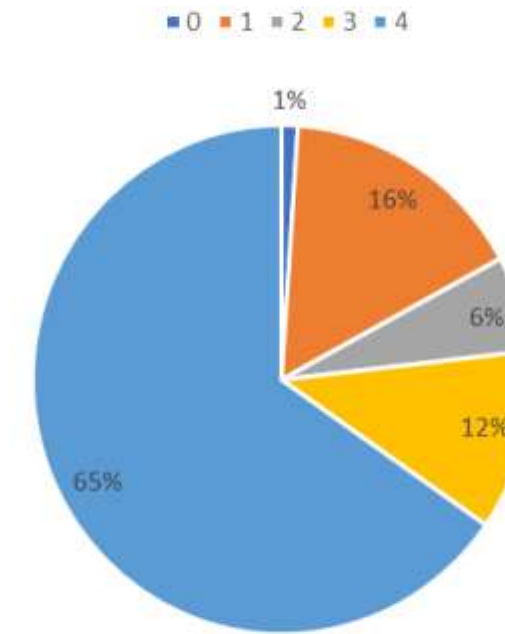
■ Predominantly conifer woodland ■ Predominantly broadleaved woodland
■ Predominantly mixed woodland



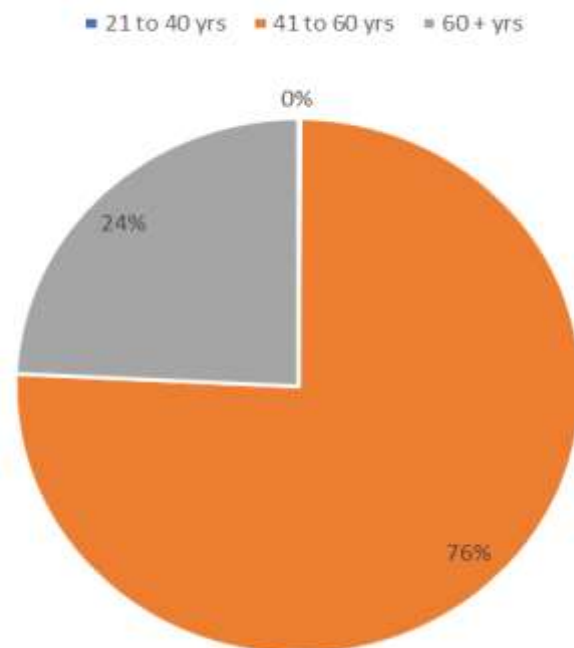
Species Diversity 2020

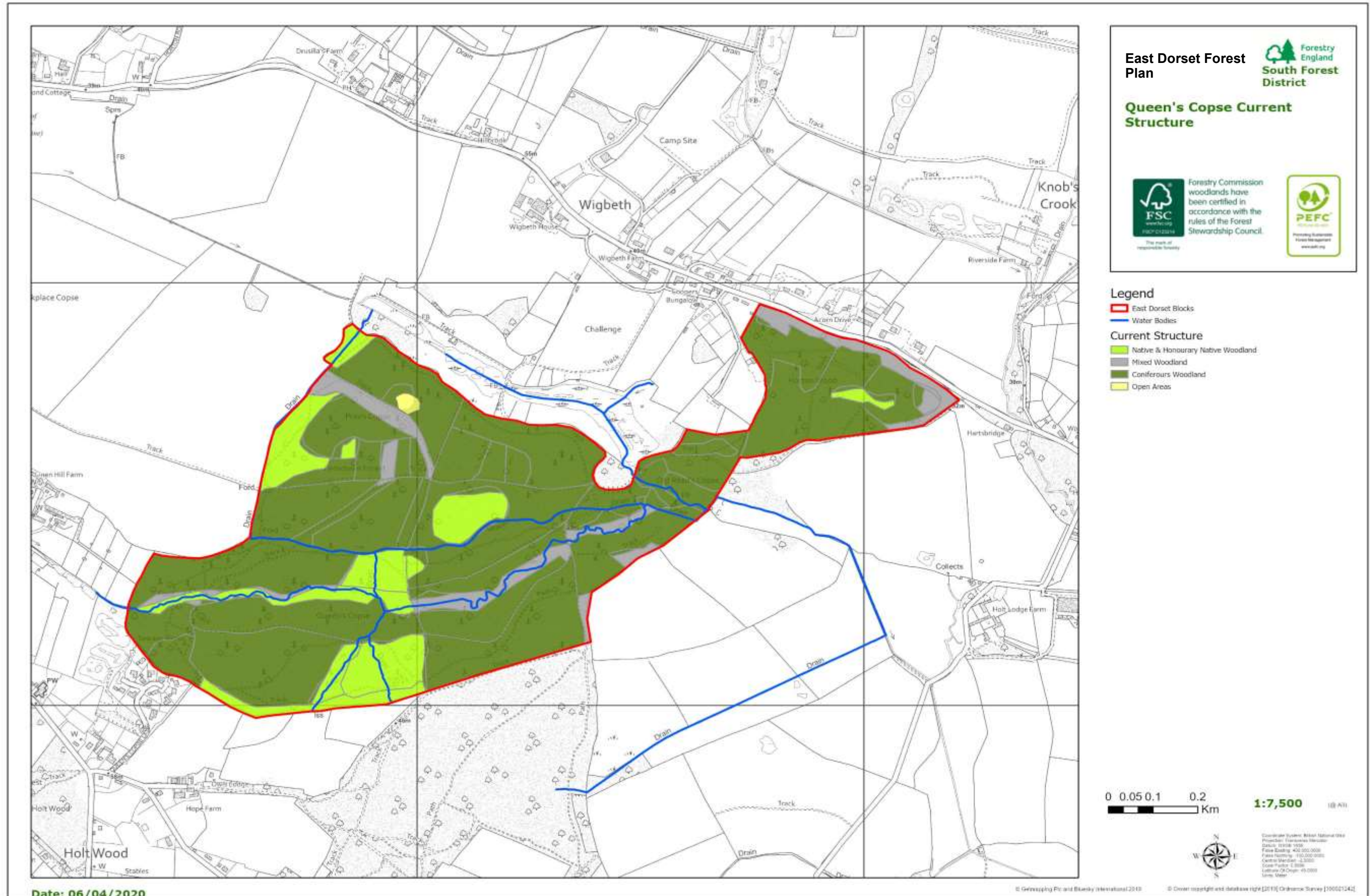


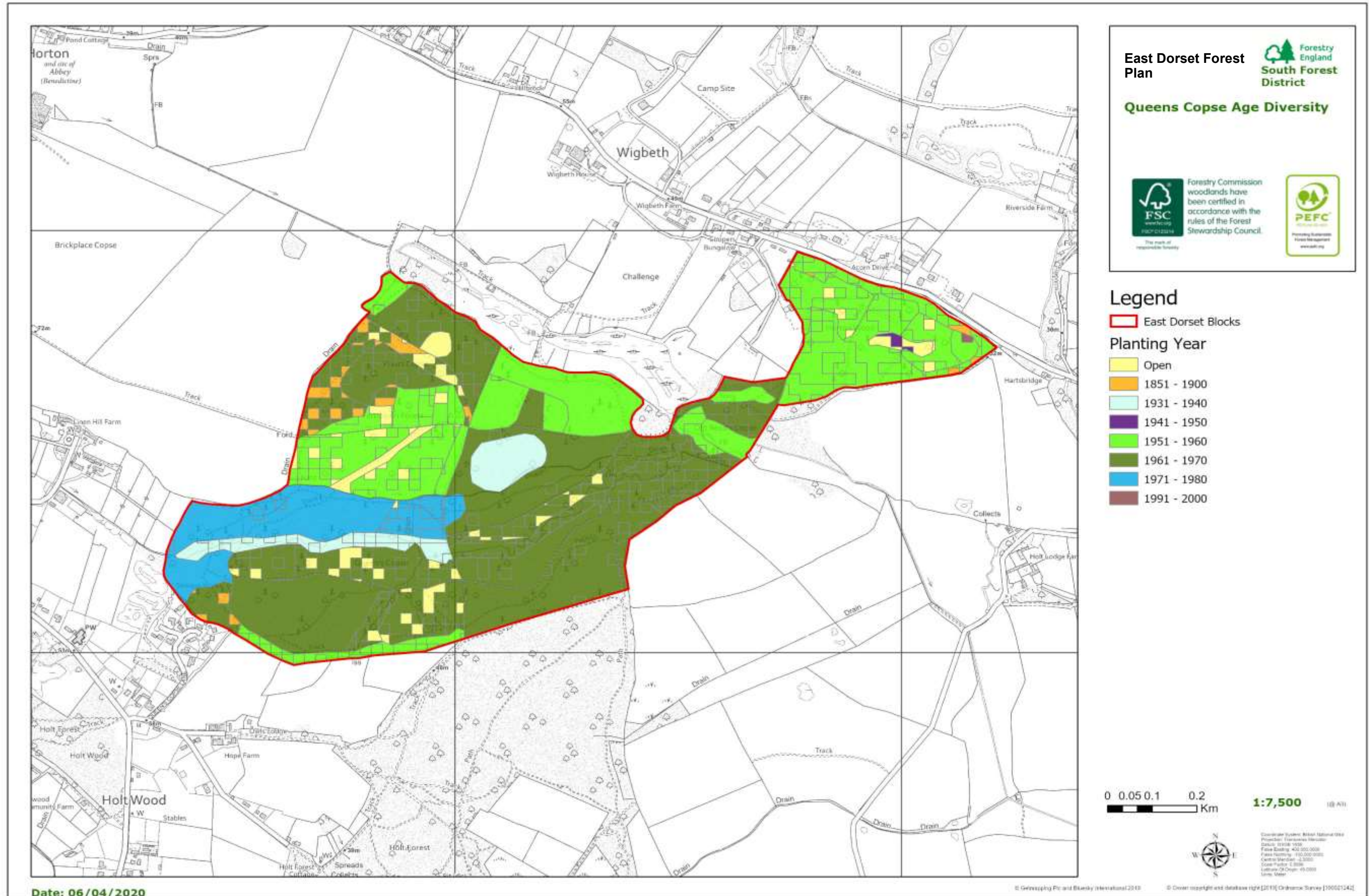
Semi-Natural Scores 2020

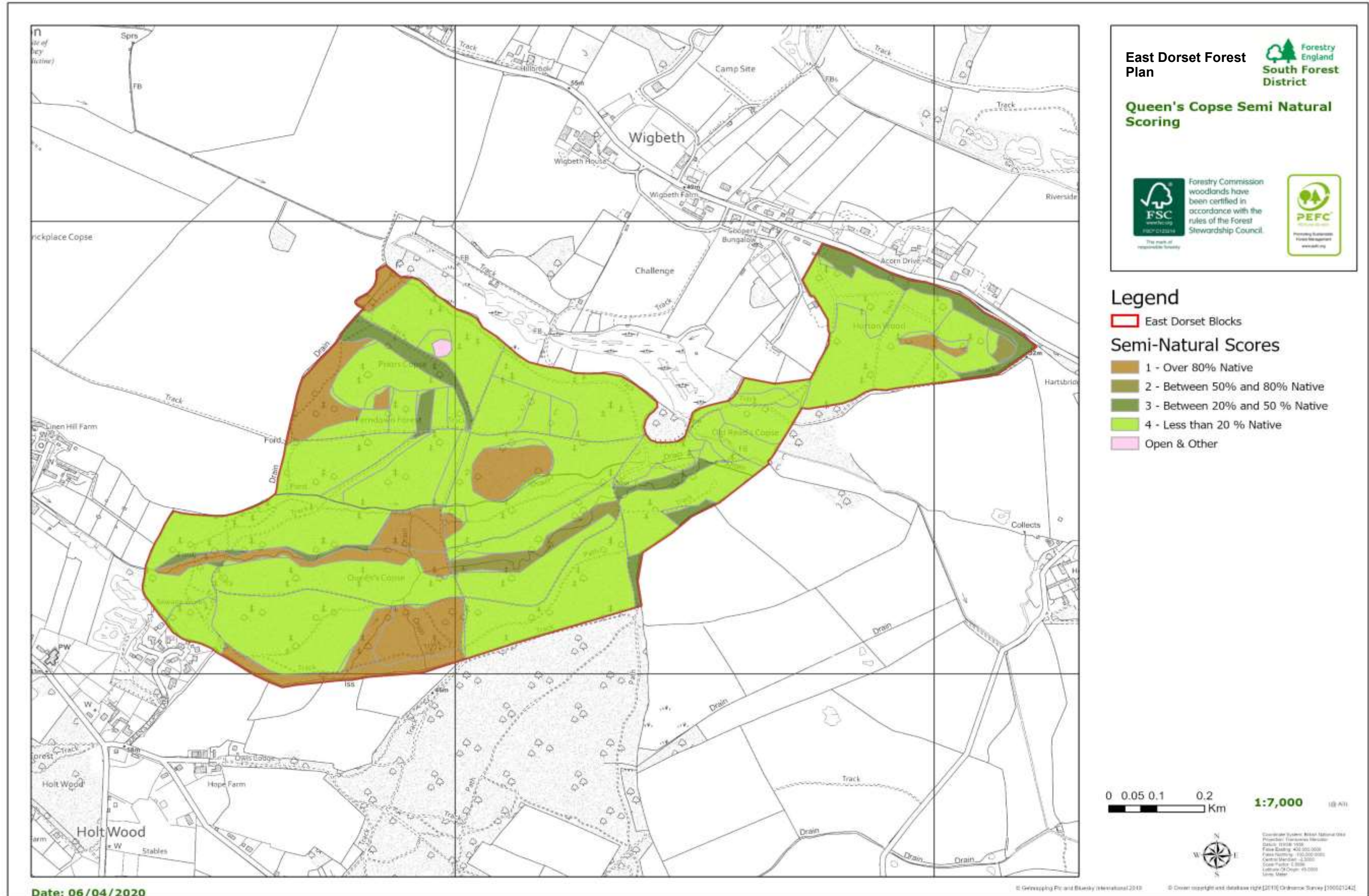


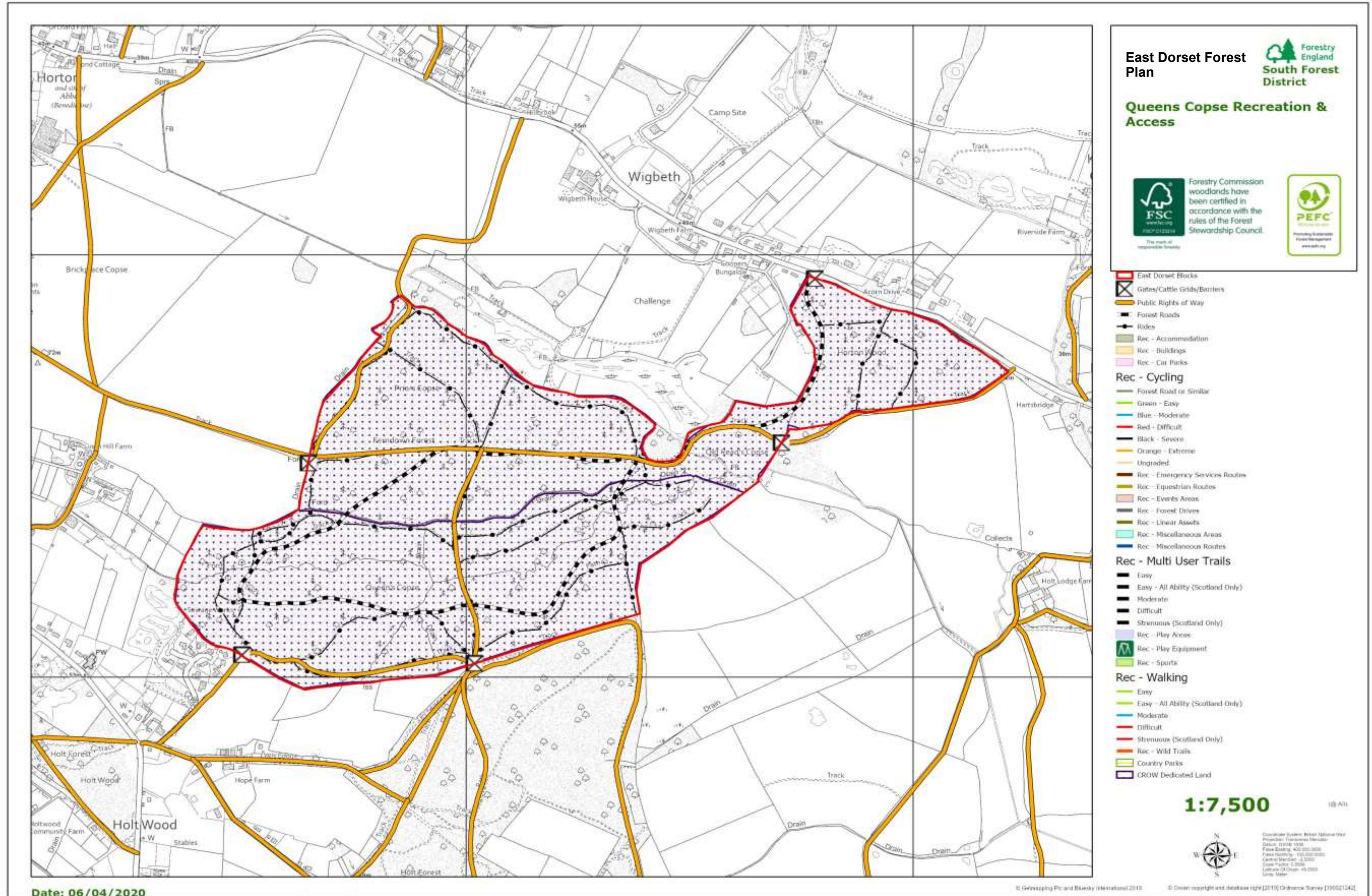
Age Diversity 2020

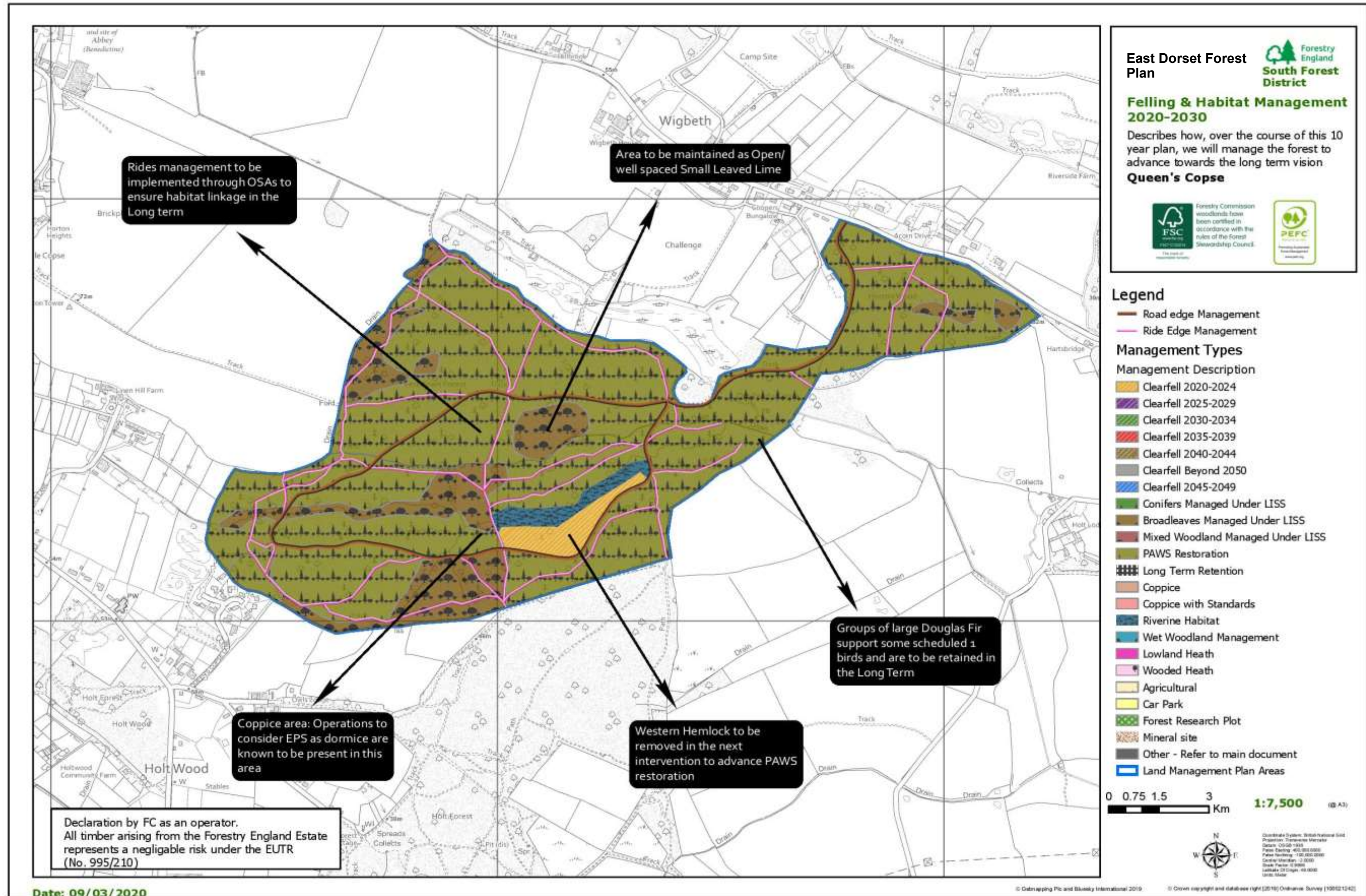


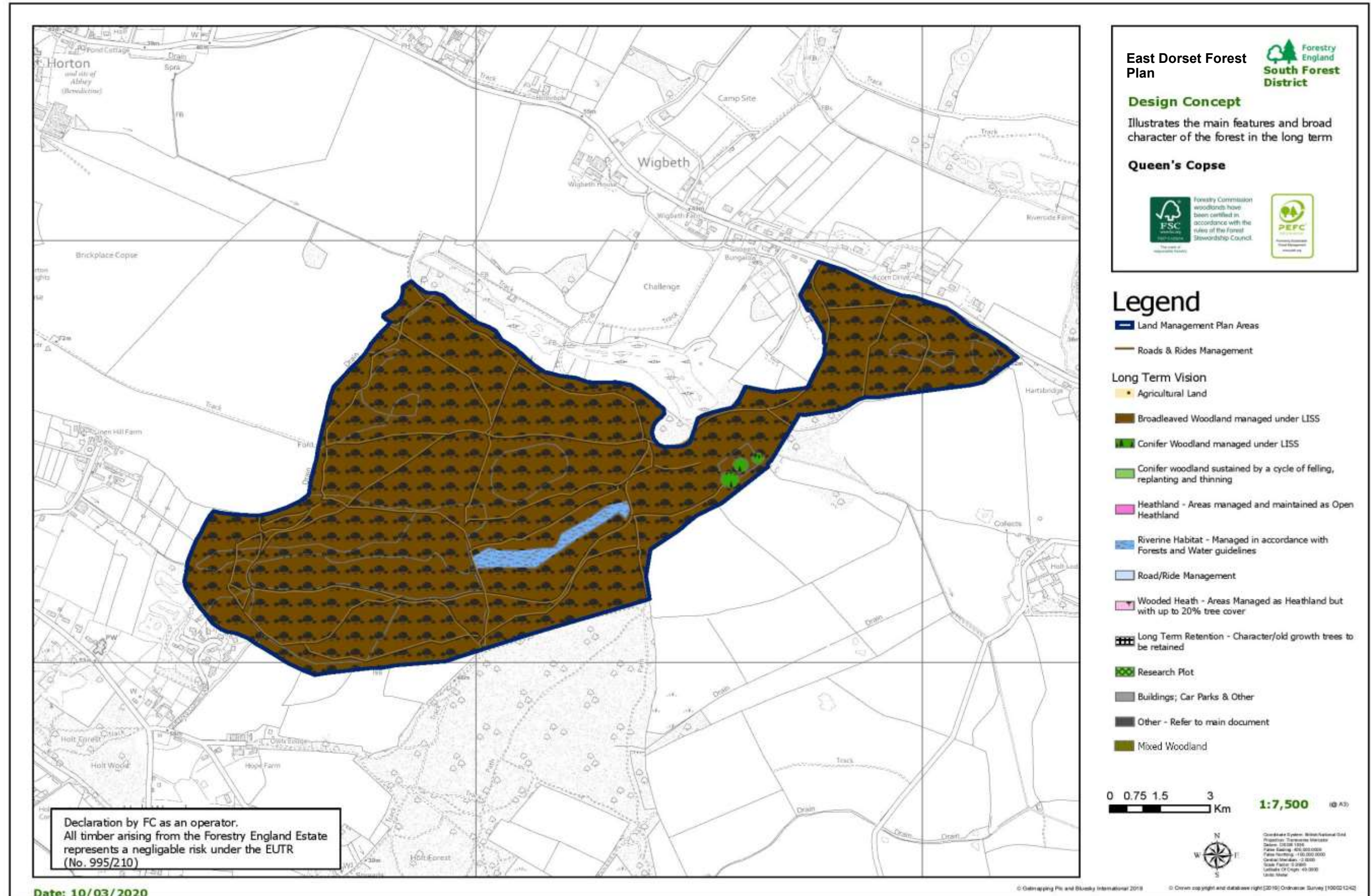












Appendix 1: Glossary of Terms

Low Impact Silvicultural System (LISS) for Conifers: Managed Conifer woodland. Manage under an appropriate shelterwood system, favouring best tree and focussing on the production of quality timber and promoting natural regeneration.

Low Impact Silvicultural System (LISS) for Broadleaves: Broadleaved Woodland Management. Manage under an appropriate shelterwood system, favouring best native tree and focussing on the production of quality timber and promoting natural regeneration.

Low Impact Silvicultural System (LISS) for Mixed Woodland: Mixed Woodland Management. Manage under a LISS. Favour best tree, focussing on the production of quality timber and species diversity and promoting natural regeneration .

PAWS Restoration: Native Broadleaved Woodland Restoration. Manage under an appropriate selection system. Favour best native tree, non-native species to 20% (5% on SSSI) of the canopy or less.

Long Term Retention: Individual, stable stands and clumps of trees retained for environmental benefit significantly beyond the age or size generally adopted by the woodland enterprise.

Coppice: Coppice in an appropriate rotation to benefit biodiversity while taking market opportunities to utilise products.

Coppice with Standards: Thin the canopy to reduce cover to a maximum of 20%. Coppice understorey in an appropriate rotation as detailed in the SSSI Management Plan.

Riverine Habitat: Intervene only to remove non-natives, or when a specific biodiversity opportunity arises, or to mitigate risk.

Wet Woodland Management: Intervene only to remove non-natives, or when a specific biodiversity opportunity arises or to mitigate risk.

Lowland Heath: Maintain heathland habitat using traditional management techniques where possible including; cutting, grazing, controlled burning, bracken and gorse management.

Wooded Heath: Thin significantly to promote growth of heathland flora. Thin to create wide, irregularly spaced groups and/or individual character trees or trees of particular ecological importance.

Agricultural: Land usually managed under a third party tenancy agreement for agriculture.

Minerals Site: Land leased to Forestry England where the freeholder has the right and planning permission to win minerals, sands & gravels.

Appendix 2: Felling Thresholds

General Principles

Felling will be limited to 10% of the contiguous area in a 5-year period. (20% for the duration of the Forest Plan).

A regeneration period should be adopted that is appropriate to site and species.

An indicative regeneration period is suggested as 20-30 years for conifer and 50 years for broadleaf species.

Individual felling coupes should be planned to provide a connecting network of old growth woodland where it exists.

Native Woodland Regeneration

Coupes will be up to 2 ha in area and non-adjacent.

PAWS Regeneration

Coupes will be up to 0.25 ha in area and non-adjacent.

Mixed Woodland Regeneration

Coupes must be no more than 0.25 ha in area and non-adjacent.

Conifer Woodland Regeneration

Coupes must be no more than 0.25 ha in area and non-adjacent.

Appendix 3: Wildfire Risk Assessment

Wildfire Risk Assessment

Site Name: **East Dorset Blocks** Location: **East Dorset**

Reference Number	What are the wildfire hazards?	Who/What might be harmed and how?	Present Control measure: <i>What are you already doing to manage risk?</i>	Initial risk rating			Additional Control measure: <i>What else do you need to do?</i>	Revised risk rating		
				Likelihood	Severity	Risk		Likelihood	Severity	Risk
	Injury to people as a result of wildfire with the forest block	Members of the public, Forestry England staff, emergency services, contractors	Maintain fires breaks. Liaison with Emergency Services; provision of fire maps. Press & media releases during high risk periods	3	5	15	Signage during periods of high risk. Brashing trees where they are close to boundaries or rides, tracks etc. Encourage the growth and retention of broadleaved trees within potential fuel breaks.	3	3	9
	Damage to property beyond the forest boundary	Residential, commercial, agricultural and other government or ngo managed property.	Maintain fires breaks. Liaison with Emergency Services; provision of fire maps. Press & media releases during high risk periods	3	5	15	Signage during periods of high risk. Brashing trees where they are close to boundaries or rides, tracks etc. Encourage the growth and retention of broadleaved trees within potential fuel breaks.	3	3	9

Completed by: Date of assessment: Date of review:

Appendix 4:

Monitoring

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 (ASNW).	Invasive and non-native species will be monitored and managed accordingly to ensure the quality of ASNW is not reduced.	1	Maintain % of native tree species within ancient woodland sites.	Querying via sub compartment database (SCDB) at years 5 and 10.	Maintained current species composition within ASNW sites.
Continue restoration of Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) to native and honorary native woodland	Managing PAWS area under a selection system and favouring the retention of native broad-leaves will help reduce non-native component	2	Increased % of native tree species within PAWS.	Querying via sub compartment database (SCDB) at years 5 and 10.	PAWS analysis via SCDB will show an increase in native tree species and a commensurate decrease in non-native tree species.
Maintain and increase species and age diversity of woodlands	To use LISS where appropriate in the predominantly coniferous blocks of this Forest Plan	3	Check SCDB to monitor: Increased species diversity and Increased age diversity.	Querying through SCDB at years 5 and 10. OSA checks for natural regeneration at implementation stage.	At least the same species diversity and greater age diversity at year 10. Increased successful establishment of natural regeneration once established at an age where it will be recorded through routine survey.
Control invasive non-native species.	Invasive non-native species will be monitored and managed. PAWS and ASNW will be a priority for treatment.	4	Evidence of control of invasive non-native species.	Recorded formally at OSA stage and informally during routine visits.	Evidence of control of invasive non-native species through contracts or Operational Site Assessments
Provide a regular supply of timber to support local, and wider, economies.	Regular and routine harvesting interventions to supply wood-based products on a sustainable basis.	5	Wood-based products supplied in a sustainable way to industry in line with the production forecast.	Query sales recording package at year 10.	Wood-based material supplied to industry in line with production forecasts whilst, or as a result of, fulfilling other objectives.

Appendix 5: UKWAS Compliance Table

	Forest Plan Area (ha)	Forest Plan (%)	Forest District Area (ha)	Forest District (%)
Total Area	2708	100	47, 564	6
Total Wooded Area	2223	82	28280	8
Natural Reserve Plantation	0	0	286	0
Natural Reserve semi Natural	0	0	2959	0
LTR and LSS			21, 264	
Area of conservation value (>15%) inc: AW, ASNW, NR, LTR, PAWS, LISS, SSSI, SMs	SSSI/SMs/PAWS/ASNW = 291 ha		26, 404	

Appendix 6: PDN 01 Tolerance Tables

	Adjustment to felling coupe boundaries	Swapping of felling coupes	Adjustment to felling operation	Clearance of standing trees associated with wind-blown areas	Timing of restocking -including natural regeneration	Species choice	Tree health
Formal approval by area team required	>25% of the coupe area	Where changes to the felling sequence is likely to result in a significant breach of the UKFS adjacency rules	Thinning to selective felling or clear felling	Clearance of >1 Ha or 10% of the area (whichever is less) in sensitive areas, >5 ha or 25% of the area (whichever is less) in non-sensitive areas	Where this is > 4 planting seasons from the date of felling	From mixed, predominantly Broadleaves to evergreen conifer	Where no SPHN issued and felling required
Written approval only required from area team,	Between 10-25% of the coupe area	Where changes to the felling sequence is likely to result in a minor breach of the UKFS adjacency rules			Where this is at least 2 but no more than 4 planting seasons from the date of felling	Deciduous conifers to evergreen	Thinning >50% but < 65%
Formal approval by area team <u>not</u> required	< 10% of the coupe area	Where changes to the felling sequence does not result in a breach of the UKFS adjacency rules.	Clear felling to selective felling or thinning	Clearance of <1 Ha or 10% of the area (whichever is greater) in sensitive areas, <5 ha or 25% of the area (whichever is greater) in non-sensitive areas	Where this is < 2 planting seasons from the date of felling	Any other changes	Where SPHN is issued or thinning up to 50%