

Hampshire Downs

Forest Plan 2026-36



The mark of
responsible forestry





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1.Approvals

Date of commencement of plan: **10/2026**

Approval period: **2026-2036**

Summary of activity within approval period:

Forestry Activity	Conifers (ha)	Broadleaves (ha)	Open (ha)	Total (ha)
Clearfelling 2026-2036	94.49	0	0	94.49
Coppicing	N/A	6.35	N/A	6.35
Restocking	4.72	89.77	N/A	94.49
Regeneration Felling (LISS *)	187.90	305.47	N/A	495.20

(*) In addition to the proposed felling, up to 820 ha will be managed using Low Impact Silvicultural Systems as defined in the Action Note 164.

Forestry England Application for Forest Plan Approval

Forest District: South England Forest District

Forestry England Block Numbers: 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81

Woodland Names: **Ampfield & Windmills, West Wood, Micheldever, Blackwood, Chawton & Bushey Leaze, Weston Common**

Forestry England Plan **Reference Number**: FE / South / FPR / Hampshire Downs / 2026

Nearest Town or Village: **Winchester**

OS Grid reference:

Ampfield & Windmills (SU 4026 2472), **West Wood** (SU 4203 3027), **Micheldever** (SU 5300 3736), **Blackwood** (SU 5360 4315), **Chawton & Bushey Leaze** (SU 6810 3712), **Weston Common** (SU 6991 4428)

Local Authority: **Hampshire County Council**

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

I undertake to obtain any permissions necessary for the implementation of the approved plan.

Signed: _____

Craig Harrison, Deputy Surveyor and Forest Management Director, South England Forest District

Date:

Approved: _____

Peter Coles, Area Director, Forest Services, South-East and London Area

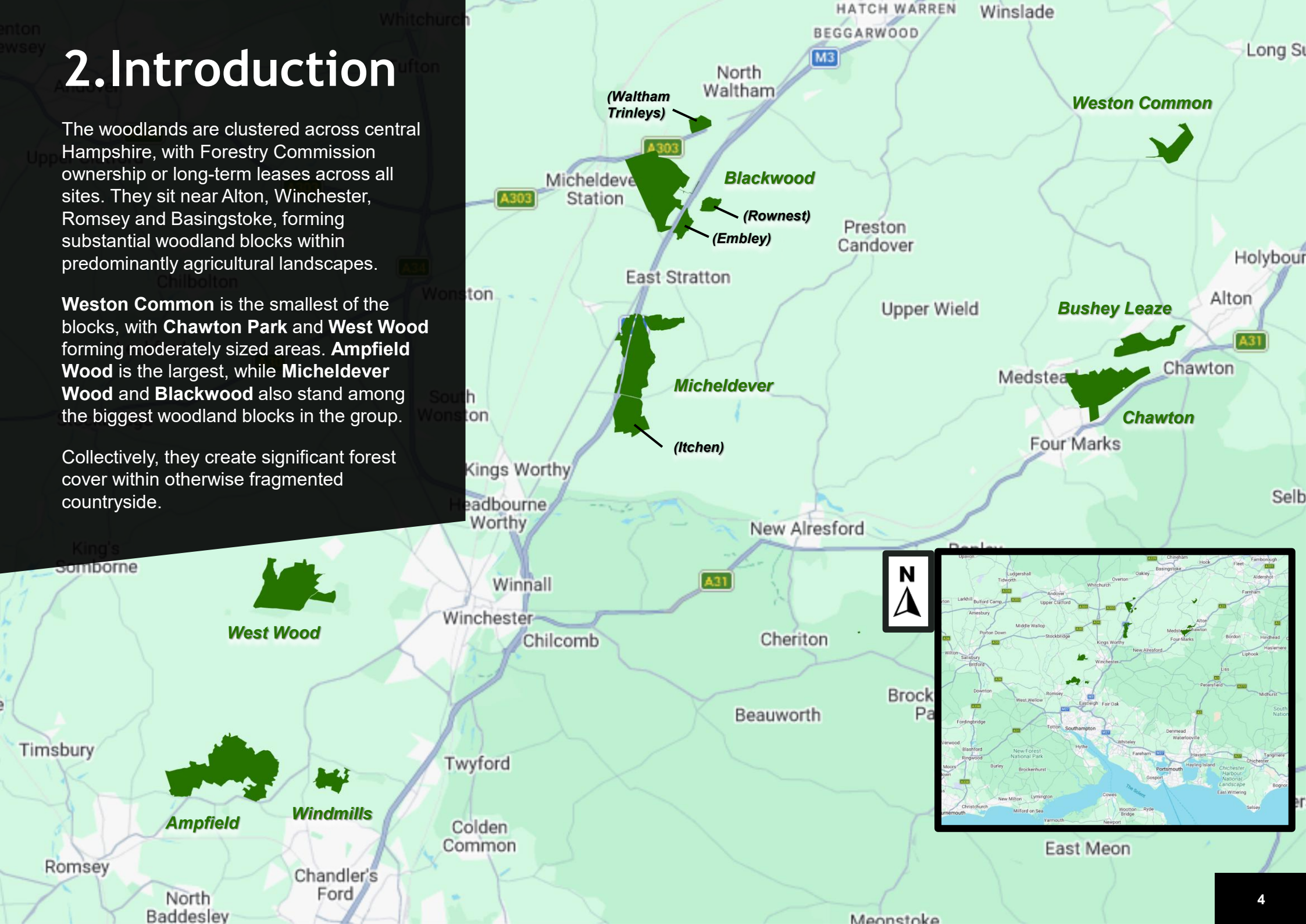
Date:

2. Introduction

The woodlands are clustered across central Hampshire, with Forestry Commission ownership or long-term leases across all sites. They sit near Alton, Winchester, Romsey and Basingstoke, forming substantial woodland blocks within predominantly agricultural landscapes.

Weston Common is the smallest of the blocks, with **Chawton Park** and **West Wood** forming moderately sized areas. **Ampfield Wood** is the largest, while **Micheldever Wood** and **Blackwood** also stand among the biggest woodland blocks in the group.

Collectively, they create significant forest cover within otherwise fragmented countryside.



3.Vision

The **Hampshire woodlands** will be managed as a resilient, diverse and ecologically rich landscape, where **PAWS** (Planted Ancient Woodland Sites) restoration strengthens ancient woodland character and a broader range of species reduces reliance on beech, enhancing long-term adaptability.

The forests will continue to transition away from vulnerable conifers and ageing monocultures, with proactive responses to pests - particularly the removal of Norway spruce within the *Ips typographus* demarcation zone - and a broader mix of native and climate-resilient species introduced throughout.

Archaeological features, including the nationally significant landscape of **Micheldever**, will be conserved as defining elements of the forest's heritage. Accessible sites will provide high-quality recreational experiences through maintained and enhanced ride networks, while habitat connectivity and species recovery remain central to future management.

A resilient woodland landscape: restoring the past, adapting for the future.

Implementation of the previous Forest Design Plan has delivered substantial advances across the **Hampshire Downs** woodlands. Extensive PAWS restoration has been carried out in **Ampfield, Windmills, Micheldever, Chawton Park, Blackwood and Weston Common**, with conifers and diseased ash replaced by native species such as oak, hazel, wild cherry and field maple.

Biodiversity gains have been supported through ride widening, scallop creation and open-space development, benefiting species including **pearl-bordered fritillary**.

Research trials - such as the >10 ha species-comparison experiment at **Weston Common** and beech-thinning trials at **Micheldever** - are strengthening evidence-based management.

Volunteer and student work has enhanced coppicing and **ride management**, while **tree-safety** felling has ensured public access during widespread ash dieback.

Delivering restoration, resilience and results on the ground.



4. Forest Plans

Forest Plans set out a long-term vision for a woodland or group of woodlands, typically looking 50 to 100 years ahead.

They define the desired future condition of the forest and establish clear objectives to guide **sustainable management**.

Each plan outlines how forestry operations over the next 10 to 30 years will move the woodland progressively towards that long-term vision, ensuring continuity, resilience and meaningful change over time.

Consultation and Approval Process

As part of the Forest Planning process, we seek the views of a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities, conservation organisations, recreation groups and representatives of the timber industry.

This consultation helps ensure that the final plan reflects an appropriate and balanced set of objectives.

Approval of the Forest Plan is granted by Forest Services, the regulatory arm of the Forestry Commission. This approval is valid for 10 years and also serves as the felling licence for that period.

The approved Forest Plan is reviewed after five years to confirm that proposals remain relevant, appropriate and aligned with current policy and guidance.

This Forest Plan also provides an opportunity to assess the effectiveness of management to date and make any necessary adjustments to keep the plan on track.

Context

Each section of the Forest Plan outlines key site-specific information on landscape context, tenure, woodland structure, biodiversity, public access, historic features, soils, water and timber potential. Together, these details give a clear picture of each woodland's character and condition, supporting sound decision-making throughout plan development and guiding operational planning on the ground.

The woodlands covered are:

- Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze
- West Wood
- Weston Common
- Ampfield Wood & Windmills Copse
- Blackwood (incl. Embley, Rownest & Waltham Trinleys)
- Micheldever Wood (incl. Itchen)

Guiding the Hampshire Downs woodlands with decisions shaped by people, strengthened by evidence, and approved for a resilient future.





5.Objectives

The woodlands of the Hampshire Downs will be managed in line with Forestry England's five-year strategic plan: **Growing the Future**. Our objectives will aim to deliver the following national targets:

- Build **climate change** resilience into our woods.
- Maintain, improve, and restore **habitats** and ecological function where possible and appropriate.
- Provide a valuable resource where **people** can interact with the natural environment.



Hampshire Downs

5.1 Economic

Develop economic (timber supply) and ecological resilience against disease and climate change impacts by:

- Increasing the species and age diversity of the woodland through forest management operations.
- Where possible use a combination of natural regeneration, planting trees from local provenances, and also from suitable provenances matched with our likely future climate.

The Public Forest Estate is a vital natural asset that plays a central role in supporting the forestry, wood processing, and woodfuel industries, as well as recreational visits to forests and woodlands, all of which contribute significantly to the economy of Southern England.

Actively manage and remove Norway spruce stands within the *Ips typographus* demarcation zone (DMA):

- Chawton

- Micheldever Wood
- Blackwood (Embley)
- Weston Common

Ampfield and Windmills are forest blocks that may soon fall within the DMA if it expands westward. In line with plant health guidance, these areas should be proactively managed—including the removal of Norway spruce stands—to help contain and slow the spread of the pest to other regions.

Diversify existing beech monocultures by introducing a mix of native and climate-resilient species, enhancing ecological stability and reducing vulnerability to pests, diseases, and climate-related stresses. This approach will also improve long-term economic sustainability by creating more resilient and adaptable woodland ecosystems.

To secure and grow the economic, social and natural capital value of the Public Forest Estate for the people of England.



5.2 Natural Capital

Promote species, habitat, and functional diversity by:

- Continuing to restore Planted Ancient Woodland Sites towards native and honorary/near native broadleaves.
- Taking opportunities to manage open space and ride-edge habitats for the benefit of wildlife.

Maintain and improve functioning forest soils that drive nutrient and water cycling by:

- Moving towards the use of Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS) in suitable stands.
- Take opportunities to promote soil enhancing species such as birch, hornbeam, and small-leaved lime.

We will look for habitat enhancement opportunities for key species groups such as lepidoptera or bats.

Ampfield, Windmills, and West Wood have been identified as priority sites under the joint Butterfly Conservation–Forestry Commission strategy,

recognising their importance for targeted habitat management and species recovery.

We will be managing **Ampfield, West Wood, Bushy Leaze, Chawton, Micheldever & Itchen, and Blackwood** as conservation priorities, recognising their designation as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Our management will focus on enhancing their ecological value, improving biodiversity, and maintaining and strengthening their overall environmental quality.

Healthy woodland and forest biodiversity is a valued component of sustainable forest management, contributing to the successful functioning of woodland ecosystems. The Public Forest Estate (PFE) contributes through species diversity, genetic variability and the provision of larger less fragmented forest and woodland habitats, integrated with other habitats.

- Monitor Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) populations, with management actions planned to avoid negative impacts on butterfly species and other key ecological interests within the area.

5.3 Social

In those woods that are accessible to the public:

- Maintain the existing recreational capacity of the woodland.
- Look for opportunities to develop recreational capacity and a high-quality visitor experience, while retaining woodland resilience.

Conserve features of natural and cultural heritage significance in Micheldever and Itchen Woods, Ampfield, West Wood and Embley Wood.

The historic character of our woodlands, rich in nationally significant archaeological and cultural features, offers insight into the role of forests in shaping the nation's history.

Maintain the land within our stewardship under FSC/PEFC certification.



6. Tenure & Landscape Context

This chapter introduces the location and tenure of key woodland areas across the region, highlighting their varied character and management arrangements.



6.1 Location & Tenure

Chawton Park and **Bushey Leaze** are both located southwest of Alton in Hampshire, near the town of Four Marks and close to the A31, with the Forestry Commission holding the freehold for each woodland.

West Wood lies approximately 2.5 miles west of Winchester and about a mile southwest of Sparsholt, where the Forestry Commission owns the freehold of the western section and manages the eastern section under a leasehold agreement.

Weston Common is situated around 3 miles north of Alton, and the Forestry Commission also owns its freehold.

Windmills Copse is positioned roughly 1 mile east of **Ampfield Wood** and 3.5 miles south of Winchester, between the B3093 and the Hursley-Otterbourne Road, and is held by the Forestry Commission under a long-term lease from the Hursley Estate.

Ampfield Wood lies about 2.5 miles northeast of Romsey on the A31 and 5

miles southwest of Winchester, with long-term leases held by the Forestry Commission from the Braishfield and Hursley Estates.

Blackwood is located approximately 5 miles southwest of Basingstoke and 8 miles northeast of Winchester, between the A303 and A33, and the Forestry Commission owns the freehold for **Blackwood** as well as the surrounding **Waltham Trinleys**, **Rownest Wood**, and **Embley Wood**.

Finally, **Micheldever Wood** is situated around 5 miles northeast of Winchester alongside the A33, where the Forestry Commission owns the freehold of the main northern section, while the southern portion, known as **Itchen Wood**, is held under a long-term lease.

Forest location and landscape shape biodiversity, resilience and identity, defining how woodlands function, connect, and contribute to the wider environment.



The extensive tracts of Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze, alongside West Wood and Weston Common, illustrate a broad range of woodland types and landscape settings. Ampfield Wood & Windmills Copse add historical depth, while the combined area of Black Wood, including Embley, Rownest and Waltham Trinleys, reflects diverse ownership patterns. Micheldever Wood, one of the region's most prominent forests, further exemplifies the significance of these sites within the wider woodland network and their ongoing stewardship needs.

6.2 Landscape

Across the region, the woodlands vary in scale but generally form large blocks within landscapes otherwise dominated by mixed agriculture and small settlements.

Bushey Leaze (86 ha) and **Chawton Park** (209 ha) are both sizeable within a fragmented woodland setting, though smaller than the major blocks of Micheldever Wood, Black Wood, and Alice Holt.

West Wood, at 251 ha, is also

substantial and forms a larger 320 ha woodland block when combined with the adjoining Crab Wood Nature Reserve.

Weston Common is another above-average sized woodland block in its locality, with the Forestry Commission-managed 67 ha forming around half of the wider woodland area.

Windmills Copse, while only about a fifth of the size of neighbouring Ampfield Wood, remains relatively large in its local context.

Ampfield Wood itself is one of the most extensive woodlands in the area at 381 ha, forming a dominant cluster alongside Parnholt Wood and West Wood within a wider landscape of much smaller woods between the Itchen and Avon rivers.

Black Wood (275 ha) and **Micheldever Wood** (370 ha) are among the largest woodland blocks in the region, far exceeding the typical nearby woodland size of around 26 ha.

These two woodlands form a major concentration of forest cover north of Winchester, with both containing notable broadleaf and conifer feature trees that

enhance their internal landscape character.

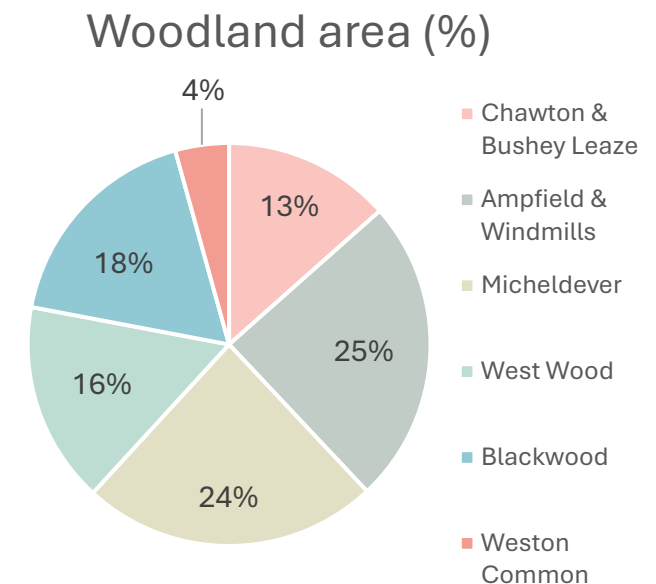


Figure 1 – Proportion (%) of each block within the Forest Plan area

We aim to manage the land within our stewardship under FSC/PEFC certification.



7.Current Woodland Structure

This section outlines the current woodland structure, detailing the proportions of key tree species and their spatial distribution. It highlights the extent of ancient woodland and evaluates semi-natural woodland condition scores, which help identify areas requiring restoration.

These metrics inform Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites **(PAWS) restoration** priorities by revealing where native characteristics persist and where targeted management could enhance ecological integrity, resilience, and long-term woodland recovery.



7.1 Species Composition

The Hampshire Downs woodlands share similarities in structure and composition, with most being predominantly PAWS featuring Beech (BE) dominated broadleaf canopies and containing a secondary component of Douglas Fir (DF), Norway Spruce (NS), Red Cedar (RC), Birch (BI) and Oak (OK).

Blackwood and Micheldever are the most broadleaf dominated, while Chawton and Ampfield have a larger proportion of conifers.

Across the blocks, Ampfield contains a mix dominated by oak with supporting conifers and beech. The remaining blocks - Blackwood, Chawton, Micheldever Wood, West Wood and Weston Common - are all principally beech dominated, with variations that include Douglas fir, Norway spruce, Birch, Red Cedar and Oak.

Open space is common across all sites, arising from ride networks, internal design, or infrastructure corridors such as powerlines.

Restoring diverse, resilient stand structure by reducing beech dominance and promoting varied native woodland species.

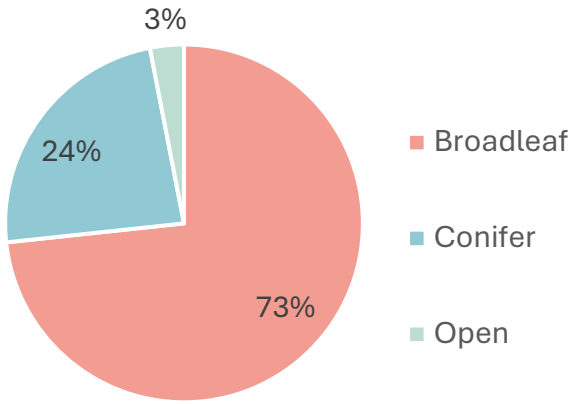


Figure 1 – Proportion of coniferous and broadleaved woodland (%) in the Forest Plan area

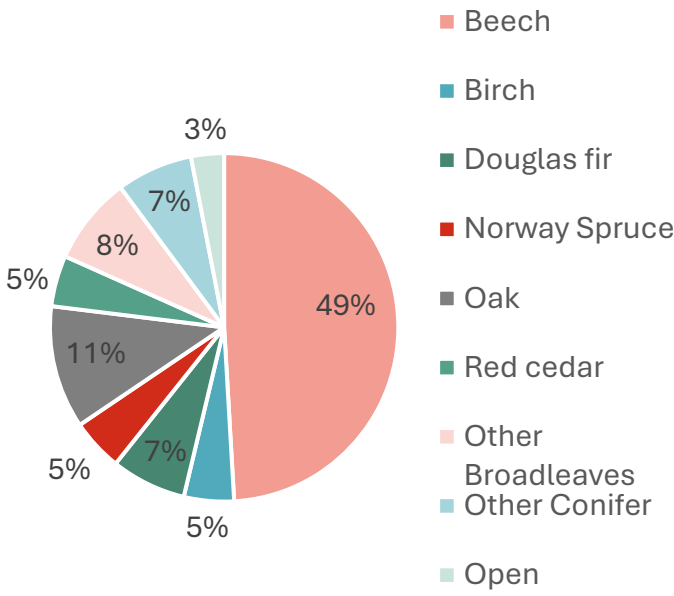


Figure 2 – Main tree species composition within the Forest Plan area (%)



7.2 Age Distribution

A review of total area contributed by each decade reveals strong mid-20th-century peaks across most blocks. **Ampfield** is dominated by planting from 1951–1960, accounting for 166 ha (39%). Subsequent notable decades include 1961–1970 (99 ha) and 2001–2010 (46 ha).

Blackwood also shows a strong concentration in the 1951–1960 period, with 142 ha (40.1%), followed closely by a substantial 1931–1940 component (128 ha). **Chawton** is the most strongly skewed block, with 1951–1960 comprising 196 ha, representing 66% of its total area.

Micheldever Wood, differs from the pattern seen elsewhere, with its dominant decade being 1931–1940 (90 ha / 25%). The 1921–1930 and 1951–1960 decades also make substantial contributions.

West Wood contains a very high proportion of 1951–1960 planting (155 ha / 62%), with a secondary peak in the 1961–1970 decade (64 ha). **Weston Common** diverges from the mid-century trend, with the 1941–1950 decade being dominant (25 ha / 36%). More recent planting is also significant: the 2011–2020 decade contributes 17 ha (26%).

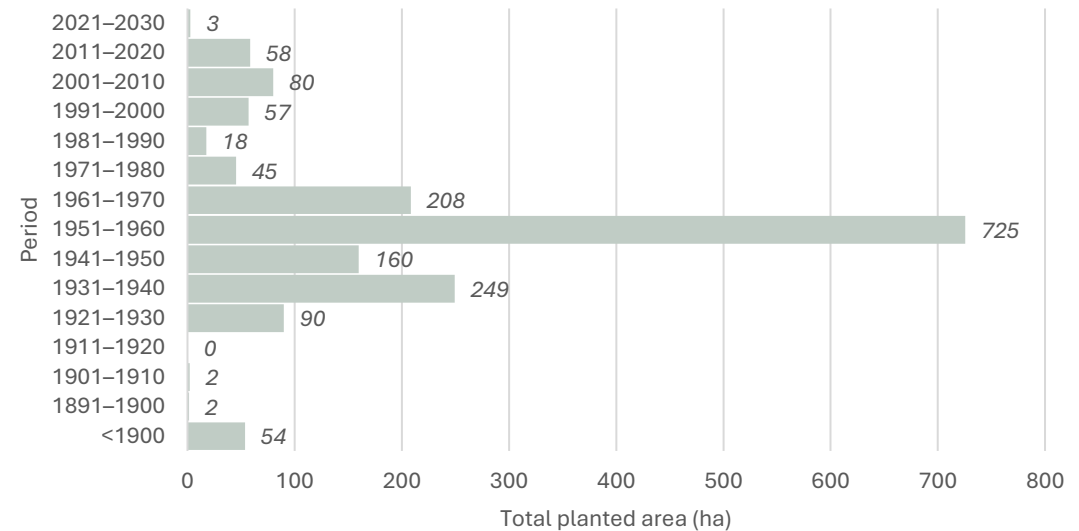


Figure 3 – Hampshire Downs - total planted area (ha) per decade

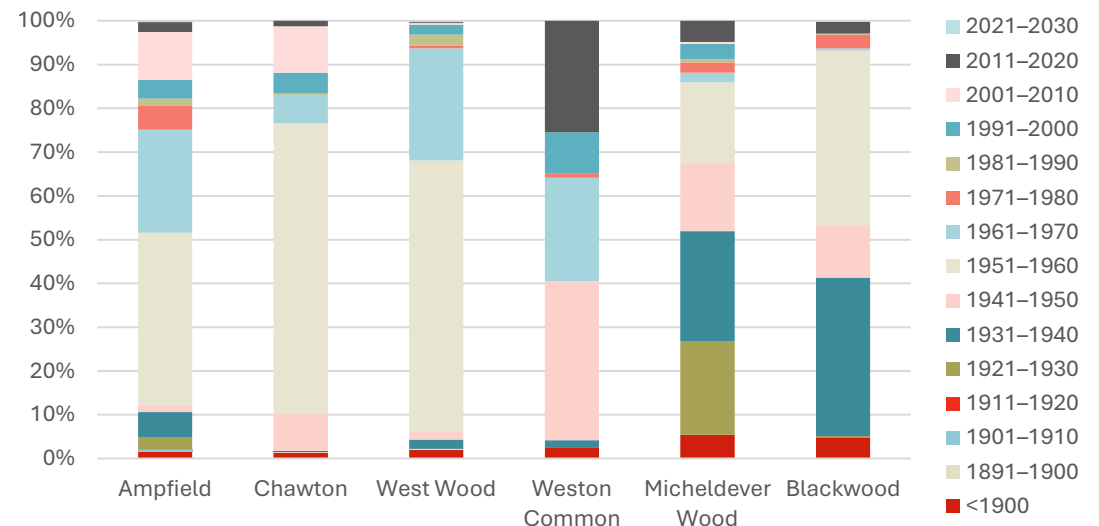


Figure 4 – Hampshire Downs - total planted area (ha) per decade and woodland



7.3 Ancient Woodland Definitions

Ancient Woodland is defined as areas that have been under continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 CE. The definition includes areas that have been felled and re-generated.

Ancient Woodland can be divided into:

- Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW; generally containing a high percentage of native broadleaved tree species).
- Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS; areas that have been planted with monocultures of generally non-native trees species, but also including areas that have been planted with

native species such as beech).

The table below shows the total area of each forest, and the area within them classified as either ASNW, PAWS, or other woodland.

7.4 Semi-Natural Scores

Beginning in 2005, a semi-natural score has been calculated for each sub-compartment. This involves classifying the trees in each sub-compartment as native or non-native and summing the percentage of each. The classification used is:

- SN 0 = 0% (no trees are present)
- SN 1 = 81%-100% (mostly or fully native tree species)

- SN 2 = 51%-80%
- SN 3 = 21%-50%
- SN 4 = 1%-20% (predominantly non-native, usually conifer)

Semi-natural scores can be useful when assessing whether operations to diversify stands or restore PAWS to native woodland are proceeding in the desired direction. Forestry England will continue its work to enhance the biodiversity of its unrestored PAWS. By 2044, we will elevate the semi-natural score of these sites by at least one class, moving them towards a more dominant native canopy and a richer, more natural woodland environment. The semi-natural scores in this document are only used for ASNW and PAWS areas.

Forest	ASNW	PAWS	Other	Grand Total
Ampfield & Windmills	92	271	60	423
Blackwood	21	178	156	354
Chawton	8	219	68	295
Micheldever Wood	92	235	32	359
West Wood	55	158	38	251
Weston Common	12	28	28	68
Grand Total	280	1,089	382	1,752

Table 1 – Proportion of ASNW and PAWS per forest block

Restoring PAWS to revive ancient woodland biodiversity, strengthen ecological integrity, and secure long-term resilience.



The distribution of SN scores shows a varied picture of woodland nativeness, with significant differences between sites. When aggregating all blocks, the largest proportion of area falls within SN Score 1, representing the highest degree of nativeness and indicating that much of the woodland estate is characterised by strongly native, semi-natural woodland structure 1.

This pattern is evident in blocks such as **Chawton, West Wood, Micheldever Wood and Blackwood**, each of which contains substantial areas classified as SN1, demonstrating that these sites support robust native woodland conditions and form a valuable ecological foundation.

Ampfield and **Micheldever Wood** also show sizeable areas within this highly native category, further emphasising that the estate holds considerable high-quality, predominantly native woodland habitat across multiple locations. In contrast, SN Score 4 represents the lowest level of nativeness, occurring to varying degrees across most blocks, with particularly notable concentrations in **Ampfield** and **Chawton** where SN4 values are among the highest.

At the block level, the dataset reveals clear contrasts. **Ampfield** contains both extensive highly native SN1 habitat and significant low-native SN4 areas, indicating a mixed condition woodland with clear restoration priorities. Chawton follows a similar pattern, combining very high SN1 coverage with notable areas of low nativeness that require intervention.

West Wood, Micheldever Wood and Blackwood are dominated by SN1, providing broad expanses of highly native woodland, though each contains pockets of SN4 that will be uplifted through restoration to improve overall nativeness. **Weston Common**, while smaller in scale and lower in overall values, continues to show SN1 as its dominant native component.

In parallel with restorative interventions in lower-native areas, the extensive expanses of highly native woodland (SN1-dominated blocks) will be actively managed under a Low-Impact Silvicultural System (LISS). This approach will help break up the existing beech monoculture, which is characteristic of several of the more mature stands, and will promote a more diverse age structure, species mixture, and canopy form.

Semi-Natural Scores of PAWS areas

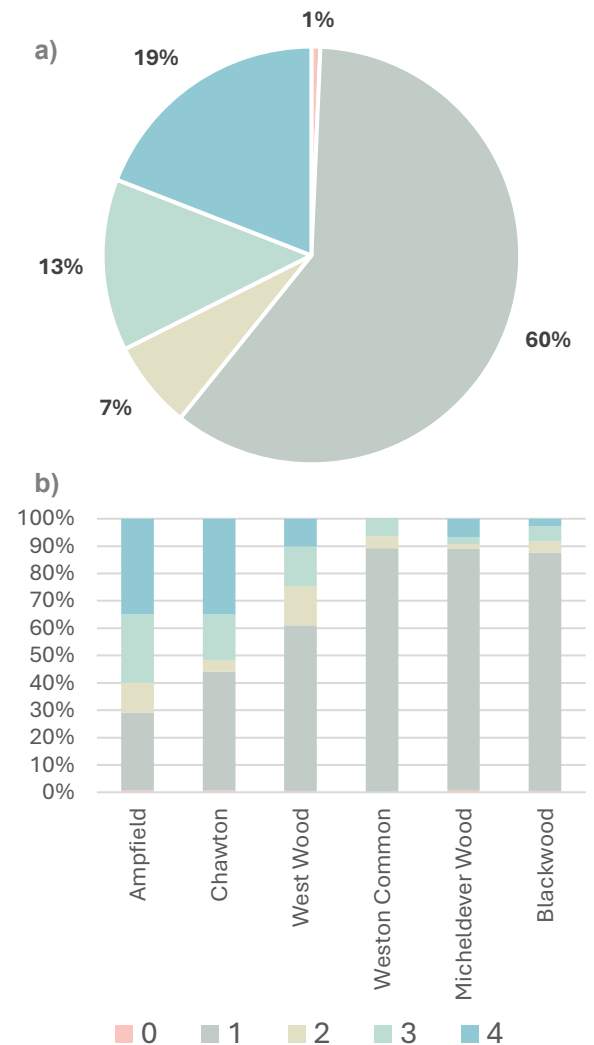


Figure 5 – Semi-Natural Scores for: a) total area, and b) individual woodlands.

0 - Open/Other, **1** - Over 80% Native, **2** – 50-80% Native, **3** – 20-50% Native, **4** – less than 20% native



8. Silvicultural Systems

Silvicultural systems are methods for managing woodland structure, regeneration and long-term productivity. **Low-Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)** prioritise continuous forest cover, natural processes and minimal disturbance.

Within LISS, shelterwood systems regenerate new trees beneath a gradually opened canopy, while selection systems remove individual or small groups of trees to maintain a diverse age structure, species mixture, and canopy form.

Both approaches enhance resilience, diversity and sustainable woodland development.



As with previous Forest Plans for these woods, we will continue to use Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS) to manage the majority of the area.

The ideal scenario with LISS is to use natural regeneration in felled areas, both to restock with site adapted species, and to reduce the cost of restocking.

However, natural regeneration may be unsuitable in some areas where the regenerating species are predicted to be unsuitable for the site as the climate becomes warmer, or where we are restoring PAWS to native/near-native species. Planting will be necessary on these sites, ideally with planting stock from more southerly species provenances that will be suitable for a warming climate.

Whether using planting or natural regeneration, we will use the minimum densities of young trees of 1100 per hectare for broadleaves and 1800 trees per hectare for conifers.

It is likely that clear felling will still be necessary as a short-term response in areas affected by pests and diseases

e.g., *Ips typographus* in areas of Norway spruce. Planting will be required on these sites, using tree species and provenances that are well matched to the local conditions. The Forestry Commission's "**Guide to restocking your woodlands (*Ips typographus*)**" has indicative suggestions for species.

We will move towards diversifying species in extensive stands of even aged beech. Planning for diversification will be based on Forest Development Types (FDTs), a framework for forest stand management developed recently by Forest Research.

We will use FDTs to guide our interventions as we work towards creating continuous cover stands with mixtures of species and greater variety of stand structures.

LISS management strengthens woodland resilience by diversifying species, encouraging regeneration and reducing vulnerable even-aged monocultures.

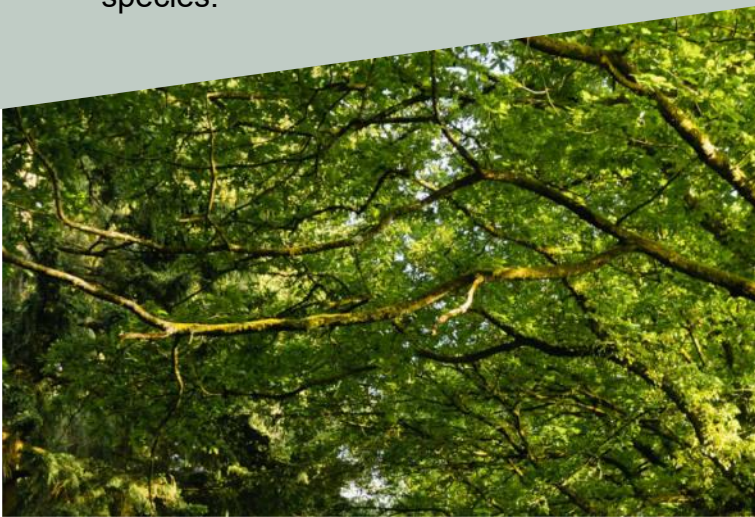


9. Biodiversity & Conservation

Conserving biodiversity in UK woodlands is essential for protecting native species, enhancing ecosystem **resilience** and supporting priority habitats.

Woodland conservation strengthens ecological networks, safeguards declining wildlife, and maintains vital functions such as soil health and carbon storage, ensuring future generations inherit thriving, nature-rich landscapes.

We will work towards ride widening and enhancement to increase the ecotone, improve structural diversity, and create better connectivity for invertebrates, woodland birds and other associated species.



Hampshire Downs

Across all of the Hampshire Downs Public Forest Estate's, the primary areas of nature conservation interest are the ancient woodland components, many of which have been designated as Sites of Importance/Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC) by Hampshire County Council.

Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) show where improved management (or restoration and re-creation) of Priority Habitats will enhance landscape connectivity for the benefit of Priority Species. We will aim to support the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire and the three BOAs which are contained within this Forest Plan.

Although none of the sites carry statutory conservation designations, several lie adjacent to important protected areas, and all contain ecological features of value. Ongoing ecological monitoring, particularly at operational stages, will support adaptive management.

Bushey Leaze and **Chawton Park** both lie within Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) 43 (Herriard Wooded Downland Plateau), where ancient woodland forms a key ecological component. At Bushey

Leaze, ancient woodland is the core ecological interest, with numerous ancient woodland indicator species recorded. Management across both sites aligns with BOA 43 priorities - particularly the enhancement of lowland mixed deciduous woodland, alongside associated habitats such as lowland calcareous grassland and meadows.

Ongoing ride enhancement and habitat management will improve connectivity and support a wider range of woodland species, reflecting the area's dense concentration of ancient and replanted woodland and its importance for rare plants. Both forests are also known to support strong bat assemblages, further reinforcing the importance of sensitive woodland and edge habitat management. Their proximity to one another, and to surrounding woodland habitats, adds significant ecological value by contributing to landscape-scale connectivity and resilience within the wider wooded landscape.

Enhancing SINC ancient woodlands through connected habitats, richer ecotones and targeted management for thriving biodiversity.



Weston Common also supports SINC-designated ancient woodland and falls within BOA 43, which also includes the Chawton and Bushey Leaze area. Here, the BOA seeks to enhance lowland calcareous grassland, lowland meadow and mixed deciduous woodland across a clay-with-flints landscape renowned for its coppiced woodlands and rare plant populations. Ongoing management at Weston Common will continue to widen rides and improve ecotones in line with BOA priorities, benefiting invertebrates, birds and woodland fauna.

In **West Wood**, ancient woodland designated as a SINC adjoins Crab Wood SSSI. West Wood also contains veteran trees, notable mammals and several butterfly species, along with permanent open space and transitional habitats created through active management. The site also lies within the influence of BOA 25: Bere Ashley, increasing its strategic importance for habitat connectivity.

BOA 25 contains ancient semi-natural woodland, relic downland and chalk-influenced habitats on the Hampshire Upper Chalk plateau, including neighbouring Crab Wood SSSI. Within this landscape context, West Wood adds complementary ancient woodland

features and species, supporting opportunities to enhance Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland networks and expand Lowland Calcareous Grassland habitat across the area.

Ampfield Wood & Windmills Copse contain extensive SINC-designated ancient woodland and both lie within BOA 24 (Ampfield–Baddesley–Chilworth–Lordswood), a landscape characterised by ancient semi-natural woodland, relic heath and species-rich grassland.

BOA 24 aims to expand lowland heath, mixed deciduous woodland, dry acid grassland, wet woodland and lowland meadow.

Ampfield Wood's important small-leaved lime population, along with records of birds of prey, bats, reptiles, amphibians and butterflies, makes it a key site for delivering these biodiversity targets. Operational planning will explore opportunities to enhance the lime population and strengthen habitat resilience.

In **Blackwood**, SINC-designated ancient woodland supports a range of conservation interest, including butterflies and small mammals. Although

not statutorily designated, the site benefits from management focused on improving open habitats and the ride network to support species movement and structural diversity.

Finally, **Micheldever Wood** contains extensive SINC-designated ancient woodland supporting protected and notable species including bats, small and medium-sized mammals, birds of prey, butterflies and moths. The wood is also renowned for its extensive bluebell displays, which are of considerable cultural and ecological significance and attract visitors from across the region each spring. As in Ampfield Wood, the presence of small-leaved lime is ecologically significant, and future management will seek opportunities to expand this population as part of ongoing operational planning.

Across all these sites, continued ride enhancement will play a central role in improving habitat connectivity, supporting woodland biodiversity and strengthening the ecological networks that link to nearby Biodiversity Opportunity Areas. A proportion of both standing and fallen deadwood will be retained and actively promoted as valuable existing and future habitat for a wide range of species.



10. People

Across the public forest estate, informal recreation such as walking, running and cycling is common where access is permitted.

Many of the woods are dedicated for open access under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) (CRoW), while others allow access under Forestry Commission byelaws.

Across all accessible sites, future management will continue to focus on **enhancing ride networks, improving visual character, and supporting enjoyable public access** where allowed.



For people

Ampfield Wood, Bushey Leaze, Black Wood, and Micheldever Wood all receive regular informal recreational use, including walking, running and cycling. These sites (except **Ampfield**) are dedicated as CRoW access land, while Ampfield permits access under Forestry Commission byelaws.

Chawton Park also provides open access under CRoW and contains a network of public footpaths and a bridleway. A section of the National Cycle Network passes through the woodland; this is a UK-wide network of signed, largely traffic free or quiet-road cycling routes designed to support safe, accessible long distance and local cycling.

West Wood is heavily used year round for walking, running and horse riding and has increasing levels of natural play. Much of the wood is CRoW dedicated, and its proximity to Farley Mount Country Park contributes to high visitor numbers.

Weston Common, while not CRoW

dedicated, allows public access under Forestry Commission byelaws and provides a similar quality of recreational experience through its open junctions and clear internal path network.

A consistent feature across most sites is the presence of open junctions, wide rides and clear paths, all of which enhance visitor experience and will be further improved during management through ride widening and selective retention of visually important trees.

Windmills Copse differs from the other sites as **public access is not permitted** due to leasehold restrictions.

Blackwood is unique in hosting a Forest Holidays cabin site, requiring adherence to a specific management plan, and is CRoW-dedicated.

The nation's forests are a living treasure for all, deeply connected to people's lives improving the health and wellbeing of the nation



11. Historic Environment

Protecting historic features within UK woodlands is vital for safeguarding cultural heritage, enriching landscape character, and maintaining evidence of past land use.

Effective conservation ensures archaeological sites, ancient boundaries and historic structures are preserved alongside sustainable forestry.

Integrating **heritage protection** into woodland management supports legal obligations, prevents damage during operations, and enhances public understanding of the deep historical value embedded within forest landscapes.



Historic context

Chawton Park includes an extensive, though unscheduled, Park Pale associated with a medieval deer park; this historic boundary will be preserved following recognised conservation guidance.

Bushey Leaze contains unscheduled archaeological features such as boundary ditches, banks and earthworks, all of which will be monitored and protected during operations.

West Wood contains several historic features, most notably the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Sparsholt Roman Villa, alongside additional unscheduled boundary stones and wood banks, all of which will be safeguarded during management activities.

Weston Common includes part of a Scheduled Monument on its western boundary, which will be managed in accordance with statutory protections.

Ampfield Wood contains several historic features, including Scheduled Park Pales, which will be incorporated into operational planning and managed to comply with statutory requirements. No historical features are currently

recorded in **Windmills Copse**, though monitoring will continue to document and protect any newly identified remains.

Blackwood contains several unscheduled archaeological features, and the adjoining **Embley Wood** forms part of the Registered Park and Garden of Stratton Park. These heritage characteristics will be fully taken into account during the development of management plans.

Micheldever Wood—excluding Dodsley Wood—forms a single extensive Scheduled Monument containing a dense concentration of ancient earthworks and boundary systems, and its protection will remain integral to all operational planning.

This Forest Plan has used the existing Ancient Woodland Inventory to determine the extent of ancient woodland, whilst the Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory is being completed and incorporated.

Protecting historic woodland features strengthens cultural identity and enriches forest stewardship.



12. Geology, Soils & Water

Geology, soils and water underpin sustainable UK forestry by shaping site productivity, tree species suitability and **long-term resilience**.

Understanding these factors helps protect soil structure, prevent erosion, manage nutrient cycles and safeguard water quality.

Sound planning based on these environmental foundations supports healthy forests, biodiversity and climate-adapted woodland management.



12.1 Soils

The following assessment of soils across the forest blocks is based on information from the Soilsmap mapping resource provided by Cranfield University's LandIS system. This identifies the characteristics, drainage properties, fertility and typical habitats associated with each soil.

Blackwood is dominated by freely draining, loamy and lime-rich soils with low to medium topsoil carbon, commonly associated with chalk landscapes and beech woodland. Their main limitations relate to low moisture availability during dry periods. Smaller areas contain freely draining, low-fertility acidic loams that support acid pastures and deciduous woodland, along with occasional patches of more fertile loams that favour base-rich woodland communities.

Overall, Blackwood shows a varied but mainly calcareous character with consistently free-draining conditions.

Micheldever is mainly underlain by low-fertility, freely draining loams typical of neutral and acidic grassland and woodland, often limited by drought and

nutrient scarcity. In places these are interspersed with more lime-rich, productive soils that support higher fertility and calcareous woodland species.

The block therefore presents a mixture of acidic and calcareous influences, with moderate woodland productivity and variation in nutrient availability.

West Wood consists largely of freely draining, lime-rich loams suitable for beech, lime and other calcareous woodland species, offering good drainage but some susceptibility to summer moisture stress. Smaller areas of low-fertility acidic loam introduce conditions favourable to oak–birch communities.

The block is therefore characterised by predominantly calcareous soils with some localised acidic zones.

Species selection aligned to soil profiles ensures optimal forest stand performance.



Ampfield and **Windmills** are shaped primarily by loamy to clayey soils with impeded drainage, moderate fertility and seasonal wetness, which typically support wet pastures and woodland. A smaller proportion of the area contains very low-fertility, freely draining sandy soils associated with heathland and conifer forestry.

As a result, Ampfield includes both wetter, heavier soils and dry, nutrient-poor sandy areas, creating a complex woodland environment that requires carefully tailored management.

Chawton is consistently underlain by freely draining, acidic, low-fertility loams suited to deciduous woodland and acid grassland. These soils are structurally easy to manage but limited by low nutrient availability and vulnerability to summer drought stress. Stony or flinty working layers, moderate exposure on higher ground, and potential nutrient limitations such as low magnesium are factor to consider when choosing the right species.

Weston Common is dominated by freely draining, lime-rich loams that support calcareous woodland, although moisture deficits may restrict growth during dry

periods. Smaller areas of acidic, low-fertility loam introduce contrasting conditions that support different woodland communities. Overall, Weston Common is largely calcareous with some acidic micro-habitats and generally favourable conditions for broadleaf woodland.

12.2 Water

Across most of the woodlands, drains form the primary water flow, including Bushey Leaze, West Wood, Windmills Copse, Micheldever Wood and other sites. At Windmills Copse, drainage water continues through farmland, neighbouring woodlands and urban areas before entering secondary rivers, meaning woodland management can influence downstream temperatures and water quality.

In contrast, Ampfield Wood contains two secondary watercourses that ultimately join the River Test, where management practices similarly play an important role in maintaining water quality.

Across all sites, opportunities to enhance water related habitats will be identified during operational planning and implemented as resources allow.



Micheldever Woods

Resilient forests are more productive, withstand disturbance, and give greater value to society



13. Pests & Diseases

Effective pest and disease management is essential for maintaining healthy UK forests, protecting tree species, and sustaining long-term woodland **resilience**.

By monitoring threats and responding quickly, managers can prevent large-scale damage, safeguard biodiversity, and limit losses from pathogens and invasive pests.

Proactive management also supports climate-resilient woodlands, ensures sustainable timber production, and helps preserve the ecological, cultural and recreational value of forest landscapes.



13.1 Forest Health

Across the Hampshire Downs public forest estate, the principal pests and diseases of concern include Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*), Red Band Needle Blight (*Dothistroma*) on Corsican Pine, *Phytophthora ramorum* on Larch, and the eight toothed spruce bark beetle (*Ips typographus*) on Norway Spruce.

Ips typographus is one of the most significant pathogens currently posing a risk, as it attacks spruce - particularly Norway spruce - by breeding beneath the bark and disrupting nutrient flow. Under outbreak conditions it can kill both weakened and healthy trees, making it a major biosecurity threat to spruce within the UK.

Although the extent of vulnerable species varies between sites, consistent monitoring and the progressive reduction of susceptible species remain central to maintaining resilience.

Reliance on a limited number of dominant species - especially Beech in several woods - creates an additional

risk if a future pervasive pathogen emerges, while deer and squirrel browsing also threaten regeneration and timber quality in certain areas.

There are currently no significant records of invasive non-native plant species across the sites, but continued vigilance is essential to prevent establishment.

Overall, management priorities focus on species diversification, active reduction of vulnerable conifers, and ongoing surveillance, ensuring that pest and disease pressures do not drive undesirable structural change across the woodland landscape.

Managing pests and diseases safeguards stronger, healthier and climate-resilient forests.



13.2 Pest & Disease Management

Management of areas affected or at risk from these pests and diseases will include:

- ✓ Ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*), which has become a major problem in recent years, will continue to require the removal of dangerous trees. However, ash within forest stands will be retained to allow natural regeneration, enabling natural selection to act. Recent research has shown that younger generations of ash trees exhibit greater resistance to dieback compared to older trees, providing compelling evidence that natural selection is promoting resilience within the species. This approach supports the long-term recovery of ash populations while maintaining woodland biodiversity.
- ✓ Dothistroma needle blight (*Dothistroma septosporum*) is not currently a concern, but Corsican pine makes up 1.83% of the resource and will continue to be proactively managed to ensure risks are minimised.
- ✓ Larger eight-toothed European spruce bark beetle (*Ips typographus*) is an ongoing risk for the spruce component located in the Hampshire Downs blocks. These are within the Plant Health (*Ips typographus*) Demarcated Area, which places legal obligations and restrictions on the management and movement of infected timber and other material within this area.
- ✓ Proactive management of spruce on the public forest estate, especially within the demarcated area, is essential to protect the nation's timber resources. Removing spruce from this area helps reduce the risk of infestation by Eight-toothed spruce bark beetle (*Ips typographus*) which is blowing over from the continent.
- ✓ We will actively remove Norway spruce within the *Ips typographus* Demarcated Management Area (DMA) through targeted clearfells and thinnings (component removals) across Micheldever, Ampfield, Windmills Copse, Black Wood (including Embley), Chawton Park, and Weston Common.
- ✓ Pest and disease outbreaks can mean woodlands are at high risk of

unplanned change through premature felling and altered restocking plans. Our guidance and action plans regarding plant health are regularly evolving to adapt to plant health threats. We will continue to monitor for diseases as required and take any action required. Any changes to the Forest Plan will be notified or agreed with Forest Services in accordance with relevant guidance.

Browsing by deer on young trees is also a threat to woodland regeneration in southern England. Fallow (*Cervus dama*), Roe (*Capreolus capreolus*) and Muntjac (*Muntiacus reevesi*) are the most common deer species within the Hampshire Downs public forest estate.

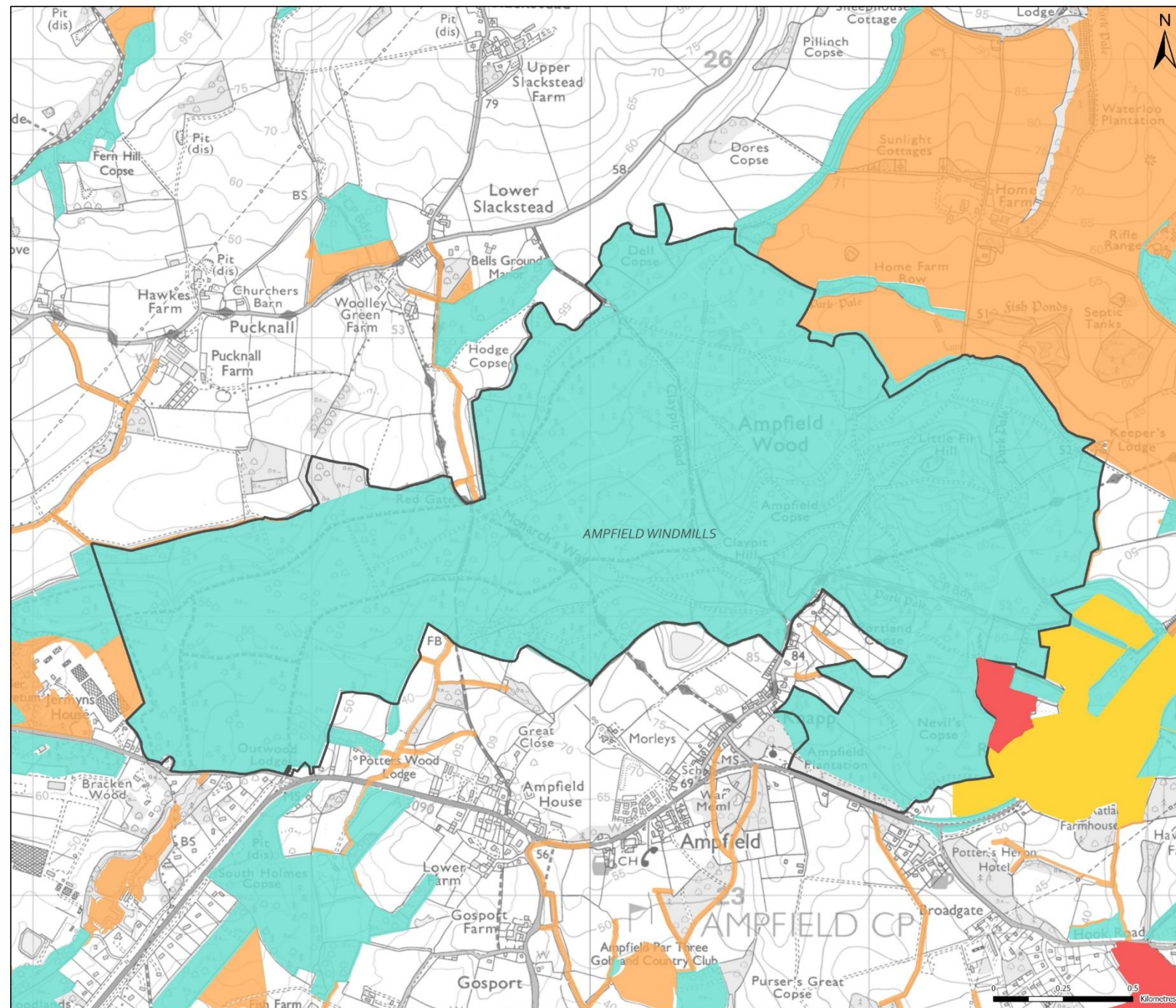
- ✓ Deer will be managed in accordance with the South England Forest District Deer Management Strategy and in the wider landscape through partnership work with local Deer Management Groups.

Effective pest, disease and deer management drives strong regeneration and long-term woodland resilience.



14. Maps





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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Designated Areas

Land designated as important conservation sites on Forestry England managed land.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

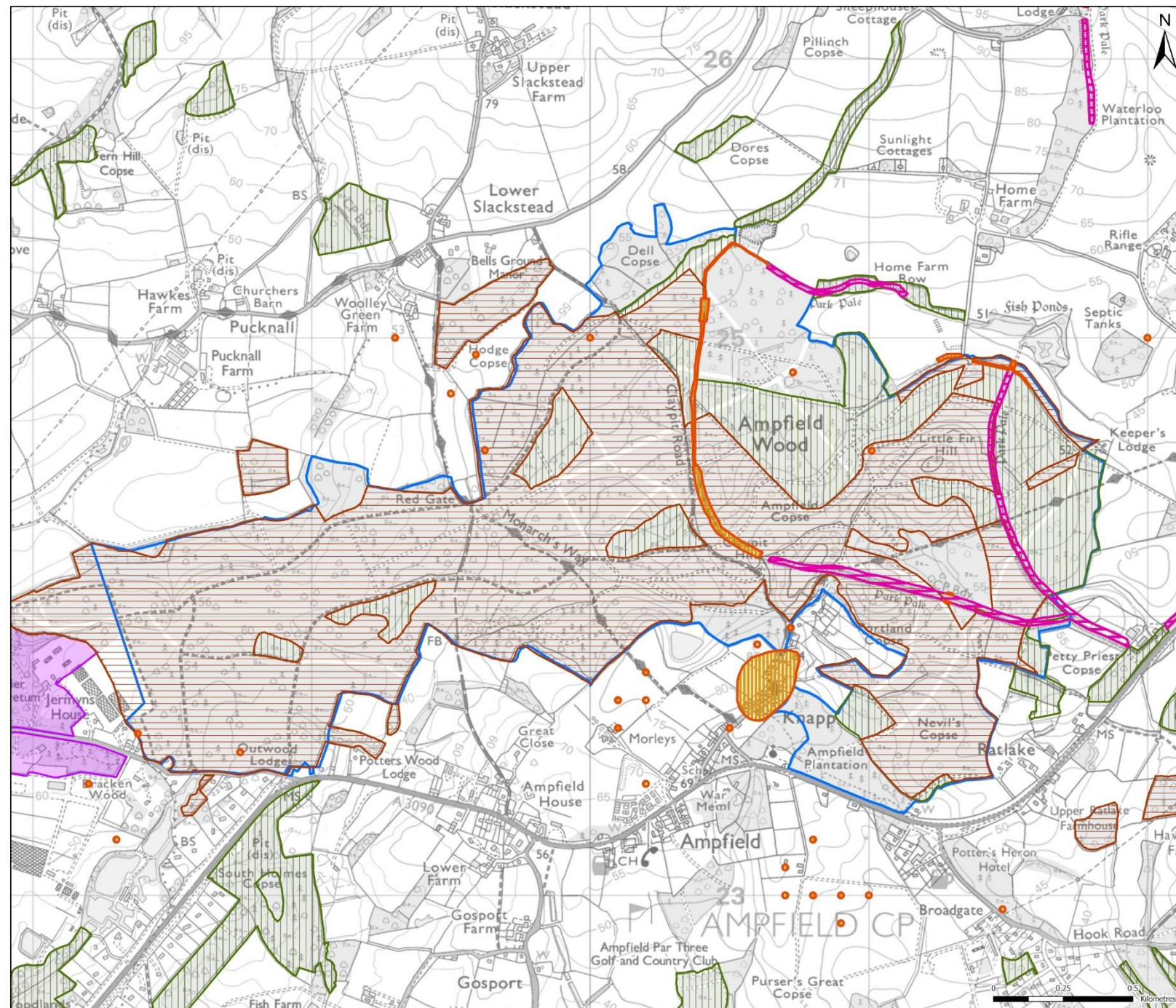
- Blocks
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
- Habitat Opportunity Areas (HOAs)
- Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB)

Scale: 1:13,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Designated Heritage
- Undesignated Heritage
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Scale: 1:13,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

- Watercourses
- Blocks
- Open Water

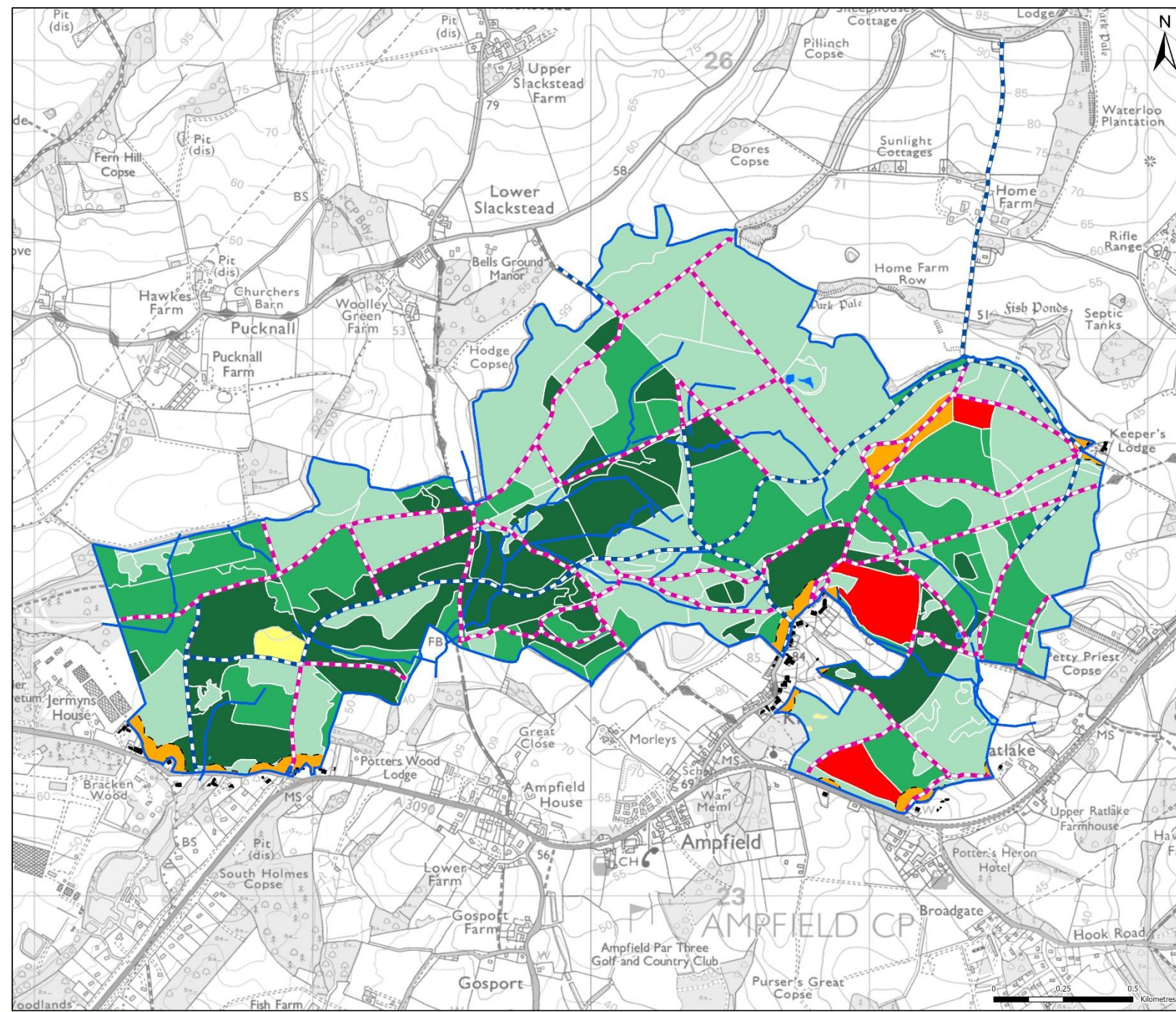
Fuel_Hazard

- High Risk Mixed Woodland
- Low Risk Conifer
- Low Risk Mixed Woodland
- Low Risk Broadleaf
- Medium Risk Mixed Woodland
- Other/Open land
- Buildings
- Building Buffer
- Fire Break
- Fuel Break

Scale: 1:13,000 (@ A3)

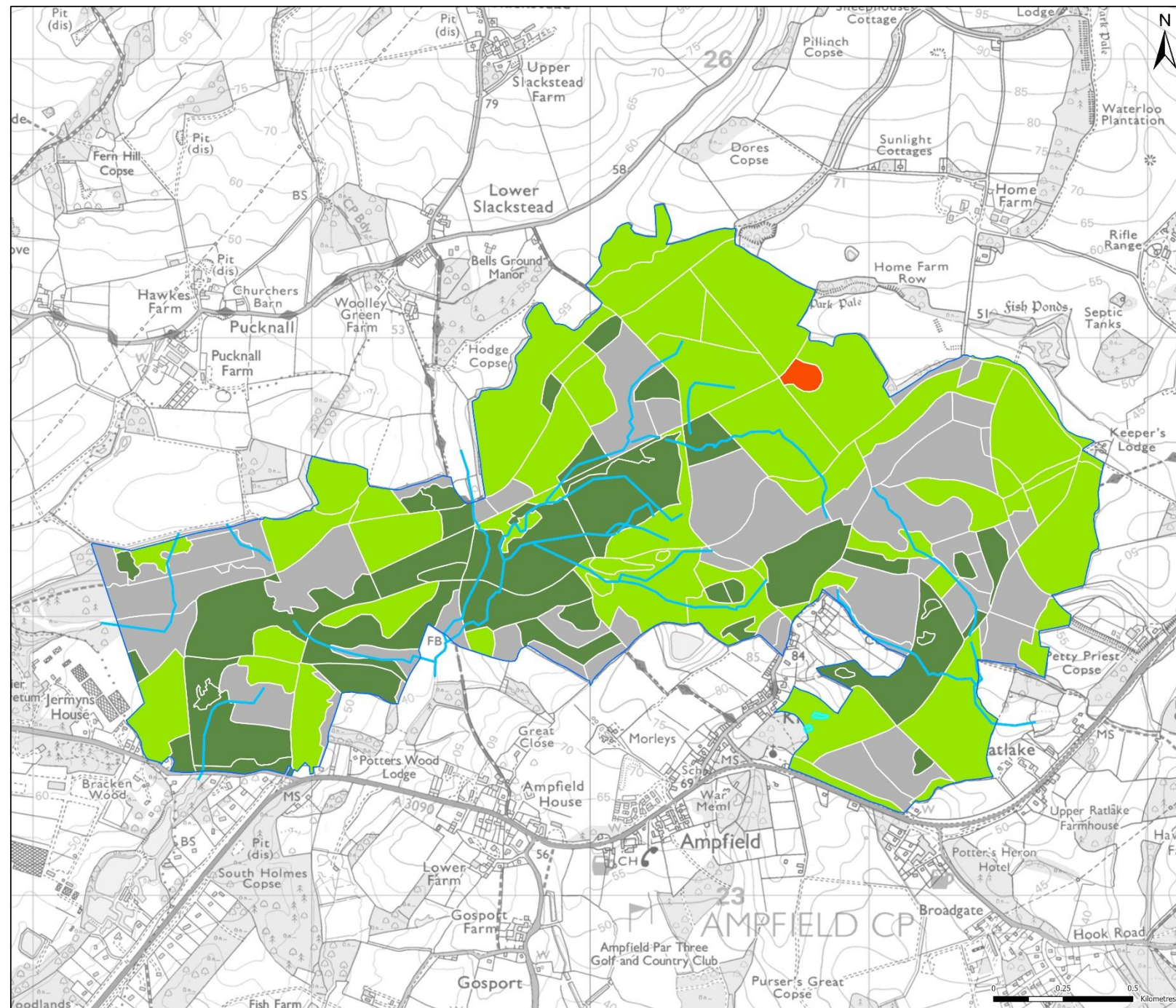


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

- Blocks
- Watercourses

Semi-Natural Score

- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:13,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



Declaration by FC as an operator.
All timber arising from the Forestry England estate represents a negligible risk under the Timber and Timber Products Placing on the Market Regulations (UKTR) and UK FLEGT Regulations

Felling details - see letter on map for details
A) Sept 7615a | 9.68ha | Norway Spruce (87%)
B) Sept 7607d | 0.51ha | Norway Spruce (74%)
C) Sept 7616a | 9.46ha | Norway Spruce (72%)
D) Sept 7617a | 5.67ha | Norway Spruce (47%)
E) Sept 7625i | 0.66ha | Norway Spruce (36%)
F) Sept 7629a | 3.40ha | Norway Spruce (34%)
G) Sept 7608d | 0.80ha | Norway Spruce (62%)

Felling details - see letter on map for details
H) Sept 7614c | 0.66ha | Norway Spruce (38%)
I) Sept 7614d | 1.27ha | Norway Spruce (51%)
J) Sept 7620a | 5.57ha | Norway Spruce (81%)
K) Sept 7620e | 1.11ha | Norway Spruce (57%)
L) Sept 7624a | 8.07ha | Norway Spruce (82%)
M) Sept 7625k | 0.36ha | Norway Spruce (97%)
N) Sept 7626e | 0.62ha | Norway Spruce (73%)
O) Sept 7625j | 0.44ha | Norway Spruce (82%)
P) Sept 7613c | 0.92ha | Norway Spruce (31%)

Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

Ampfield Windmills

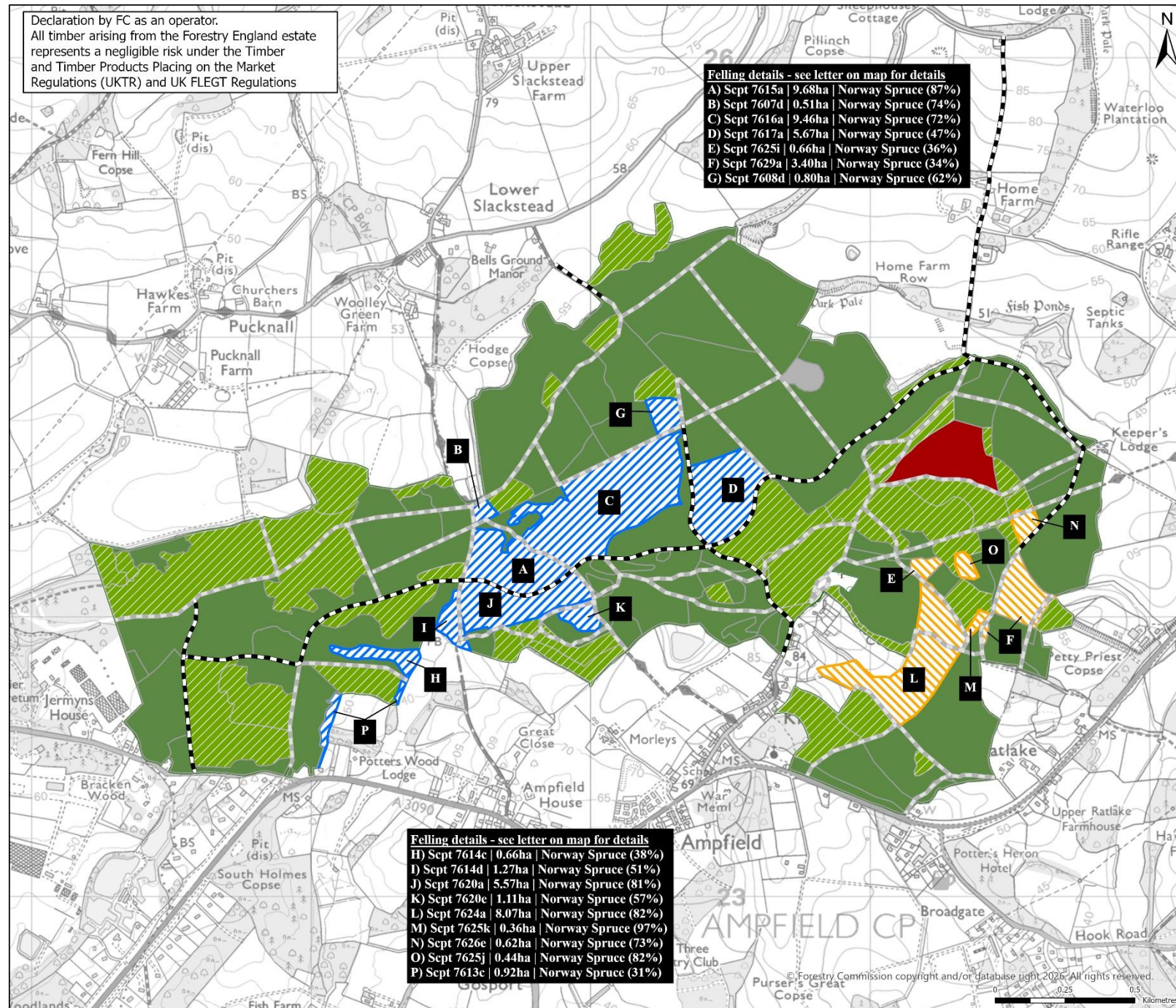
Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides
- Management Type**
- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Coppice
- Other/Open land

Scale: 1:13,000 (@ A3)

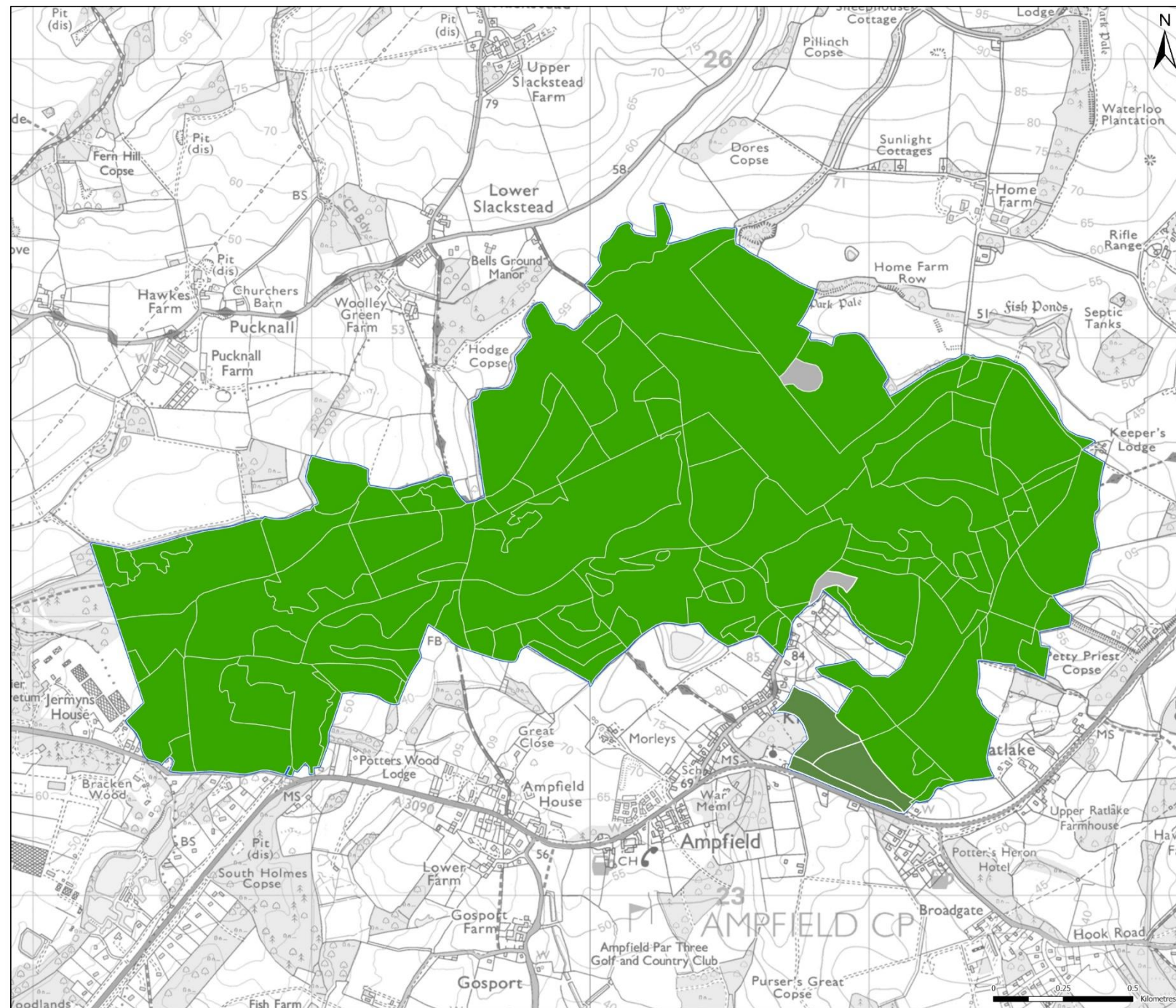


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Design Concept

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

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

Other/Open land

Managed Mixed Woodland (Non-AW)

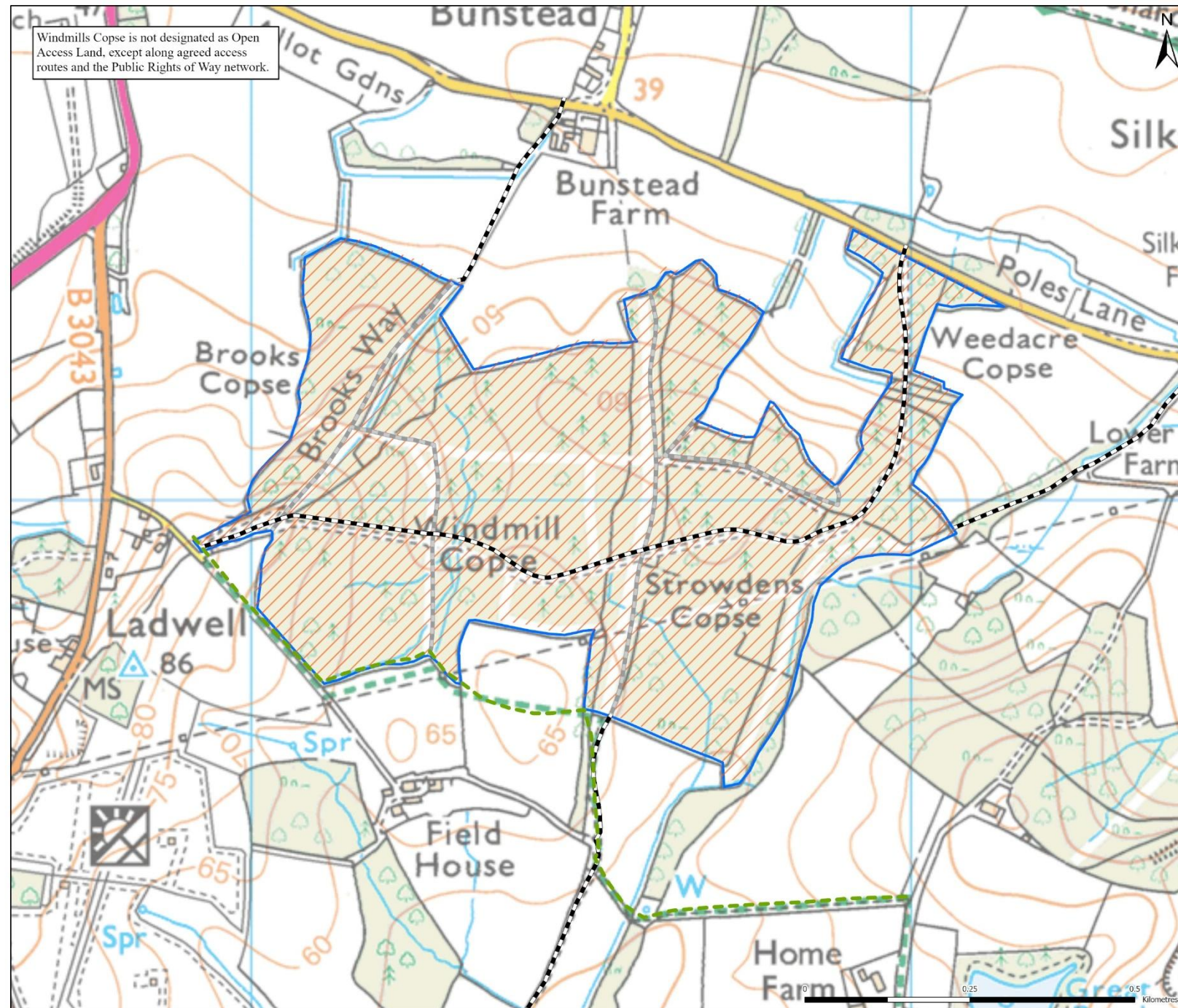
Managed Native Woodland

Scale: 1:13,000 (@ A3)



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**Hampshire
Downs
Forest Plan**



Recreation & Access

Facilities available to the public to use and related recreational infrastructure.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

- Blocks
- Rides
- Forest Roads
- Public Rights of Way

Legal Status

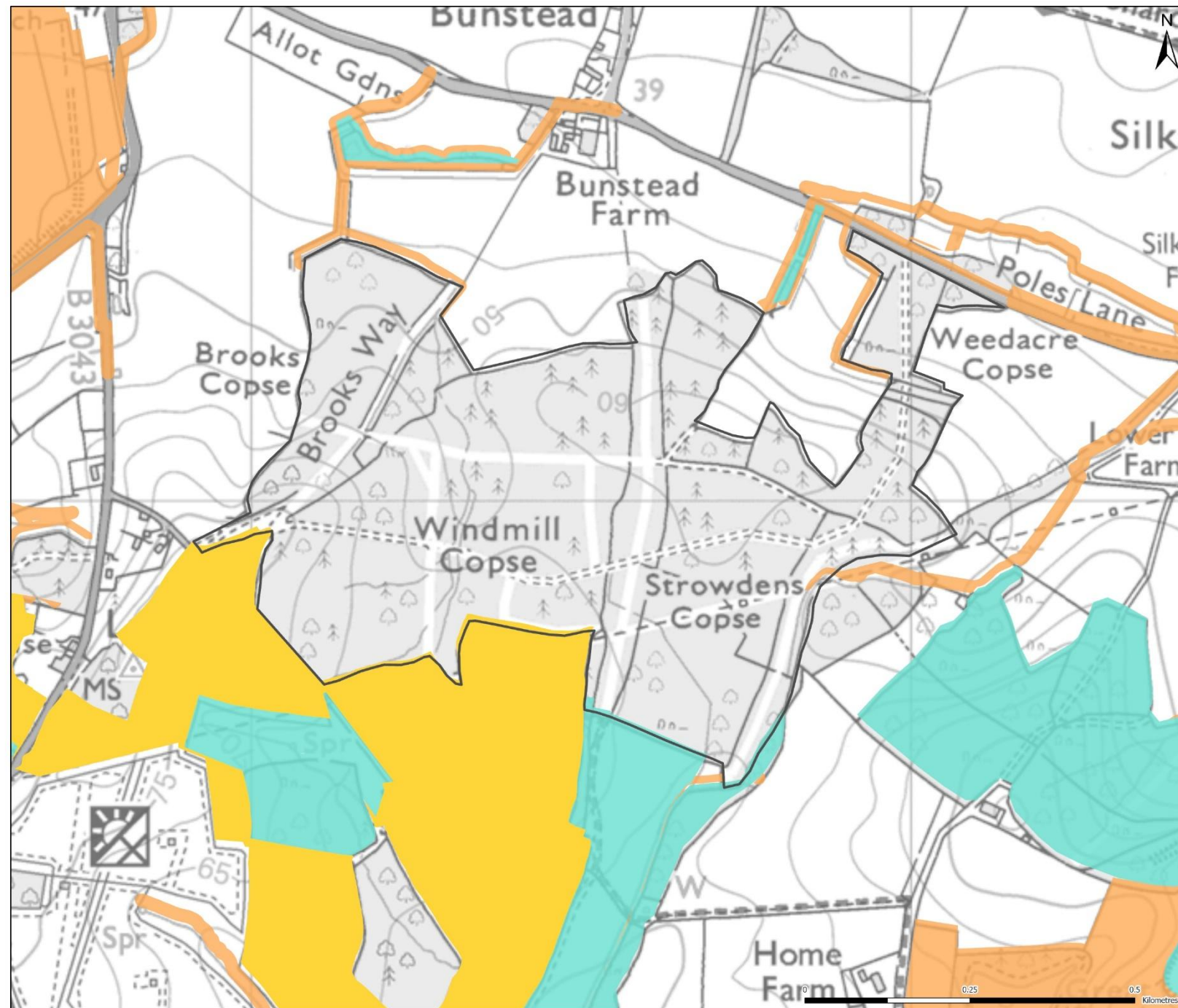
- Acquisition Leasehold (A/LH)

Scale: 1:5,500 (@ A3)



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Standard (UKWAS)





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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Designated Areas

Land designated as important conservation sites on Forestry England managed land.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

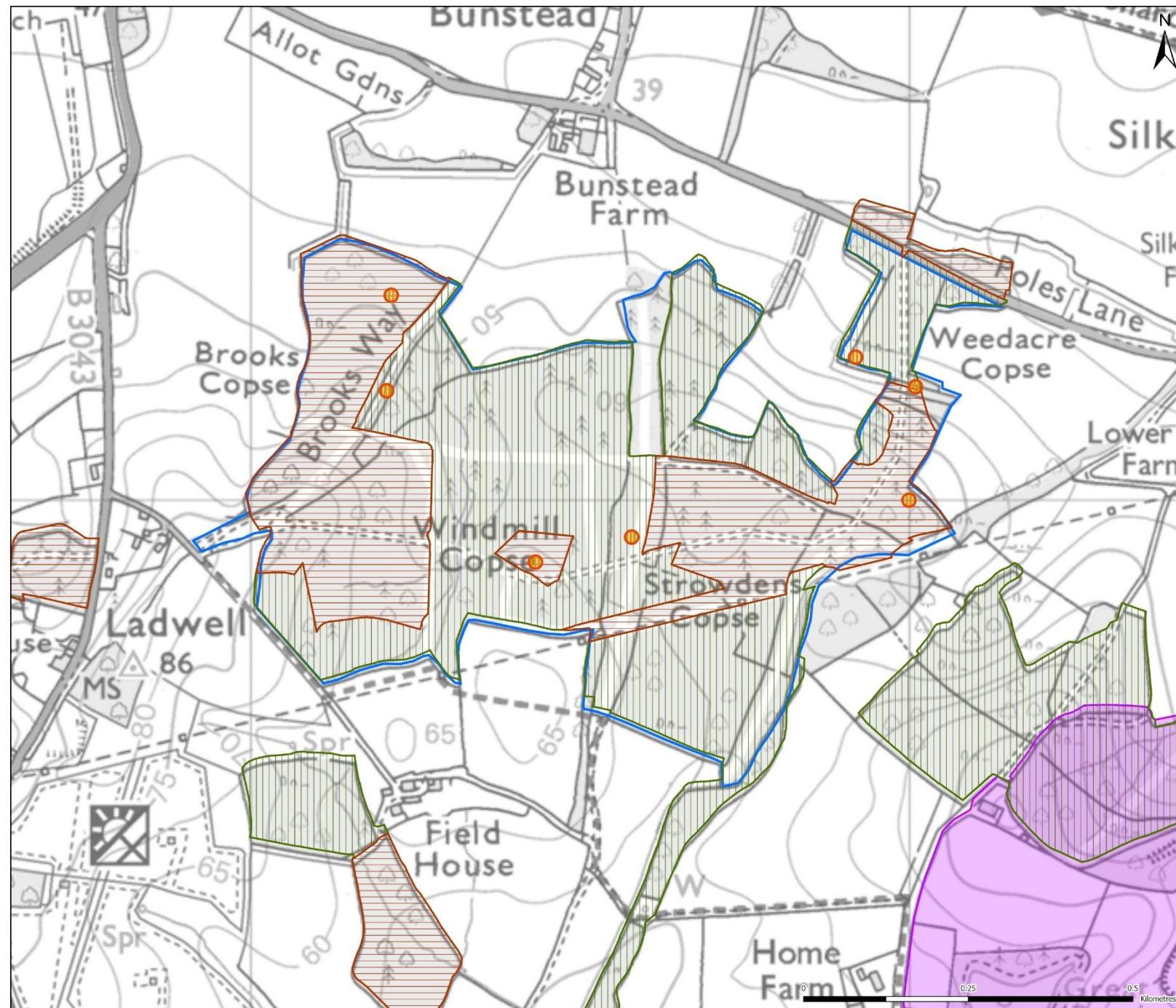
- Blocks
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
- Habitat Opportunity Areas (HOAs)
- Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB)

Scale: 1:5,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire
Downs
Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

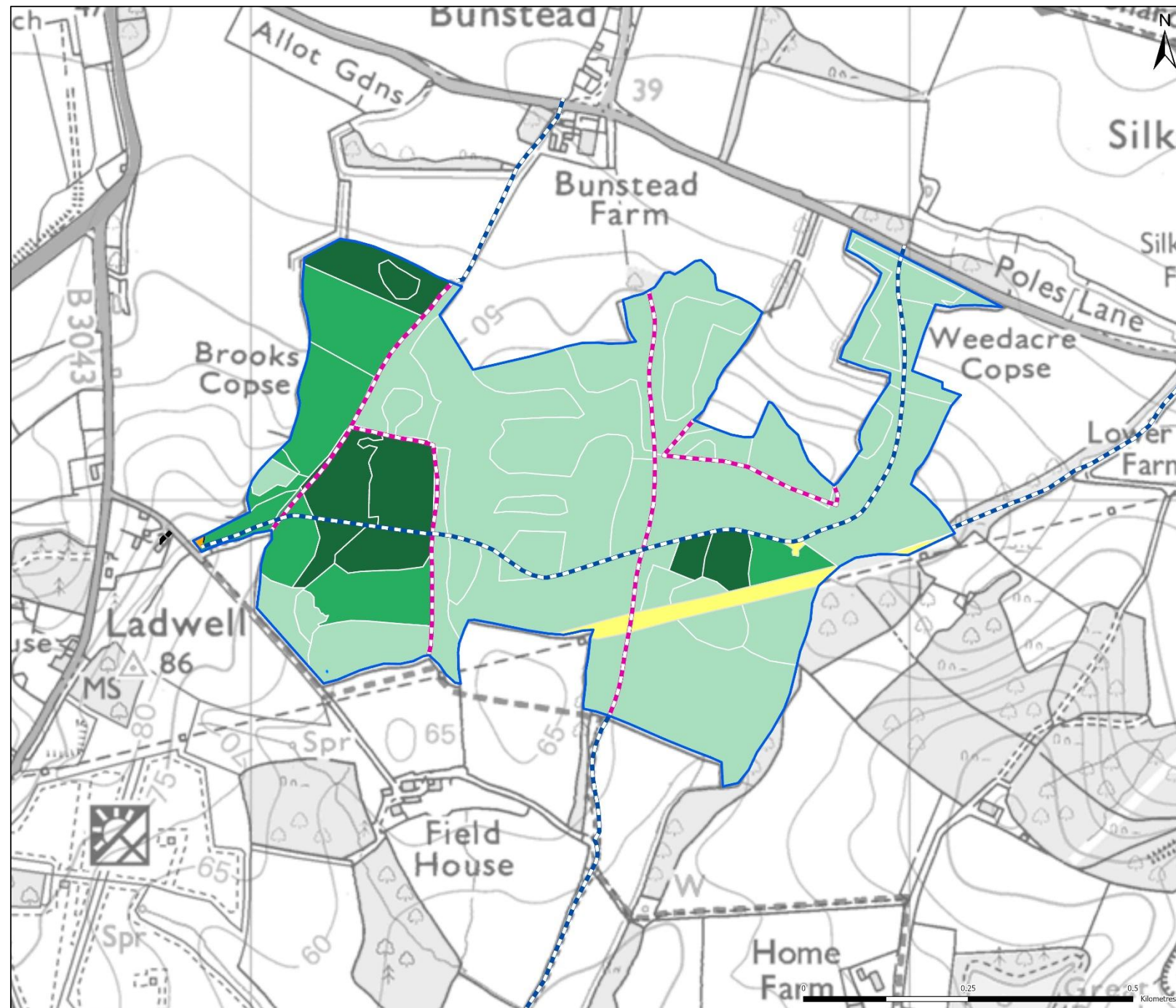
- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Undesignated Heritage
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Scale: 1:5,500 (@ A3)



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Standard (UKWAS)





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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

Blocks

Open Water

Fuel_Hazard

Low Risk Conifer

Low Risk Mixed Woodland

Low Risk Broadleaf

Other/Open land

Buildings

Building Buffer

Fire Break

Fuel Break

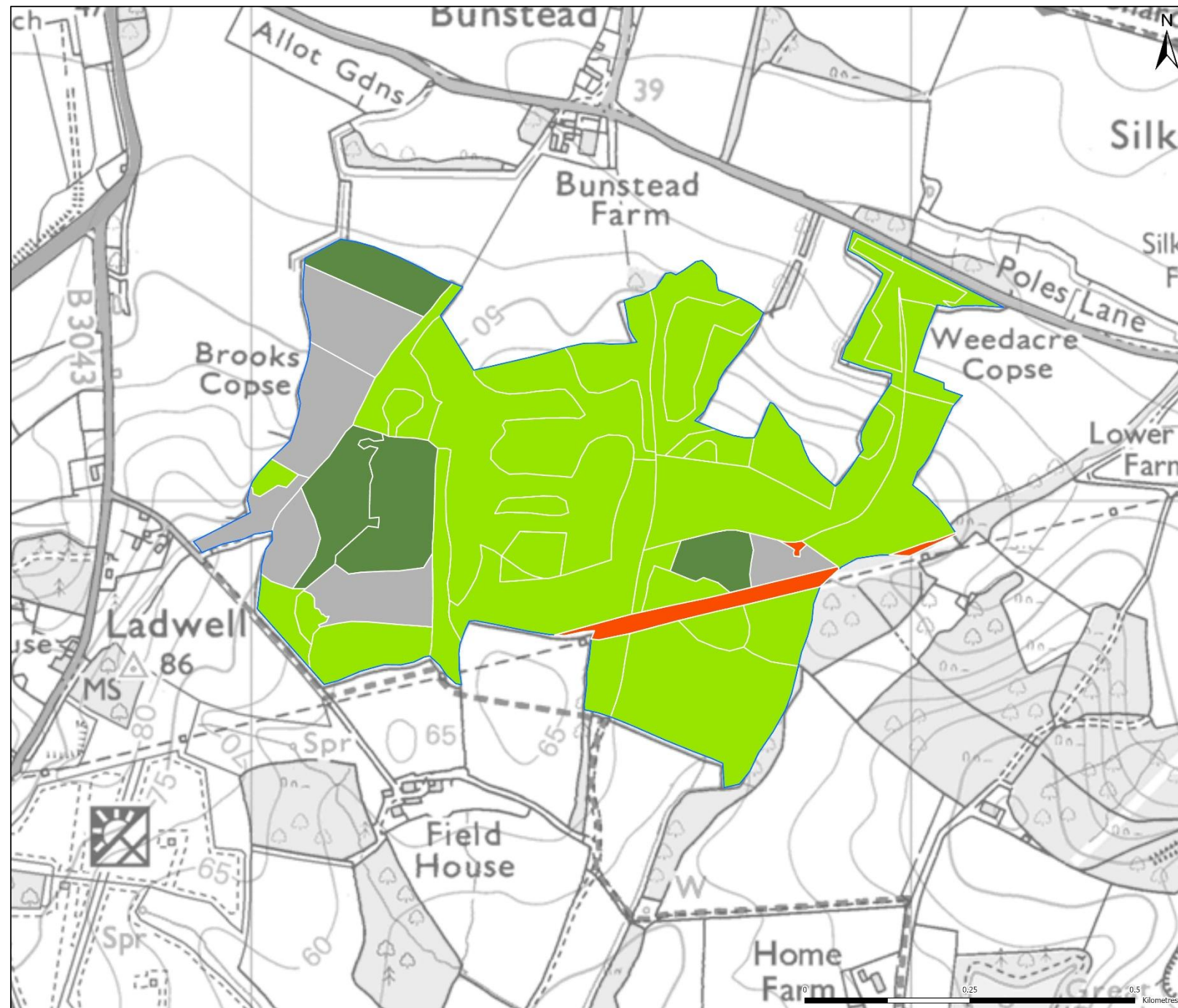
Scale: 1:5,500

(@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

Blocks

Semi-Natural Score

- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:5,500 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



Declaration by FC as an operator.
All timber arising from the Forestry England estate represents a negligible risk under the Timber and Timber Products Placing on the Market Regulations (UKTR) and UK FLEGT Regulations

Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides

Management Type

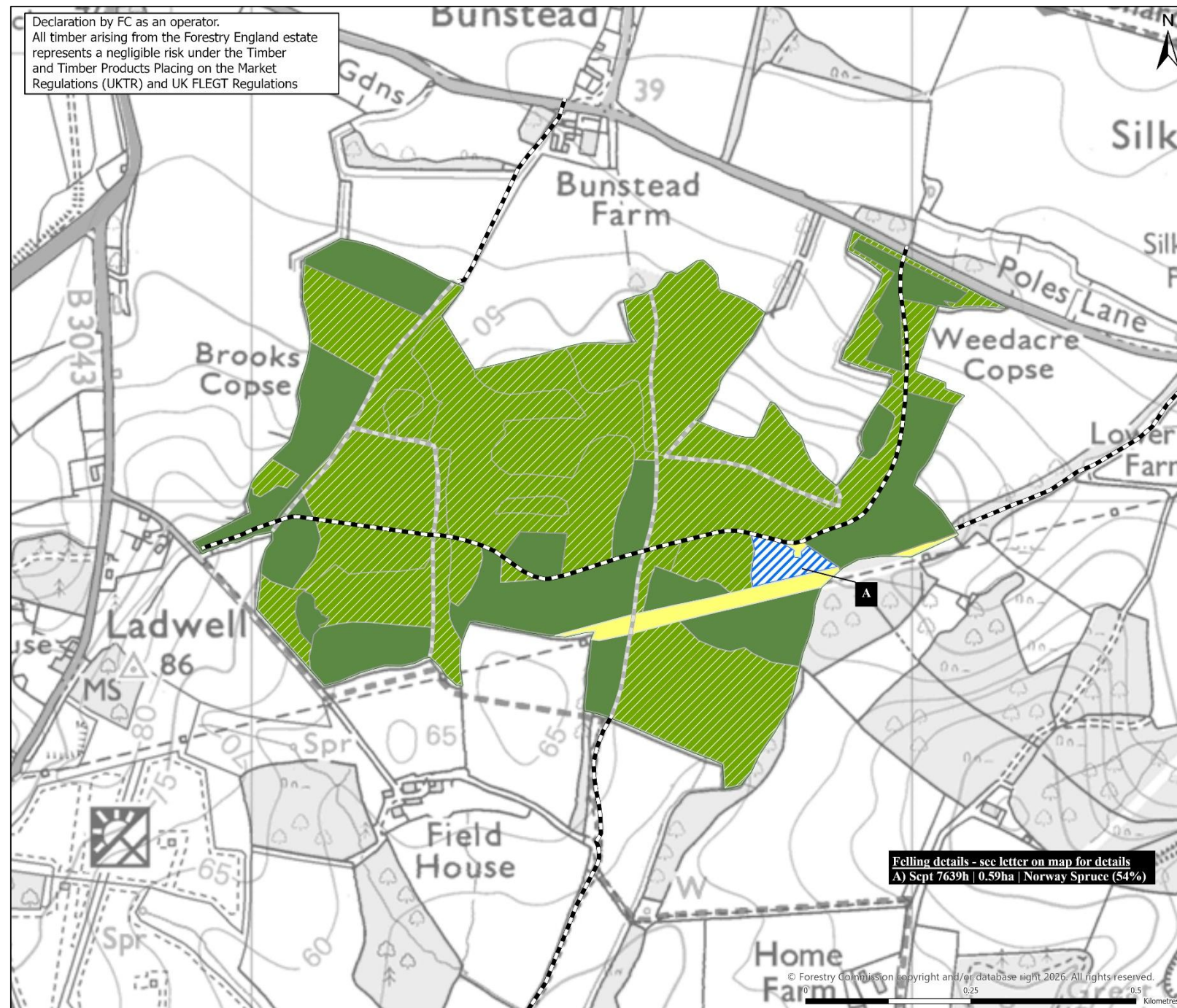
- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Coppice
- Other/Open land

Scale: 1:5,500

(@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



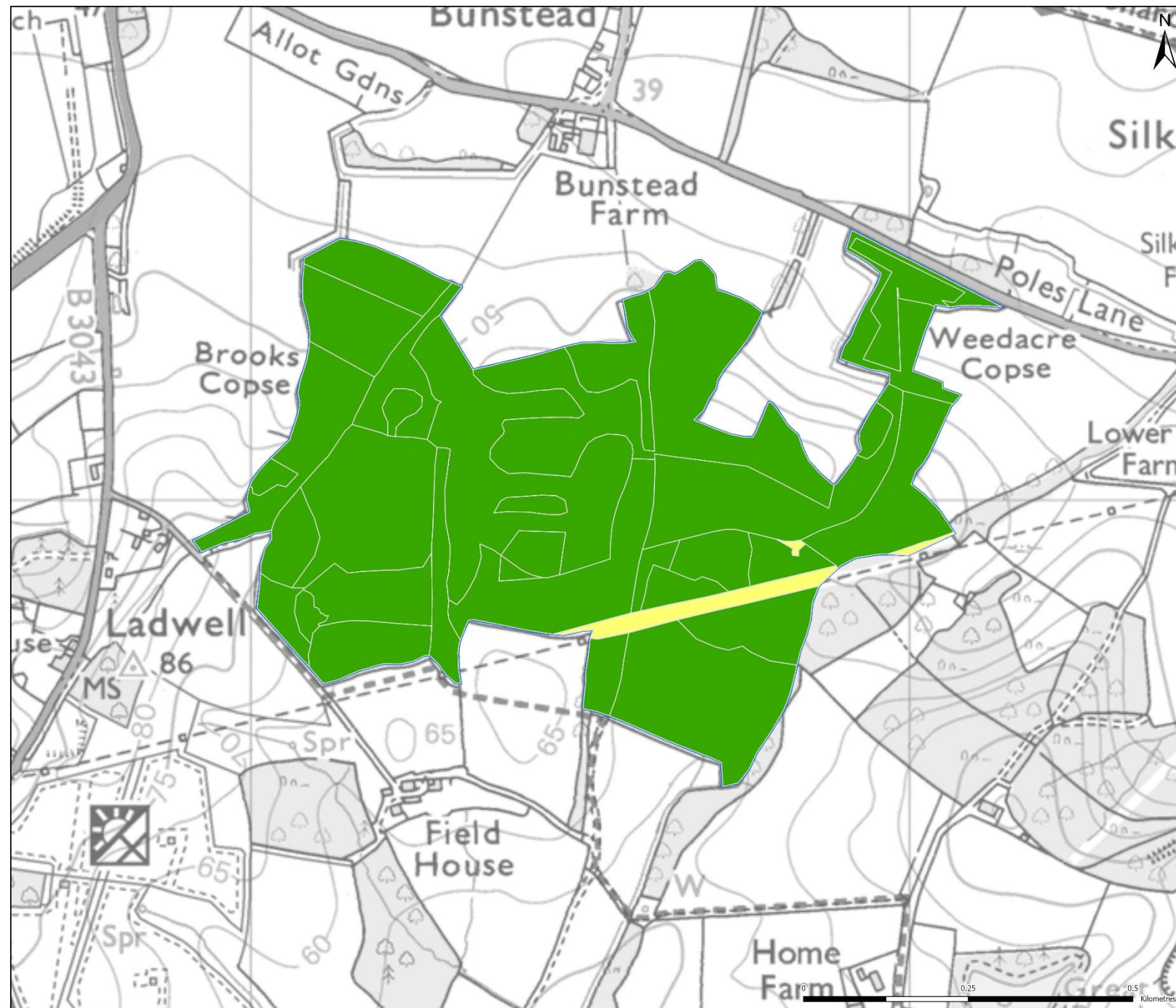
Felling details - see letter on map for details
A) Sept 7639h | 0.59ha | Norway Spruce (54%)

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0 0.25 0.5 Kilometres

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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Design Concept

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

Ampfield Windmills

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

- Managed Native Woodland
- Managed Open Habitat

Scale: 1:5,500 (@ A3)

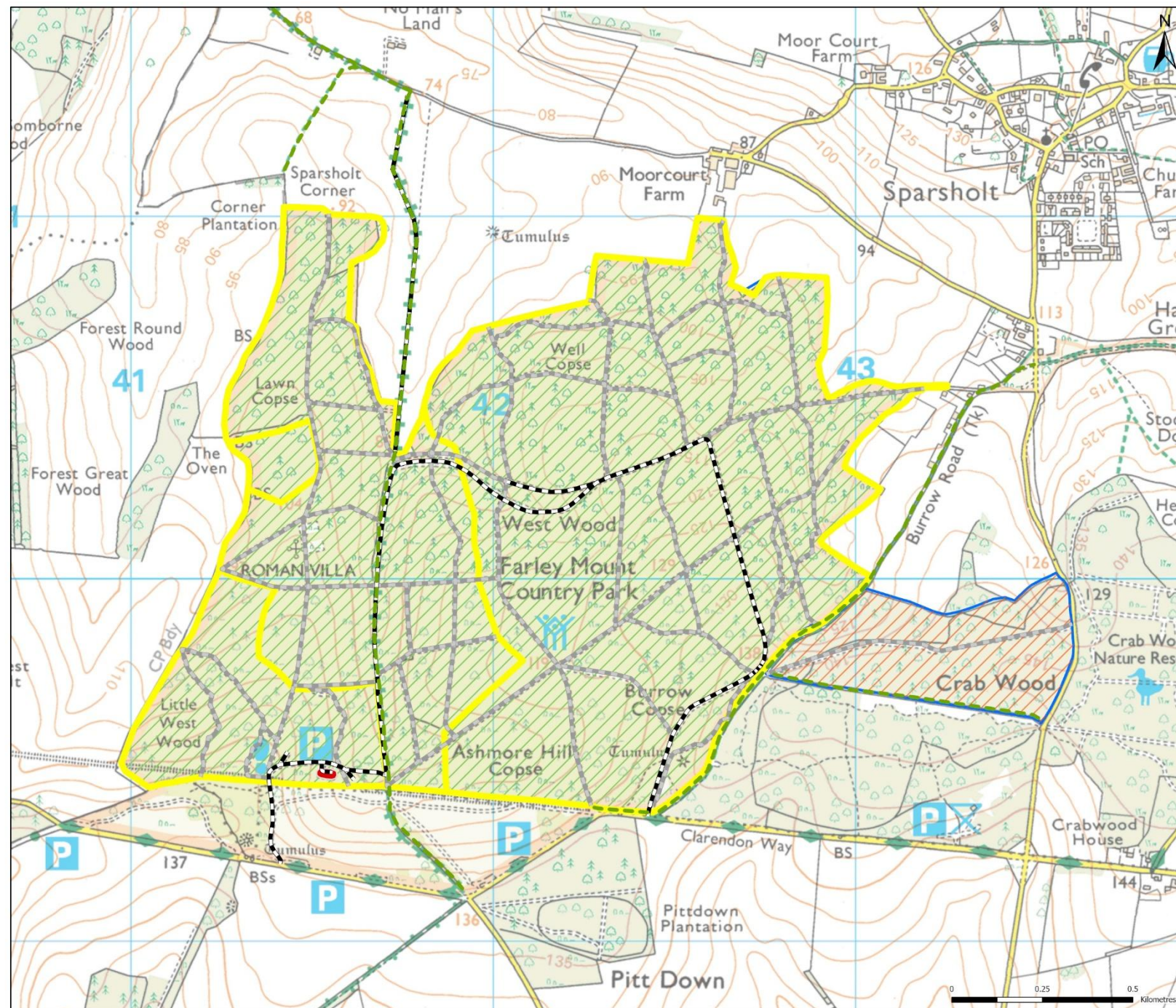


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Recreation & Access

Facilities available to the public to use and related recreational infrastructure.

West Wood

Legend

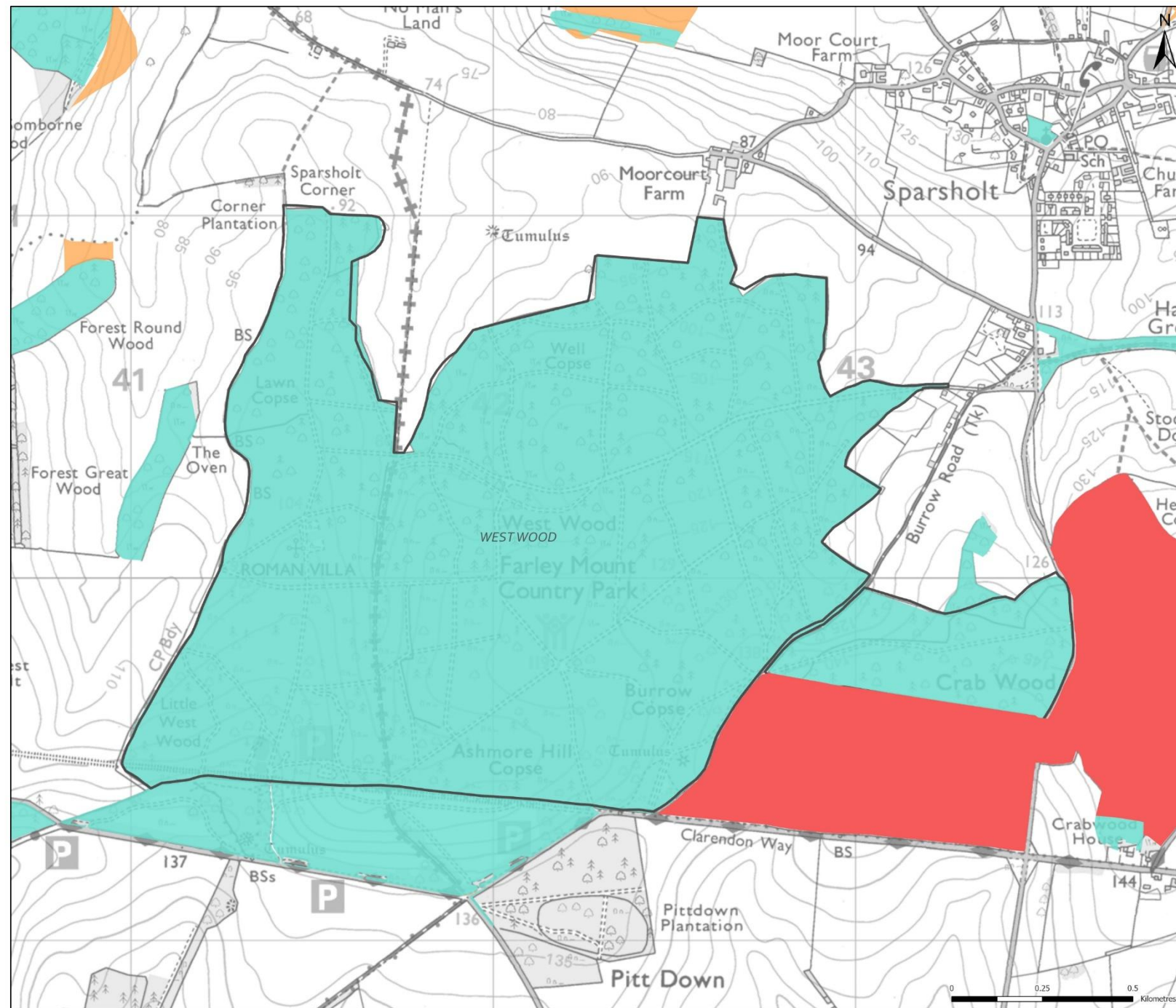
- Blocks
- Rides
- Forest Roads
- Public Rights of Way
- Car Parks
- Open Access Land**
- Open Access Land
- Legal Status**
- Acquisition Freehold (A/FH)
- Acquisition Leasehold (A/LH)

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Designated Areas

Land designated as important conservation sites on Forestry England managed land.

West Wood

Legend

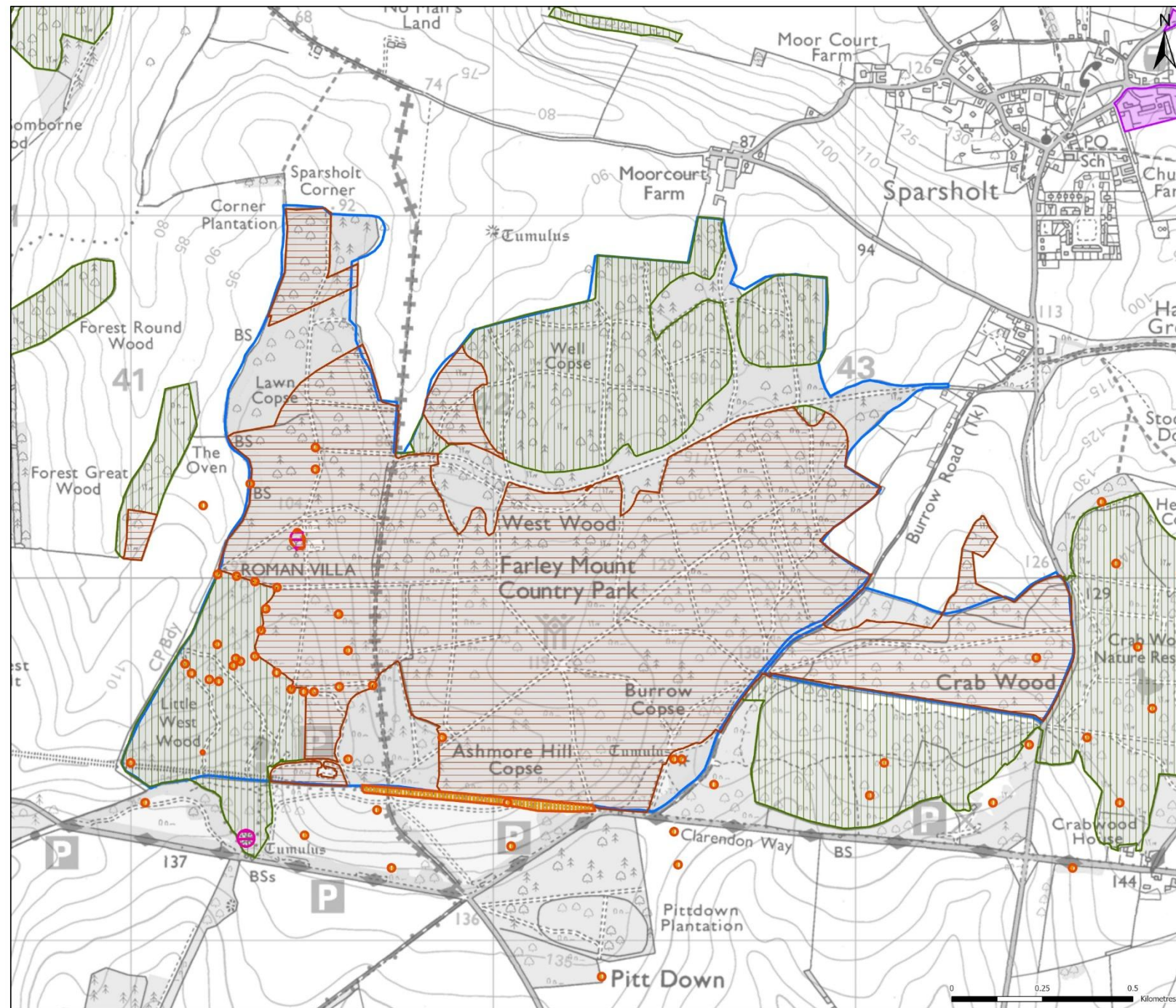
- Blocks
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
- Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB)

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

West Wood

Legend

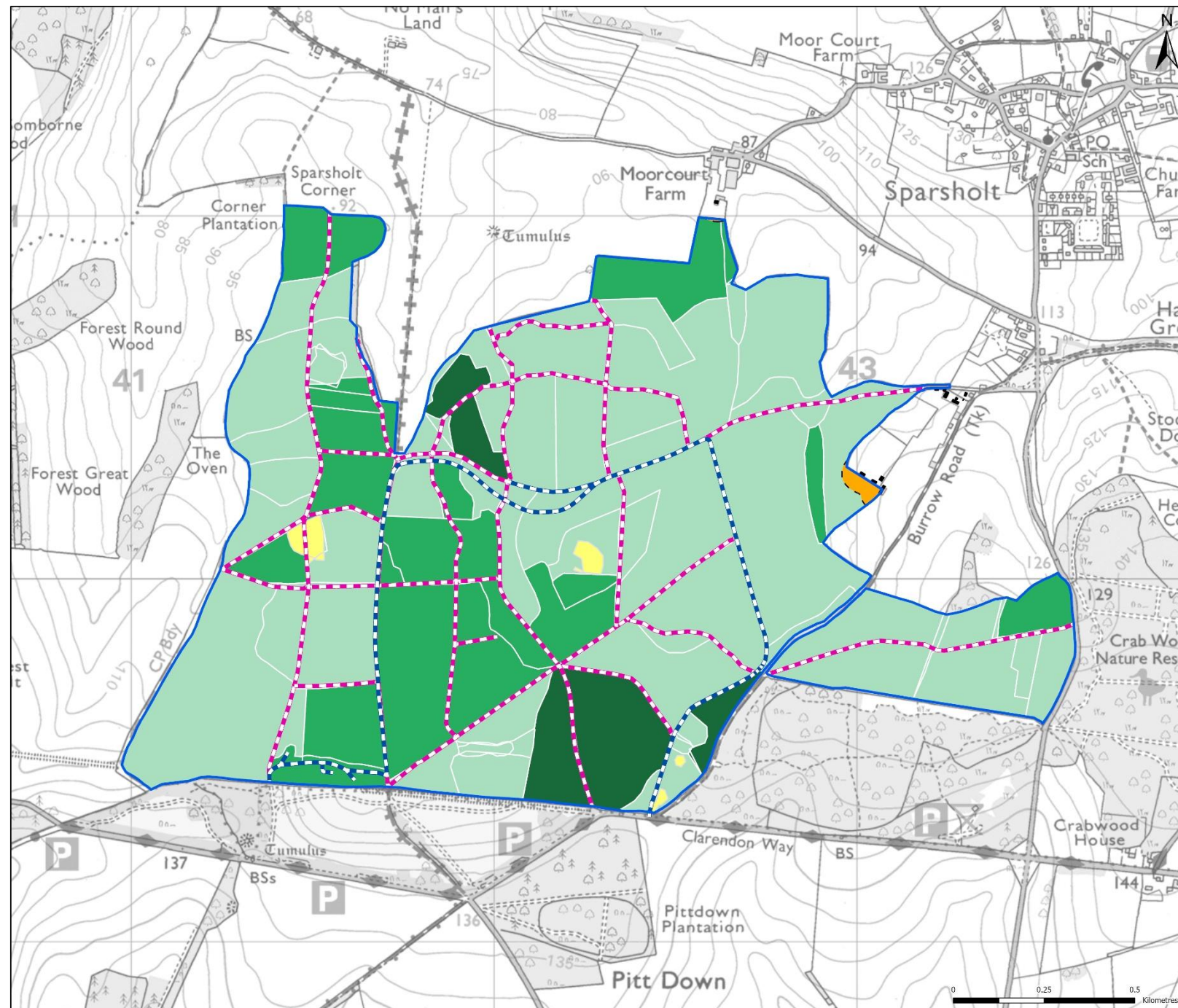
- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Designated Heritage
- Undesignated Heritage
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

West Wood

Legend

Blocks

Fuel_Hazard

- Low Risk Conifer
- Low Risk Mixed Woodland
- Low Risk Broadleaf
- Other/Open land
- Buildings
- Building Buffer
- Fire Break
- Fuel Break

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

West Wood

Legend

Blocks

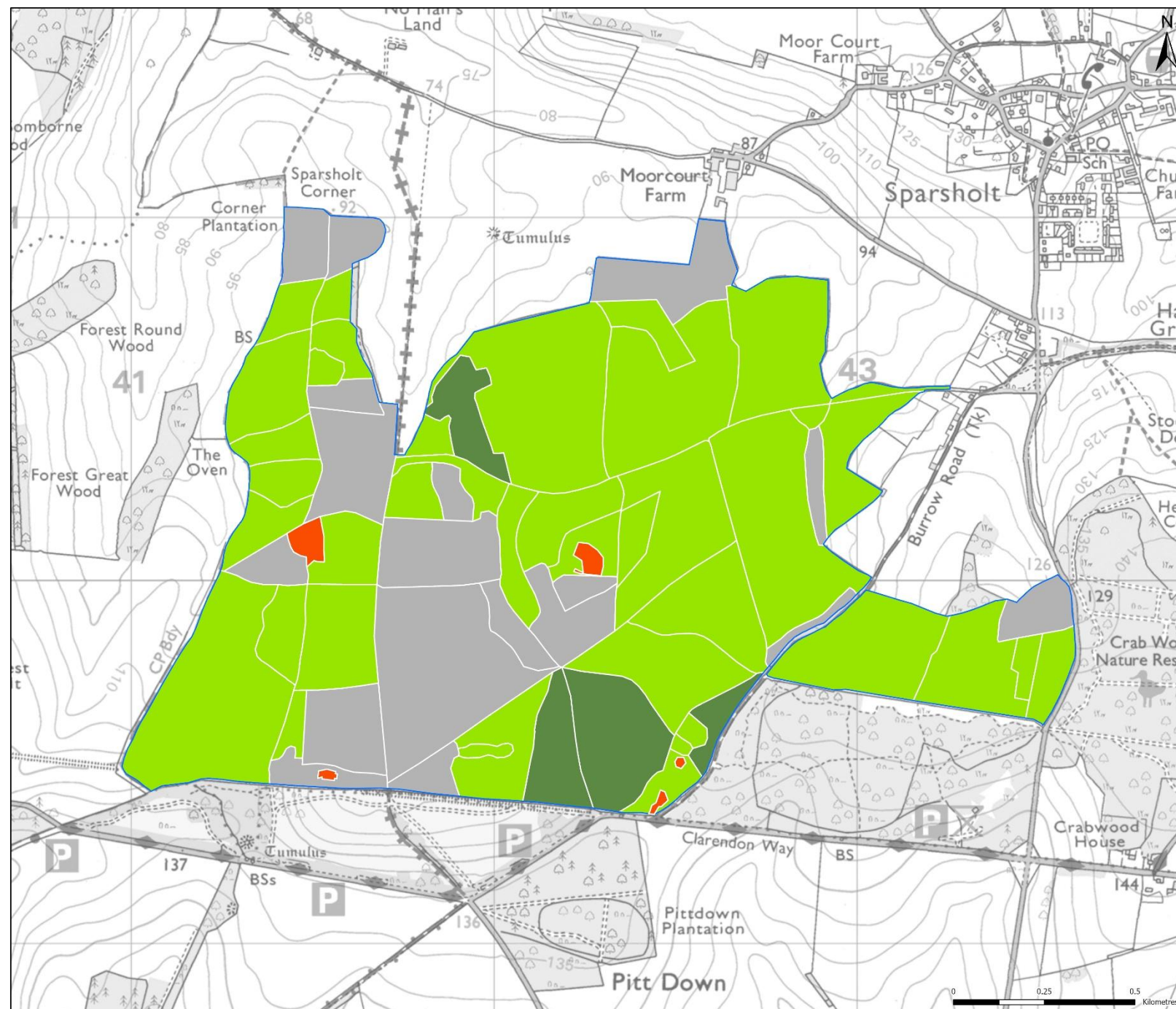
Semi-Natural Score

- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)

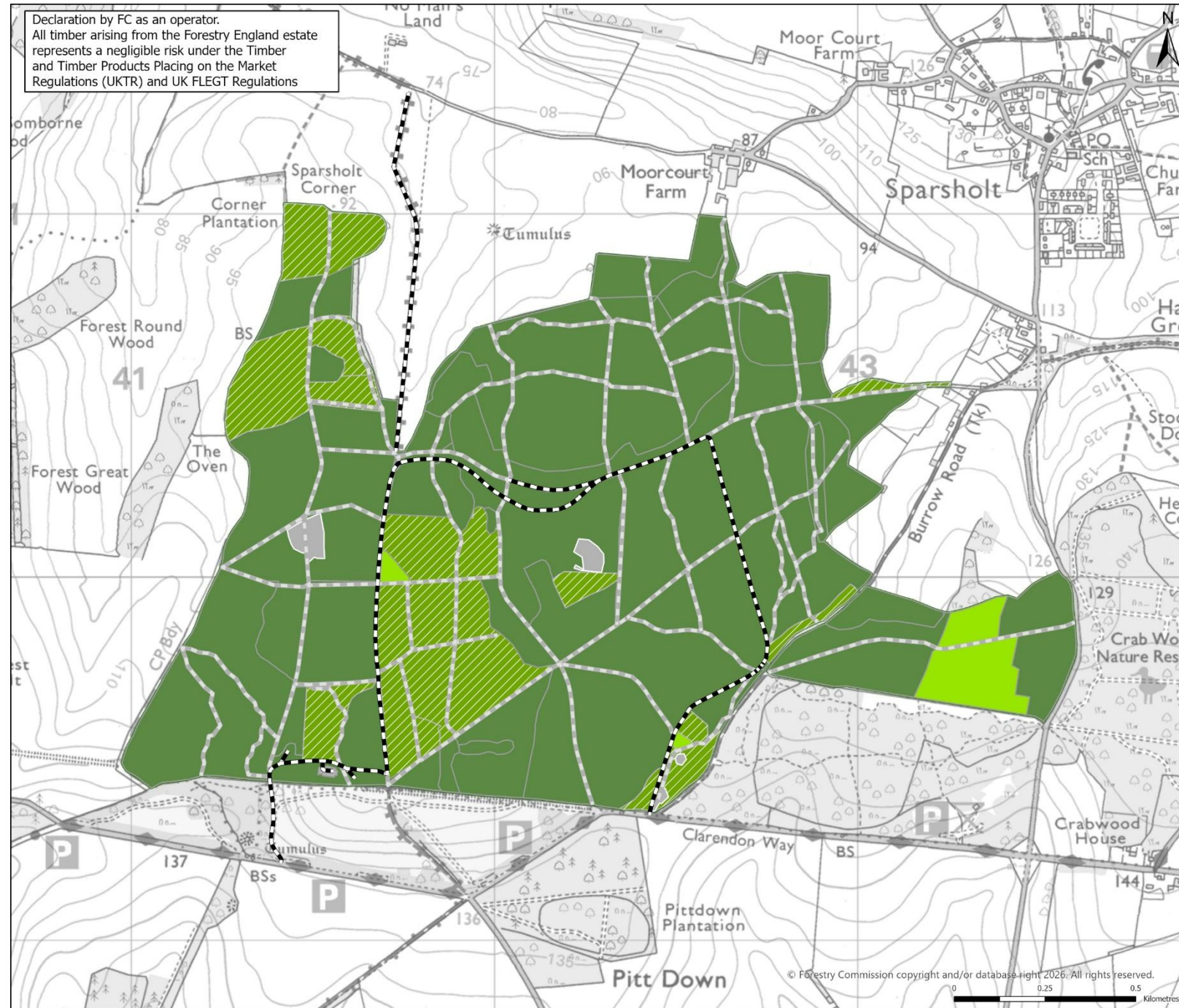


Forestry England
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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

West Wood

Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides

Management Type

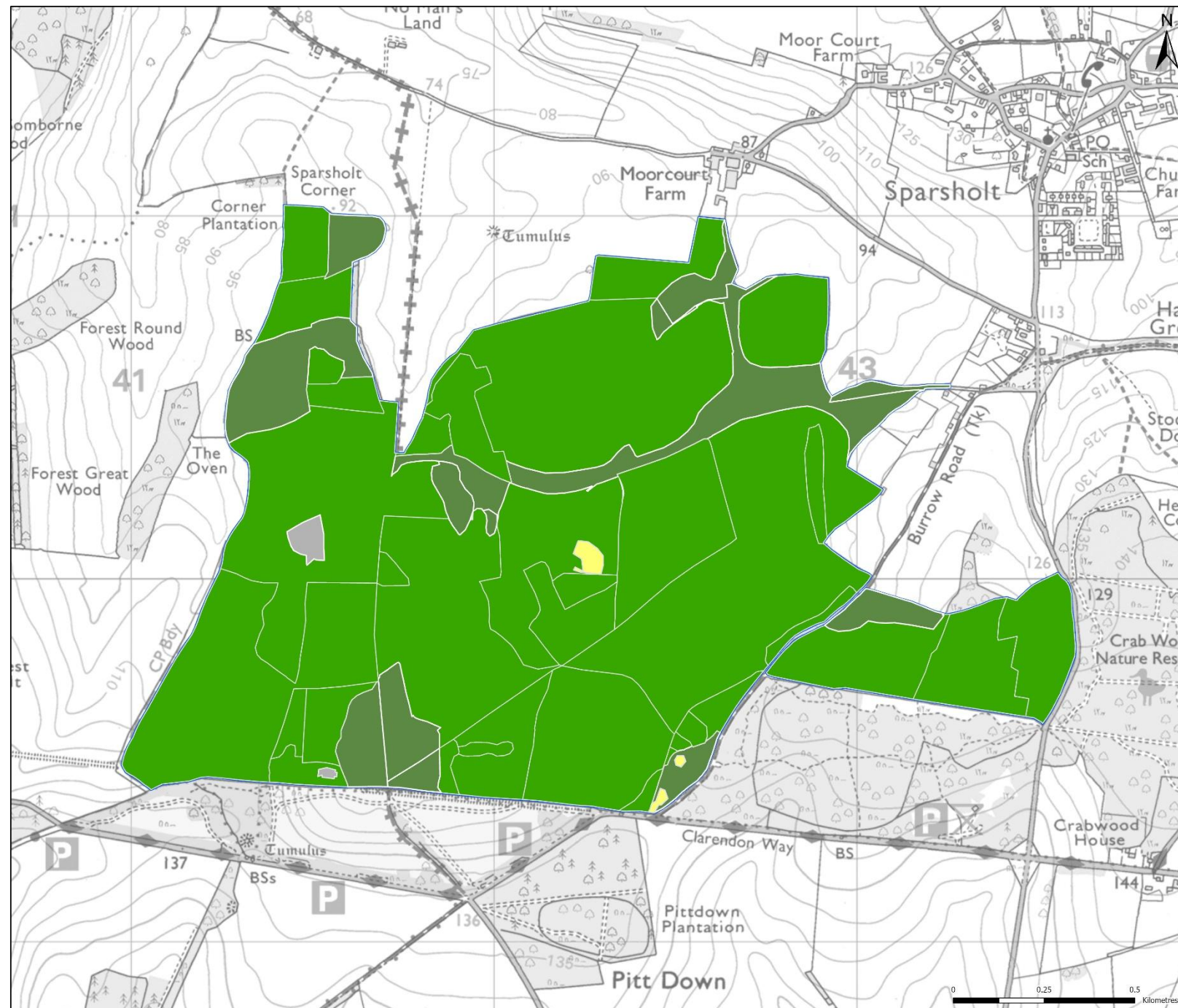
- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Coppice
- Other/Open land

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Design Concept

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

West Wood

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

Other/Open land

Managed Mixed Woodland (Non-AW)

Managed Native Woodland

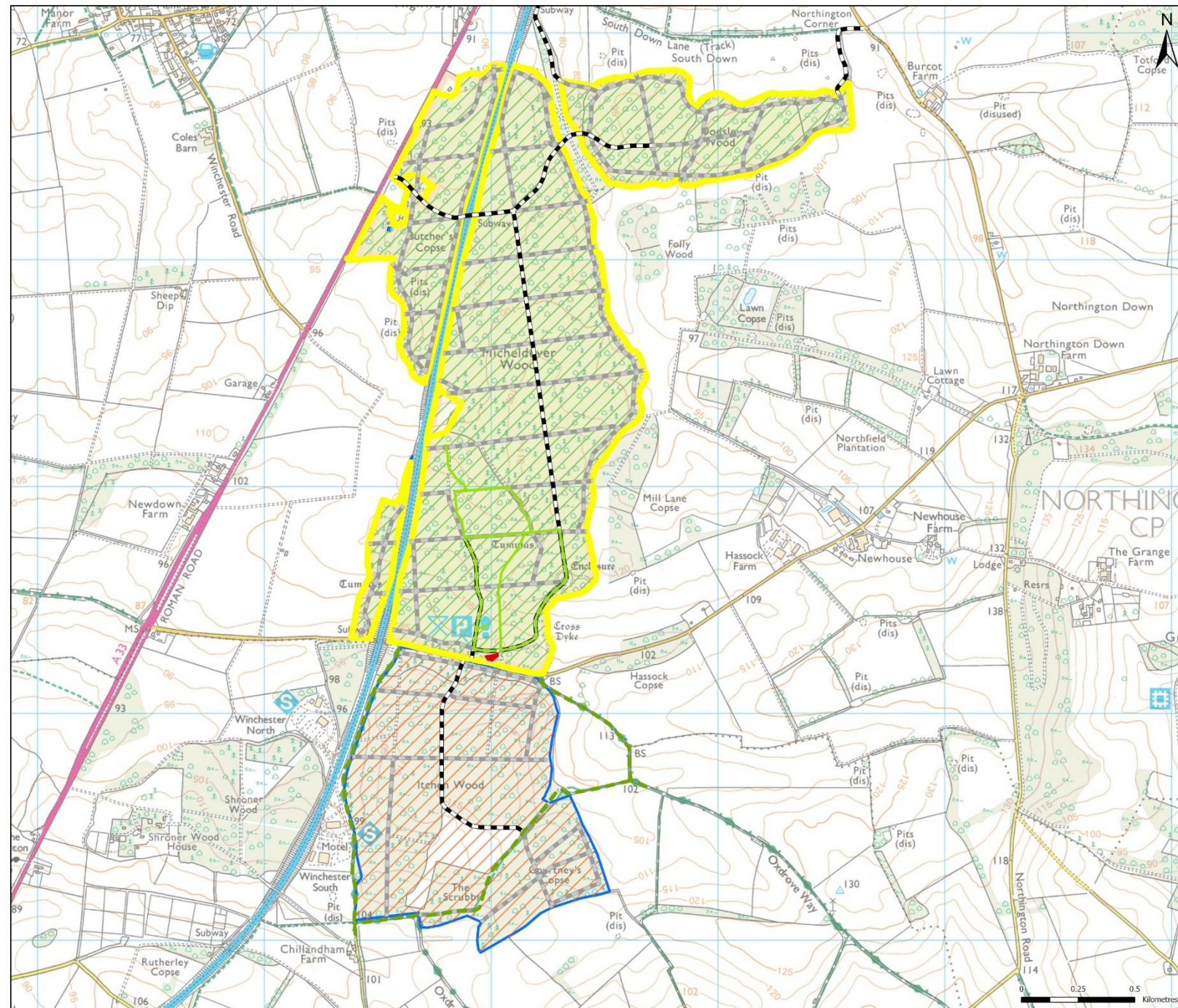
Managed Open Habitat

Scale: 1:10,000 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Recreation & Access

Facilities available to the public to use and related recreational infrastructure.

Micheldever

Legend

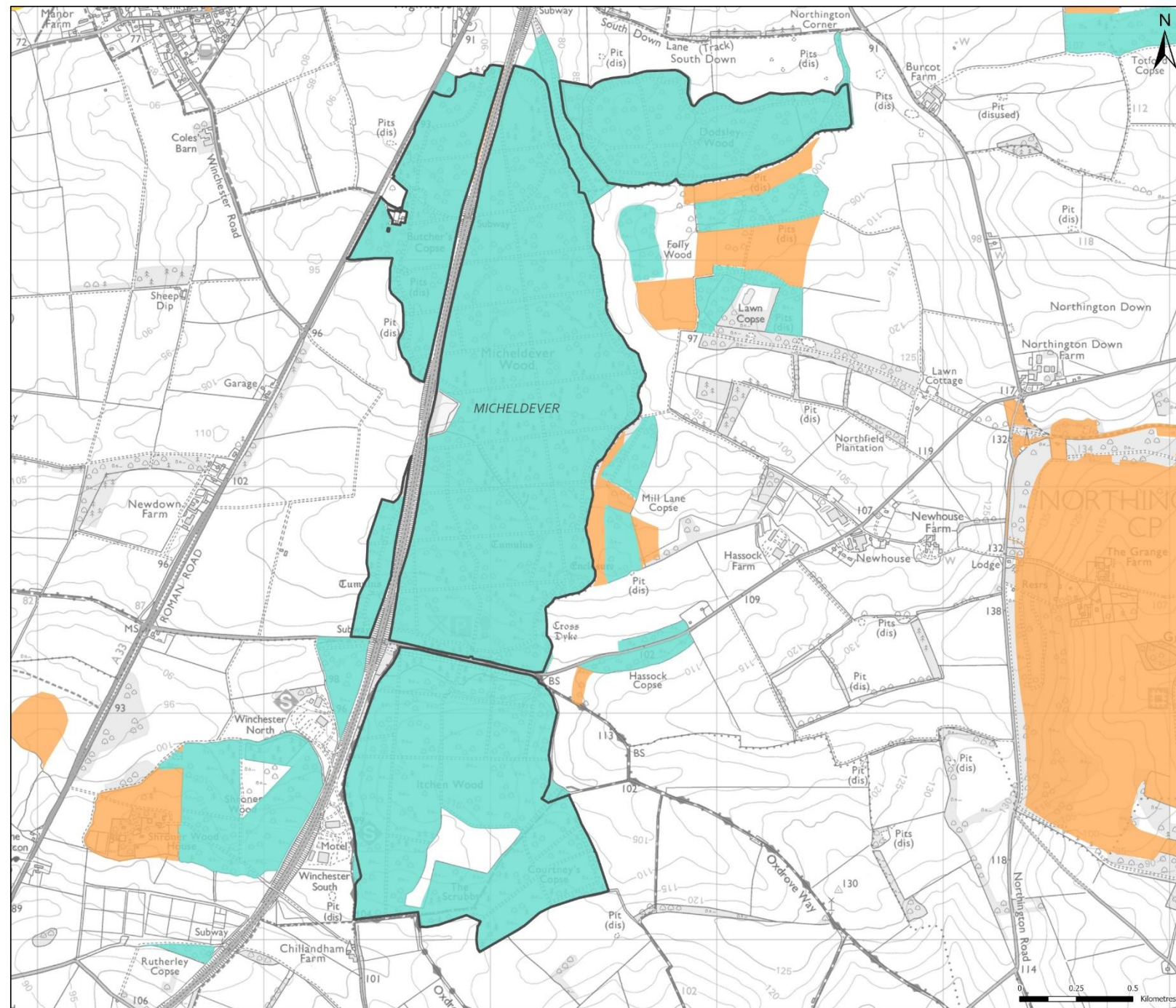
- ▬ Blocks
- ▬ Rides
- ▬ Forest Roads
- ▬ Public Rights of Way
- ▬ Car Parks
- Open Access Land**
- ▬ Open Access Land
- Walking Routes**
- ▬ Easy
- Legal Status**
- ▬ Acquisition Freehold (A/FH)
- ▬ Acquisition Leasehold (A/LH)

Scale: 1:16,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)





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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Designated Areas

Land designated as important conservation sites on Forestry England managed land.

Micheldever

Legend

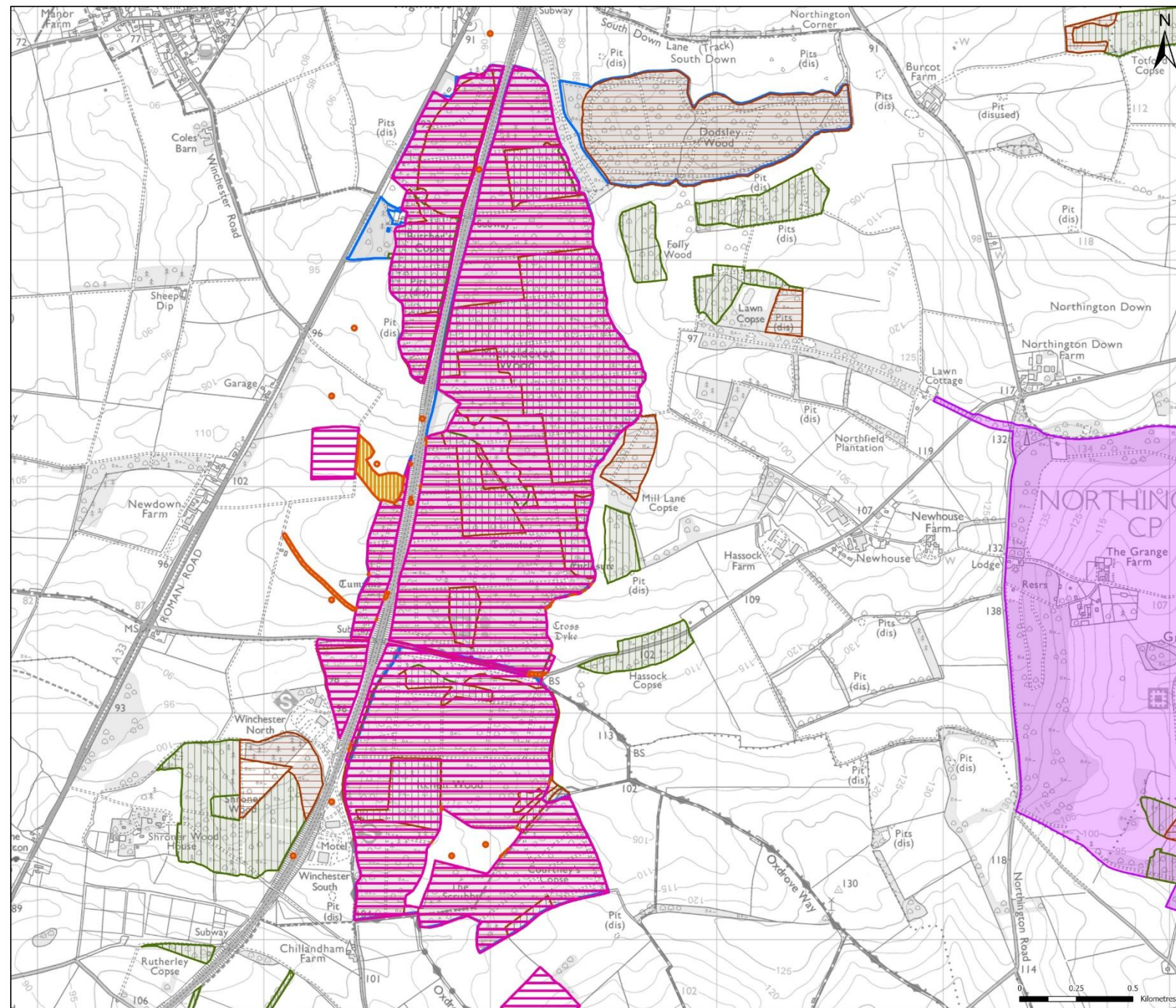
- Blocks
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
- Habitat Opportunity Areas (HOAs)
- Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB)

Scale: 1:16,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)





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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

Micheldever

Legend

- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Designated Heritage
- Undesignated Heritage
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Scale: 1:16,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

Micheldever

Legend

- Water Supply Points
- Fire Break
- Fuel Break
- Blocks

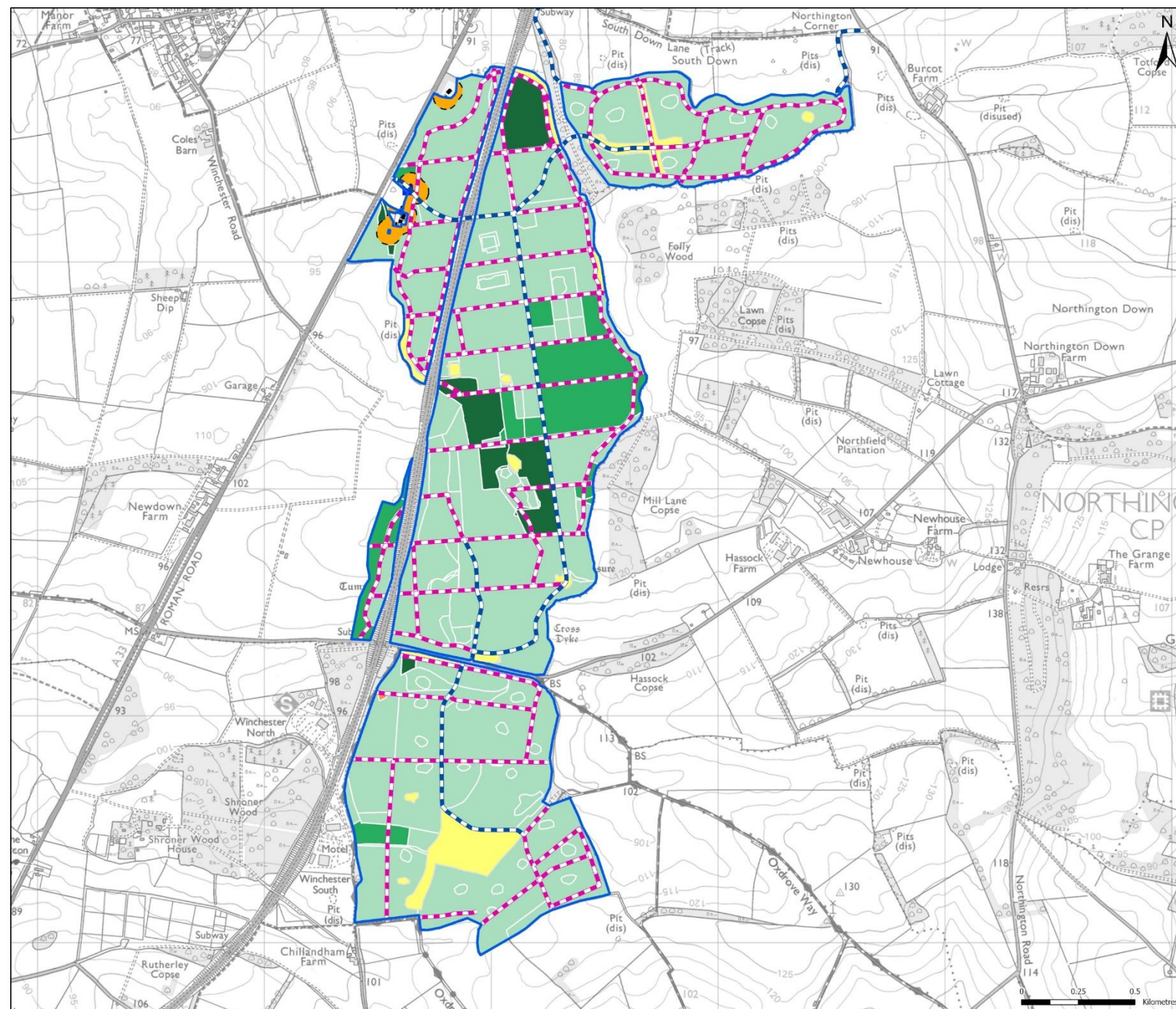
Fuel_Hazard

- Low Risk Conifer
- Low Risk Mixed Woodland
- Low Risk Broadleaf
- Medium Risk Felled
- Other/Open land
- Buildings
- Building Buffer

Scale: 1:16,000 (@ A3)

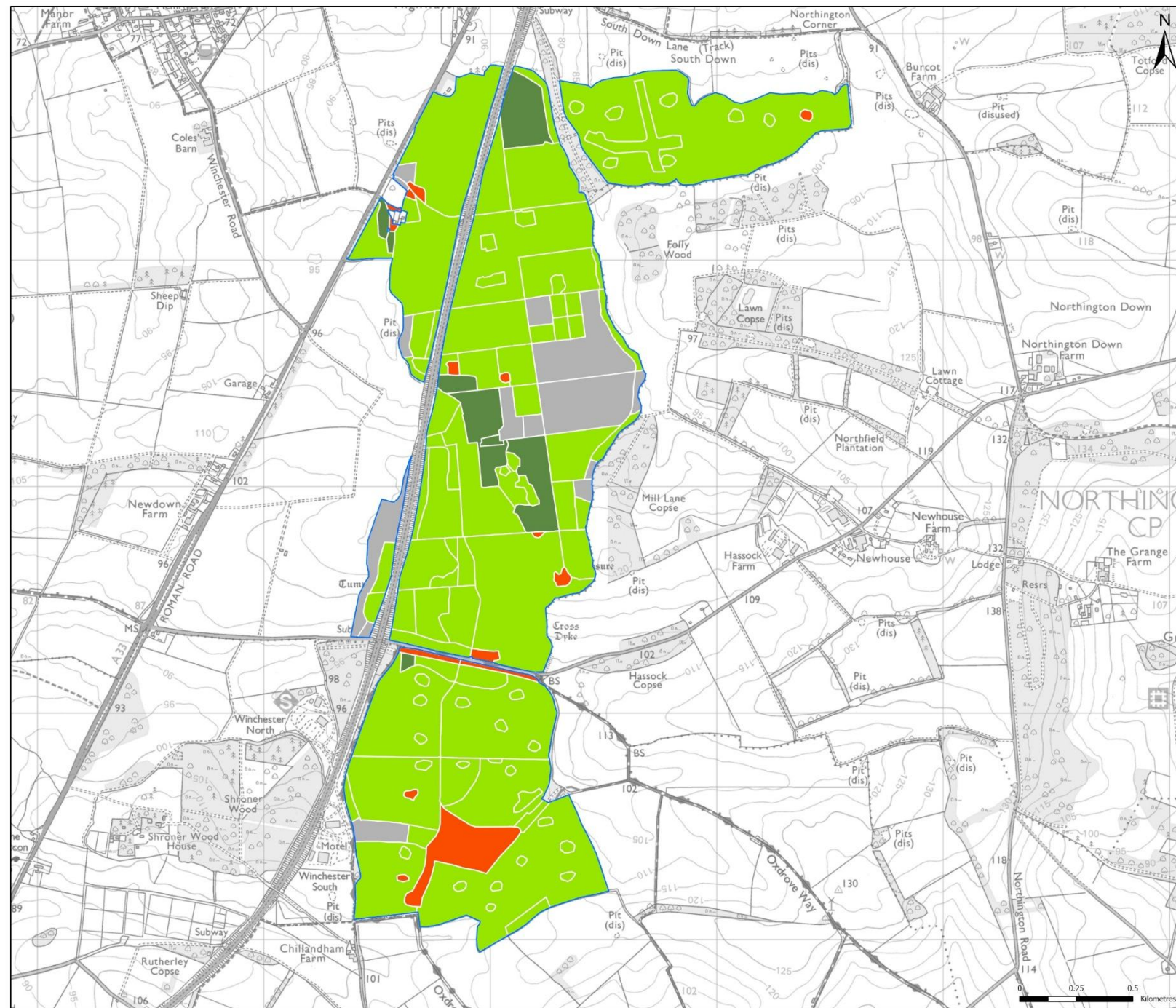


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

Micheldever

Legend

Blocks

Semi-Natural Score

- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:16,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)





Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

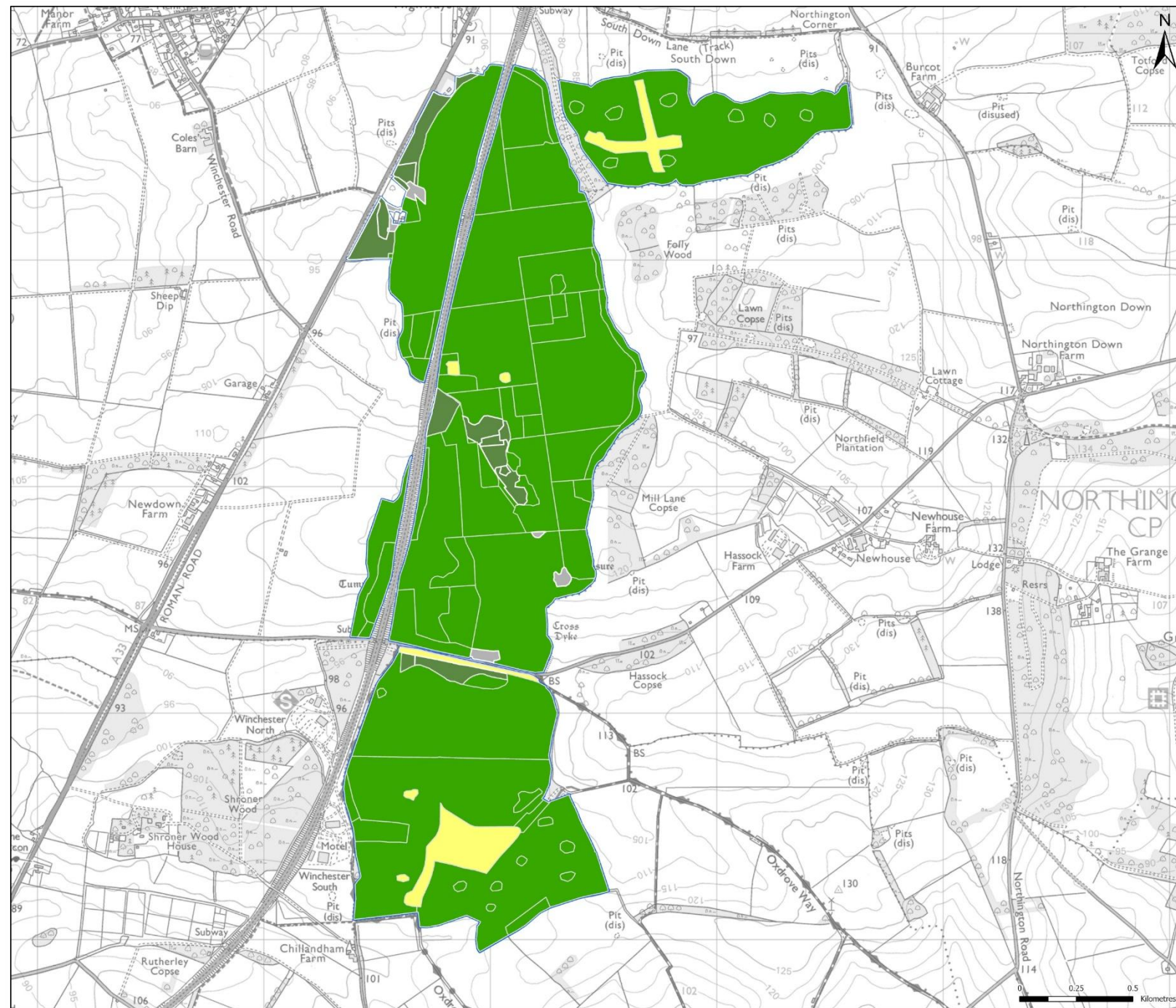
Micheldever

Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides

Management Type

- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Other/Open land



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Design Concept

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

Micheldever

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

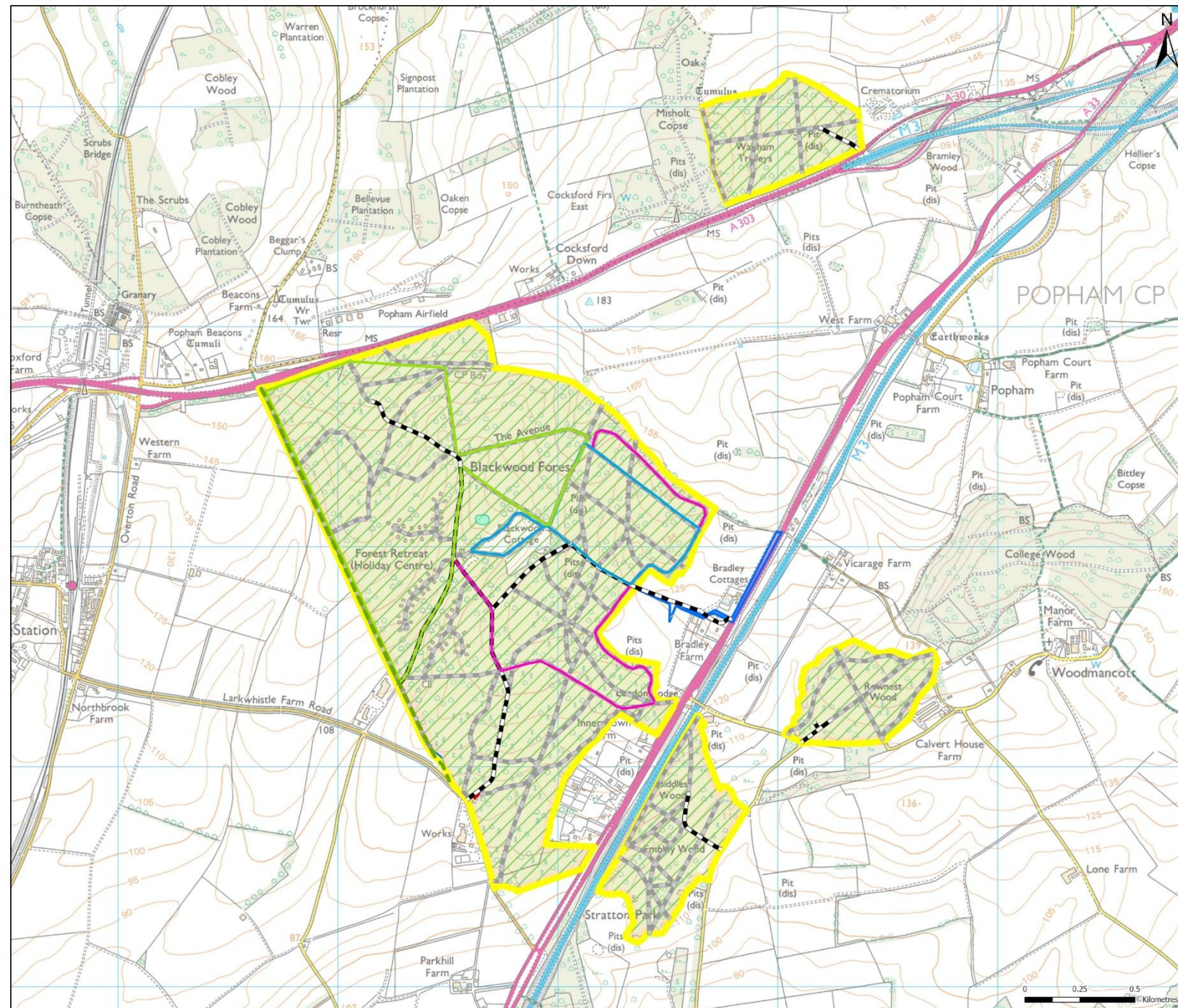
- Other/Open land
- Managed Mixed Woodland (Non-AW)
- Managed Native Woodland
- Managed Open Habitat

Scale: 1:16,000 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)





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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Recreation & Access

Facilities available to the public to use and related recreational infrastructure.

Black Wood

Legend

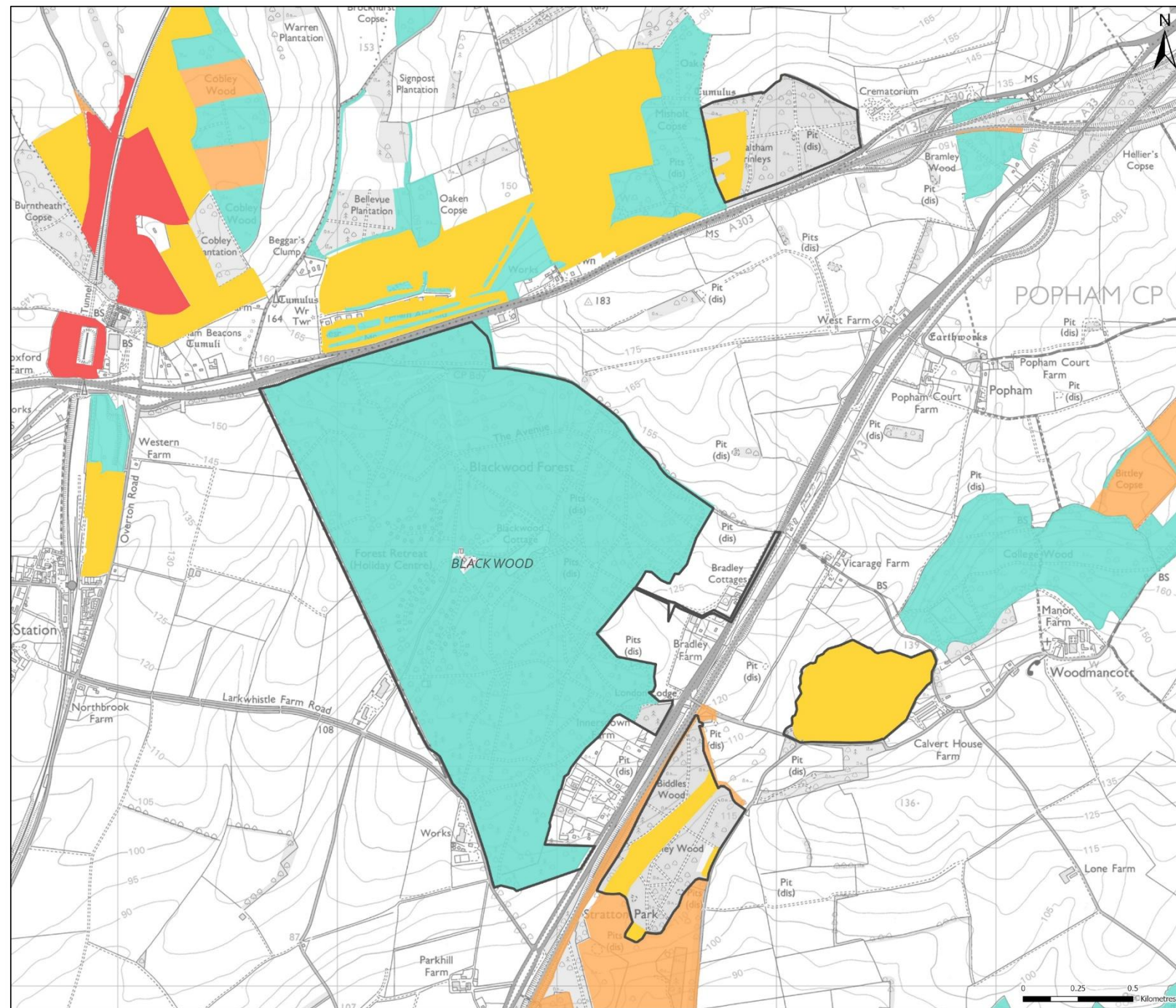
- Blocks
- Rides
- Forest Roads
- Public Rights of Way
- Car Parks
- Miscellaneous Areas
- Open Access Land**
- Open Access Land
- Walking Routes**
- Easy
- Moderate
- Cycling Routes**
- Easy
- Legal Status**
- Acquisition Freehold (A/FH)

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Designated Areas

Land designated as important conservation sites on Forestry England managed land.

Black Wood

Legend

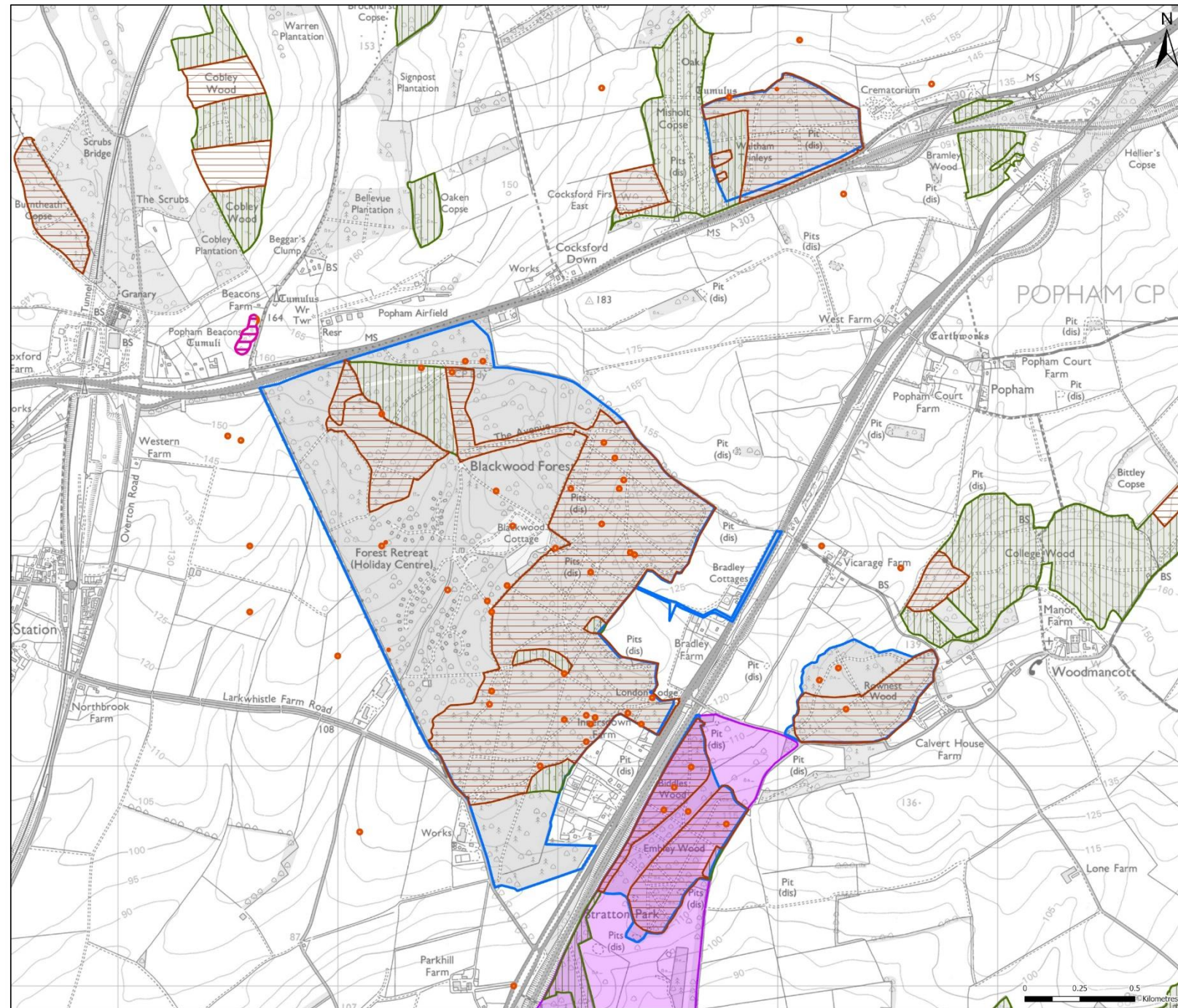
- Blocks
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
- Habitat Opportunity Areas (HOAs)
- Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB)

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

Black Wood

Legend

- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Designated Heritage
- Undesignated Heritage
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

Black Wood

Legend

Blocks

Open Water

Fuel_Hazard

Low Risk Conifer

Low Risk Mixed Woodland

Low Risk Broadleaf

Other/Open land

Buildings

Building Buffer

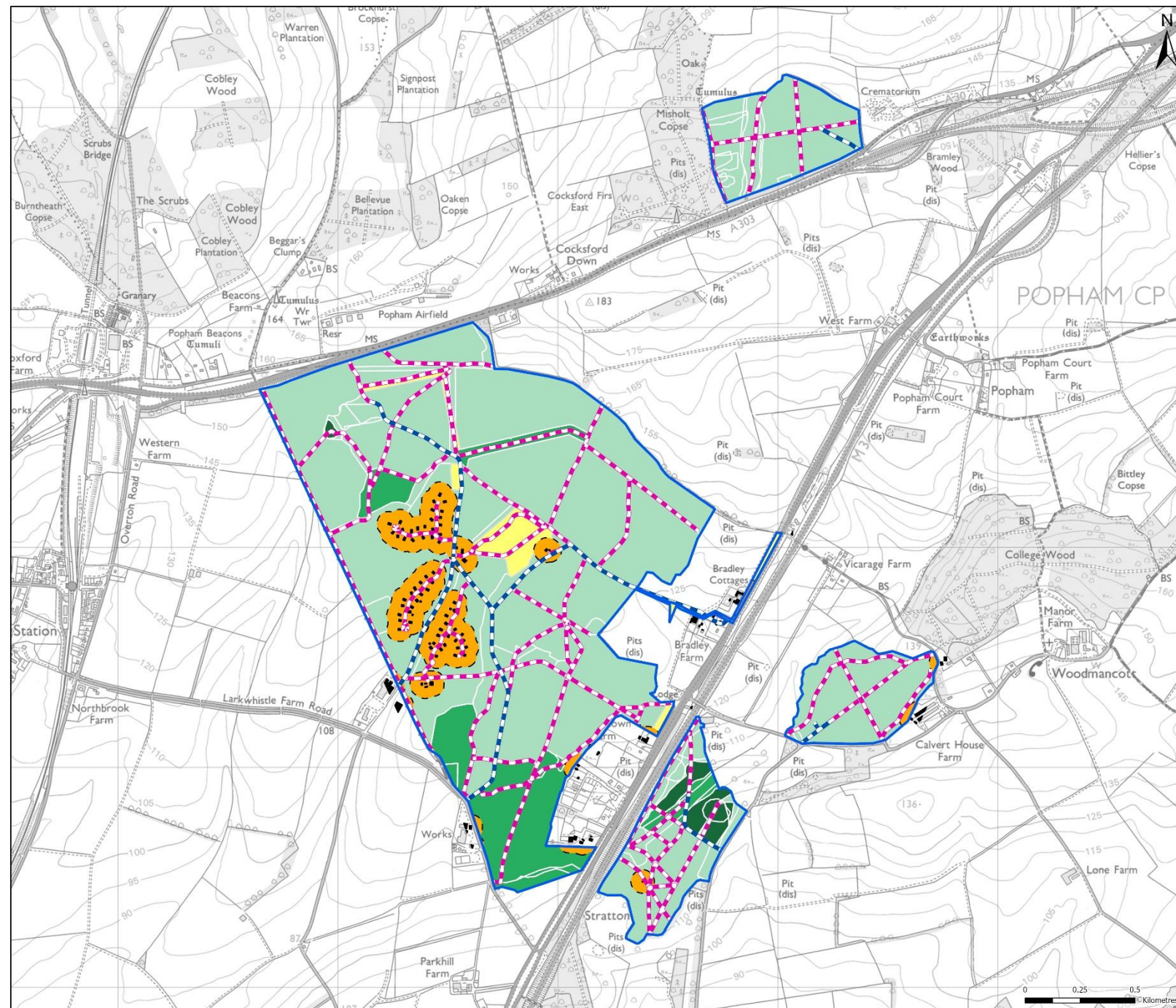
Fire Break

Fuel Break

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)

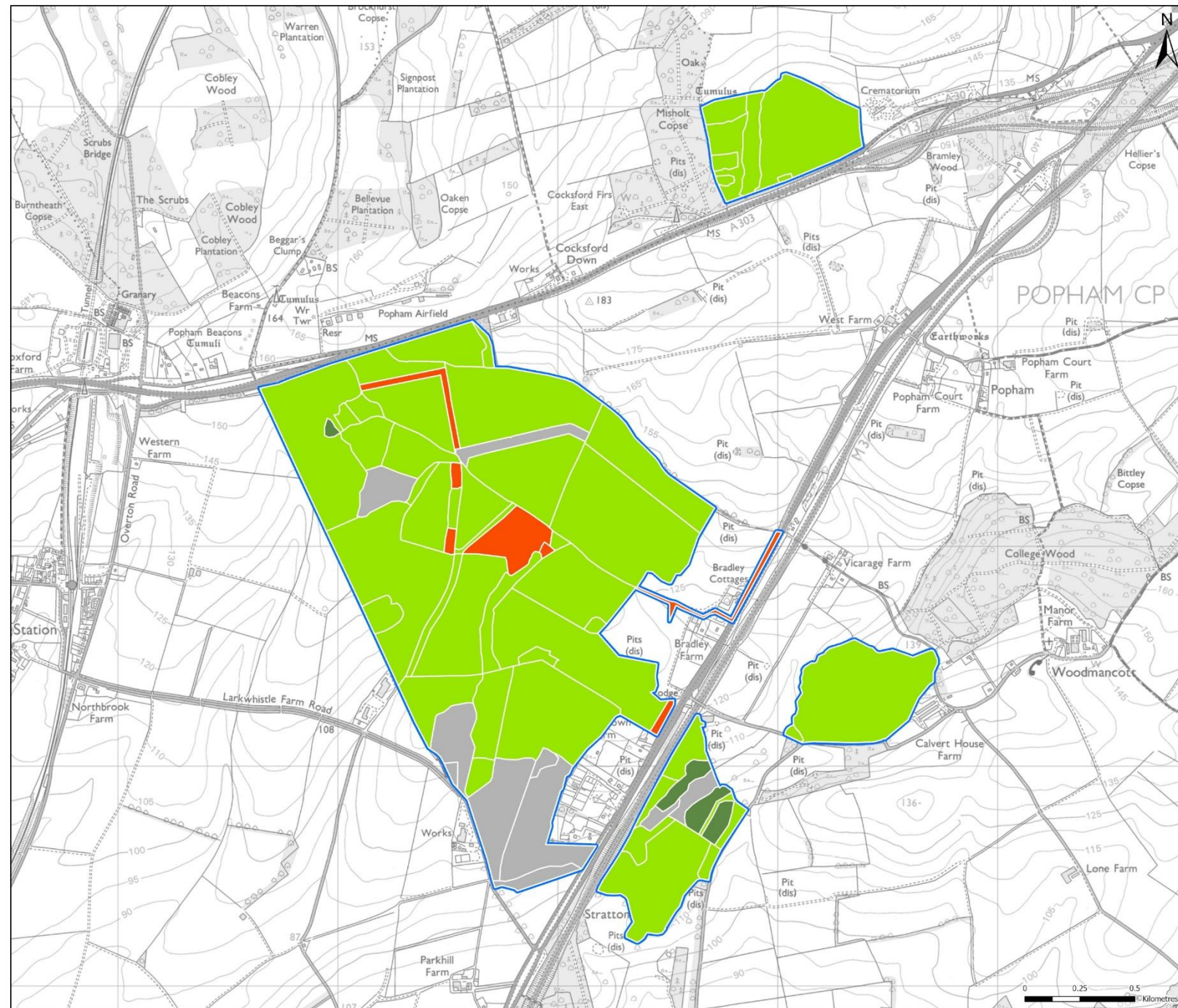


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

Black Wood

Legend

Blocks

Semi-Natural Score

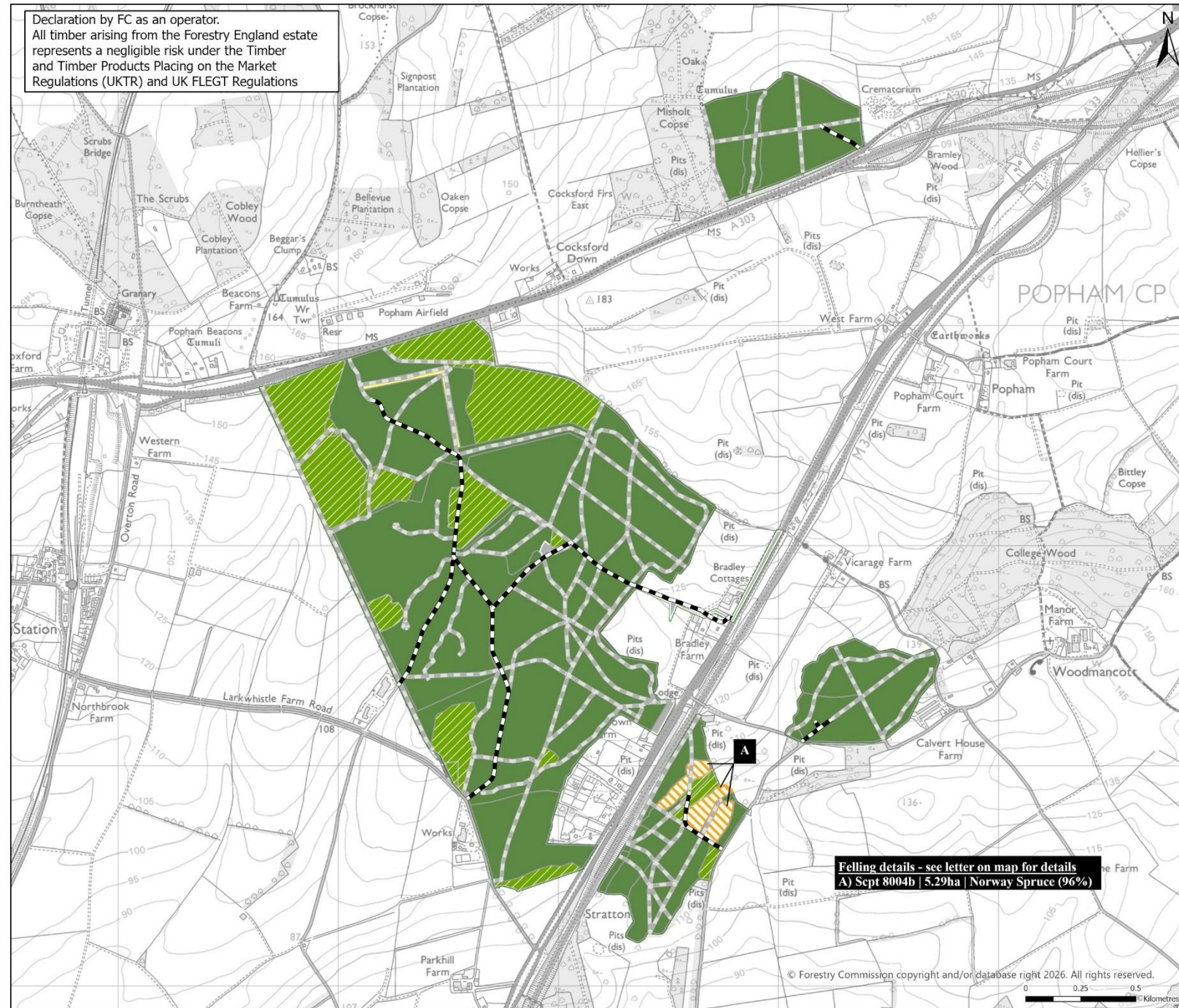
- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire
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Forest Plan



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

Black Wood

Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides

Management Type

- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Other/Open land

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)



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Design Concept

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

Black Wood

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

Other/Open land

Managed Mixed Woodland (Non-AW)

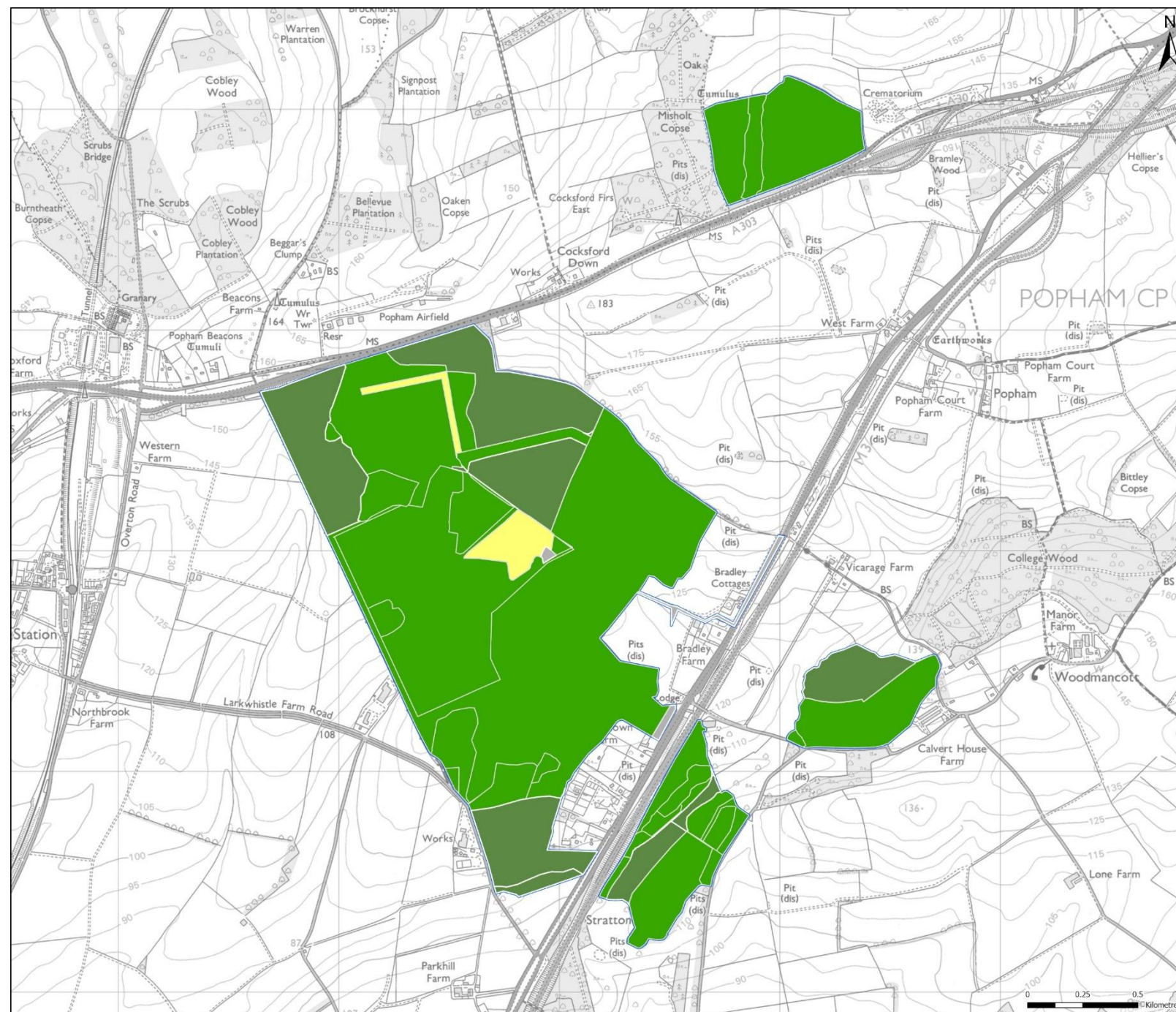
Managed Native Woodland

Managed Open Habitat

Scale: 1:16,500 (@ A3)

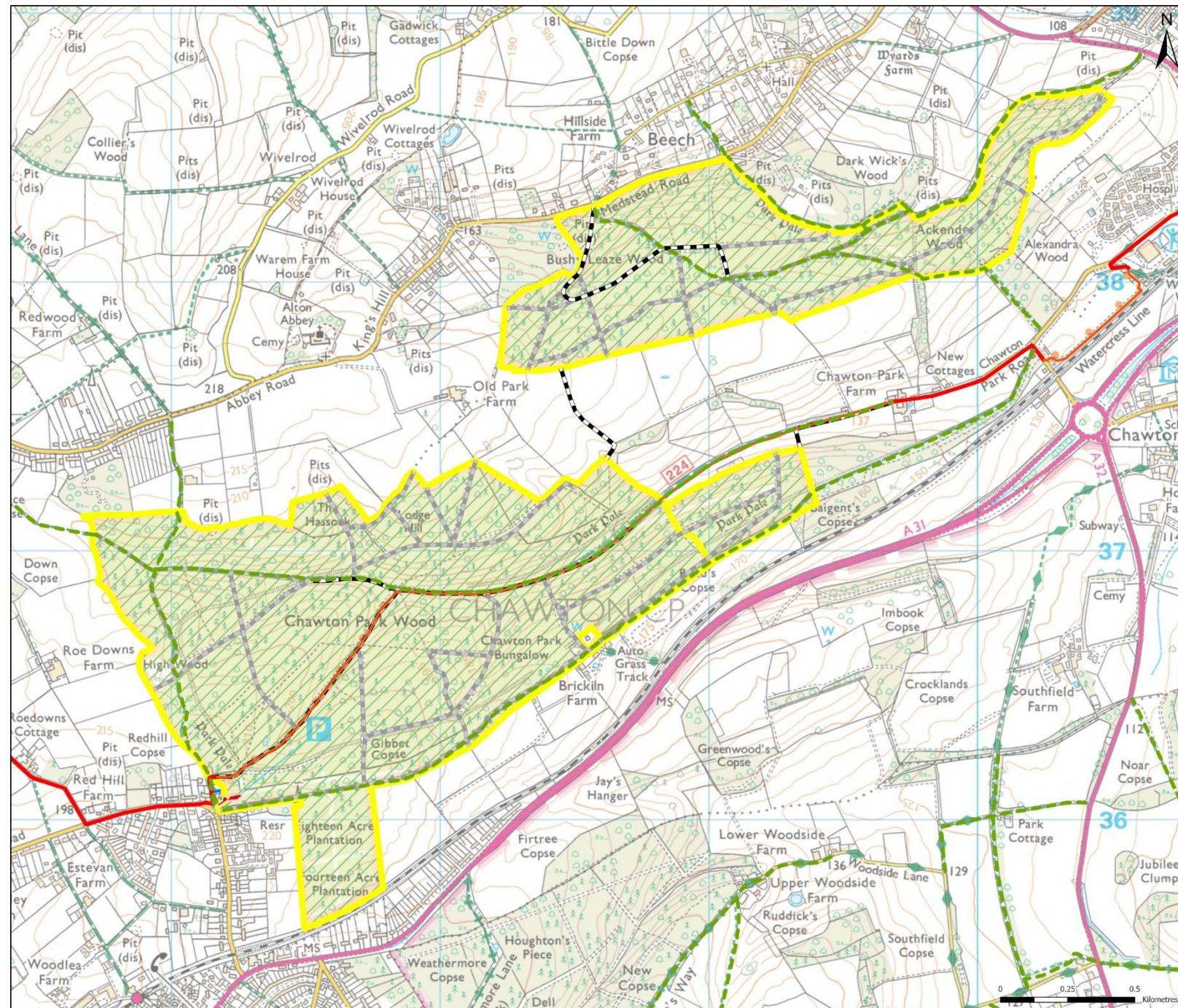


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Recreation & Access

Facilities available to the public to use and related recreational infrastructure.

Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze

Legend

- ▬ Blocks
- ▬ Rides
- ▬ Forest Roads
- ▬ Public Rights of Way
- ▬ Car Parks

Open Access Land

- ▬ Open Access Land

Sustrans National Cycle Network

- ▬ Traffic-free route
- ▬ On-road route

Legal Status

- ▬ Acquisition Freehold (A/FH)

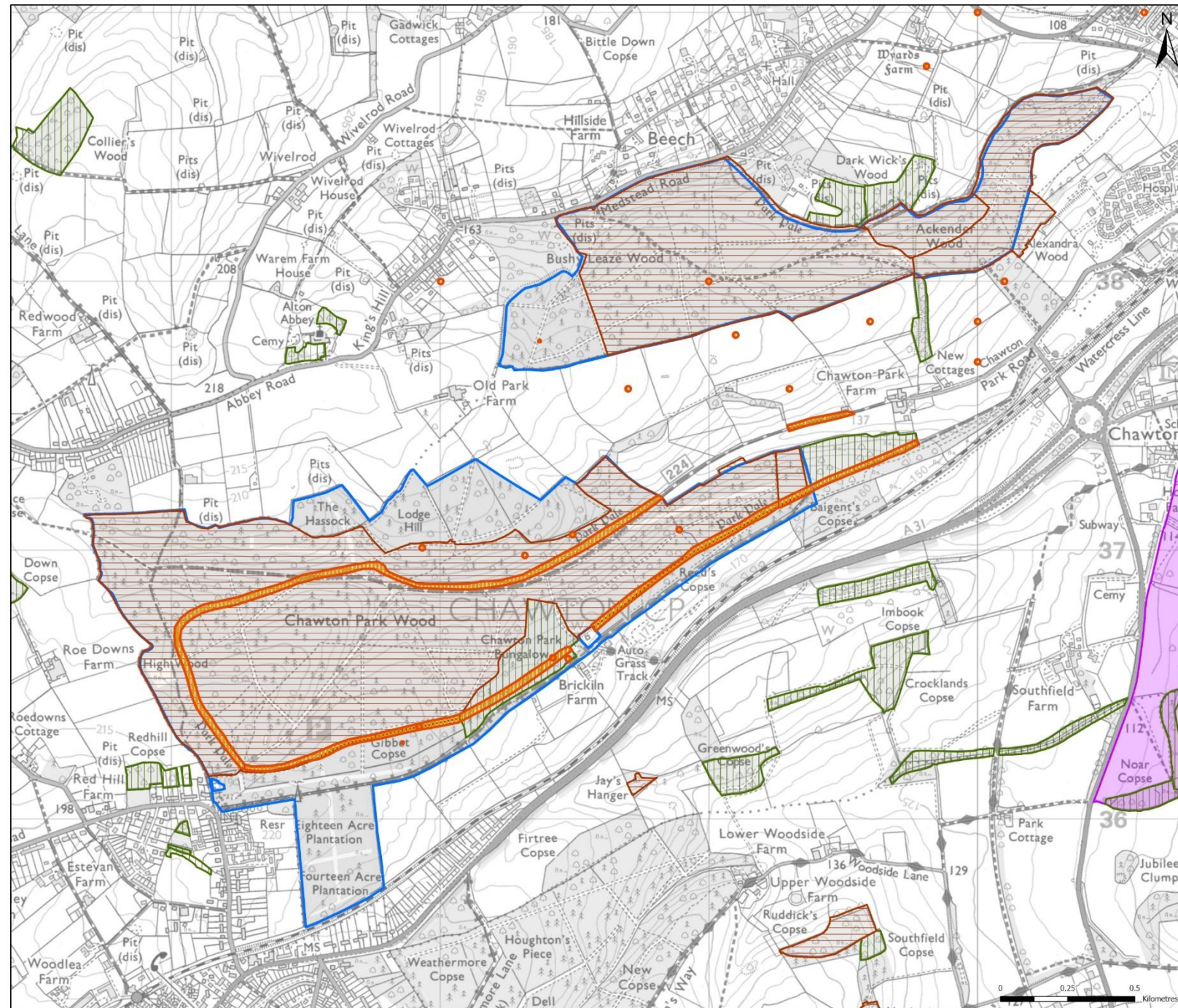
Scale: 1:13,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze

Legend

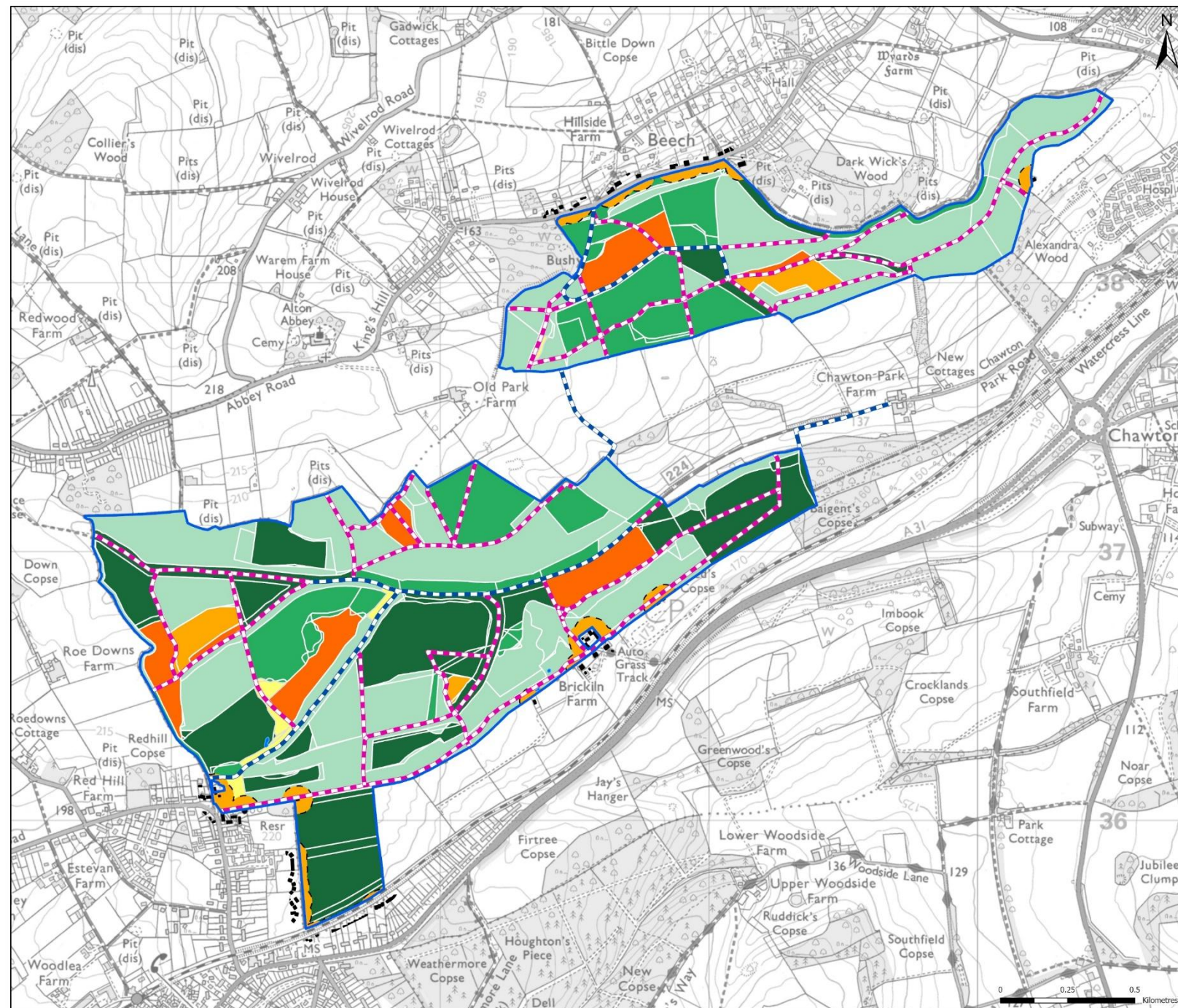
- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Undesignated Heritage
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Scale: 1:13,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze

Legend

- Fire Break
- Fuel Break
- Blocks
- Open Water

Fuel_Hazard

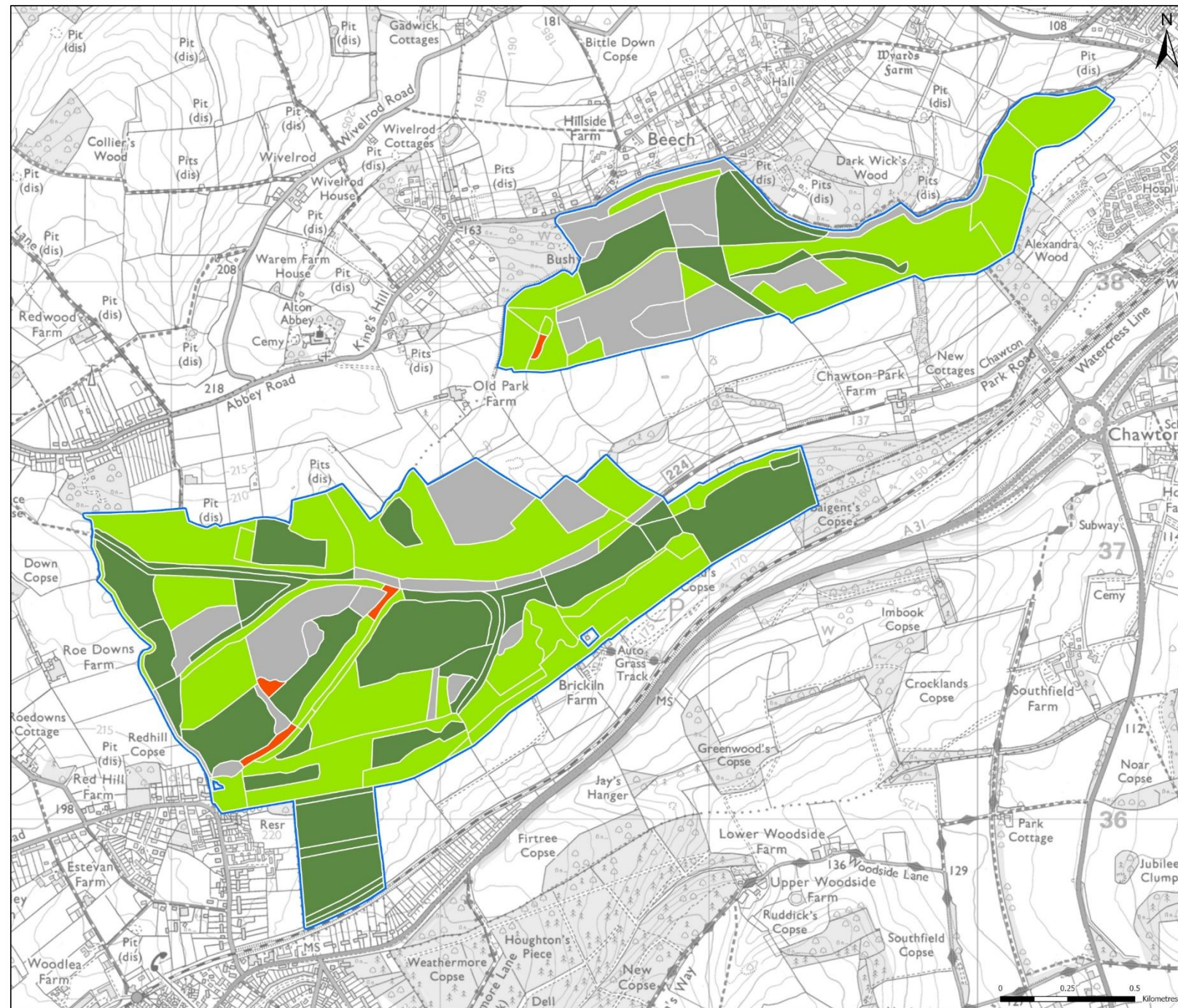
- Low Risk Conifer
- Low Risk Mixed Woodland
- Low Risk Broadleaf
- Medium Risk Conifer
- Medium Risk Mixed Woodland
- Other/Open land
- Buildings
- Building Buffer

Scale: 1:13,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze

Legend

Blocks

Semi-Natural Score

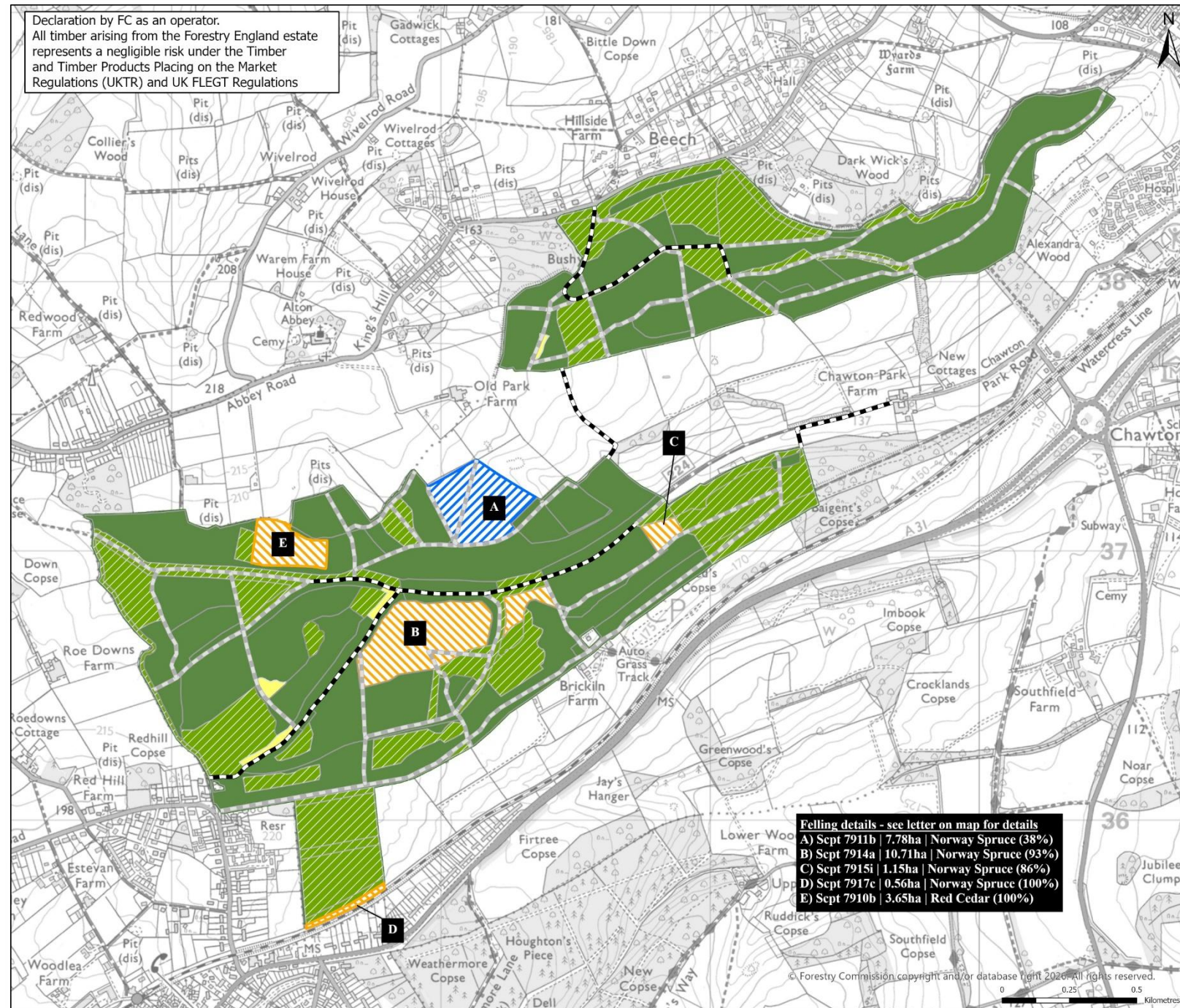
- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:13,500 (@ A3)



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**Hampshire
Downs
Forest Plan**



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze

Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides

Management Type

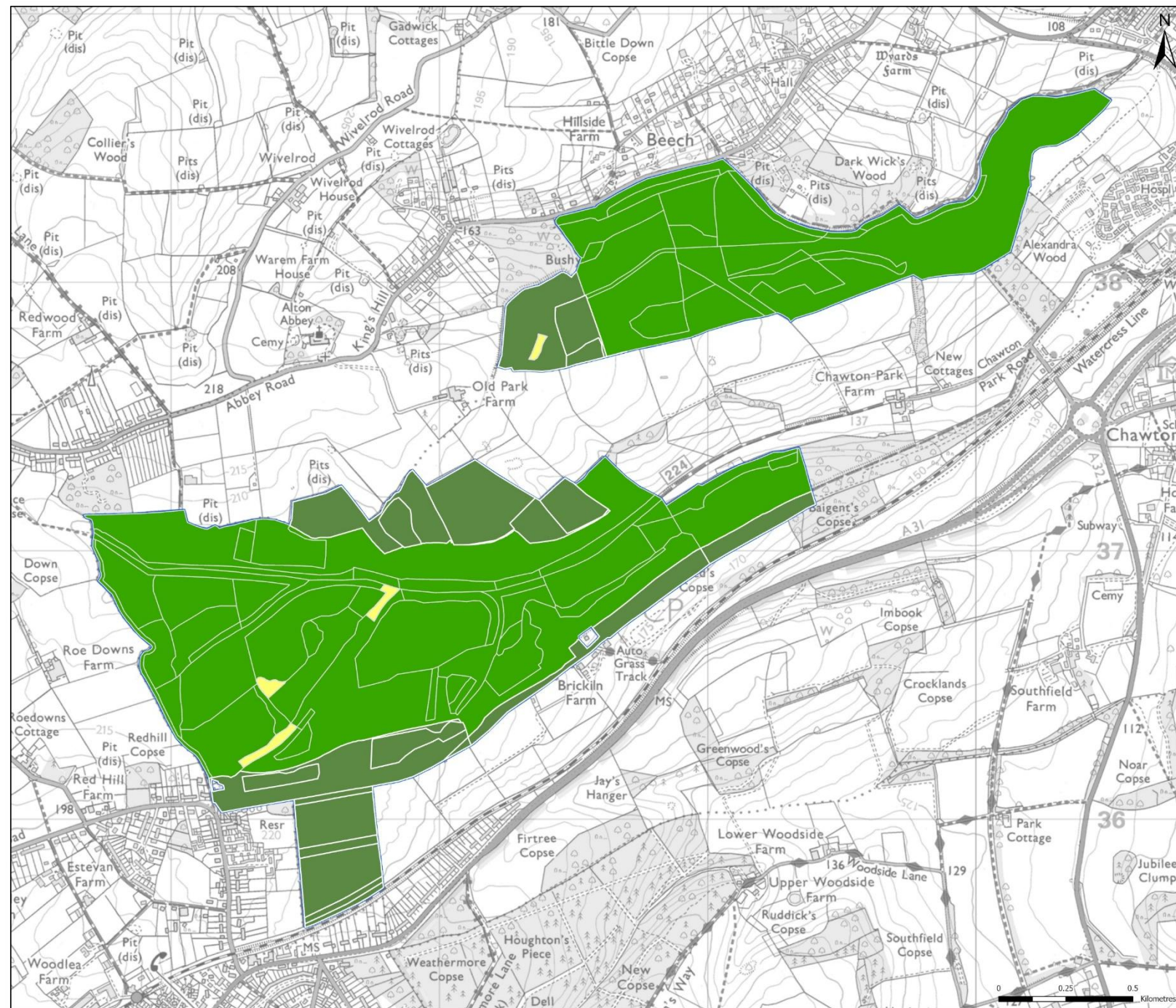
- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Other/Open land

Scale: 1:13,500 (@ A3)



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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Design Concept

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

Chawton Park & Bushey Leaze

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

- Managed Mixed Woodland (Non-AW)
- Managed Native Woodland
- Managed Open Habitat

Scale: 1:13,500 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)





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**Hampshire
Downs
Forest Plan**



Recreation & Access

Facilities available to the public to use and related recreational infrastructure.

Weston Common

Legend

- Blocks
- Rides
- Forest Roads
- Public Rights of Way

Legal Status

- Acquisition Freehold (A/FH)

Scale: 1:6,500 (@ A3)



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forests and woodlands
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accordance with the UK
Woodland Assurance
Standard (UKWAS)



Designated Areas

Land designated as important conservation sites on Forestry England managed land.

Weston Common

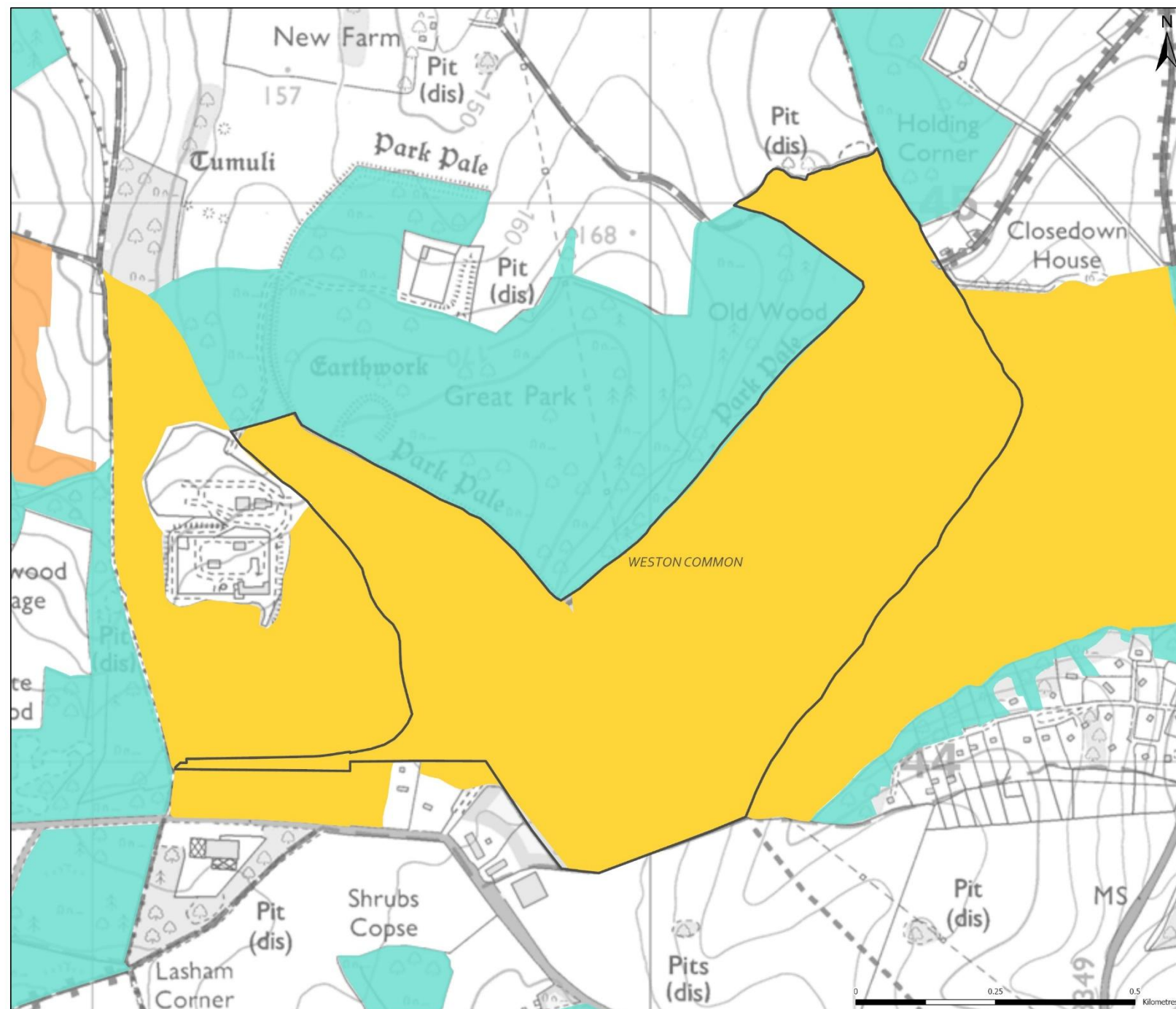
Legend

-  Blocks
-  Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
-  Habitat Opportunity Areas (HOAs)
-  Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB)

Scale: 1:6,500 (@ A3)

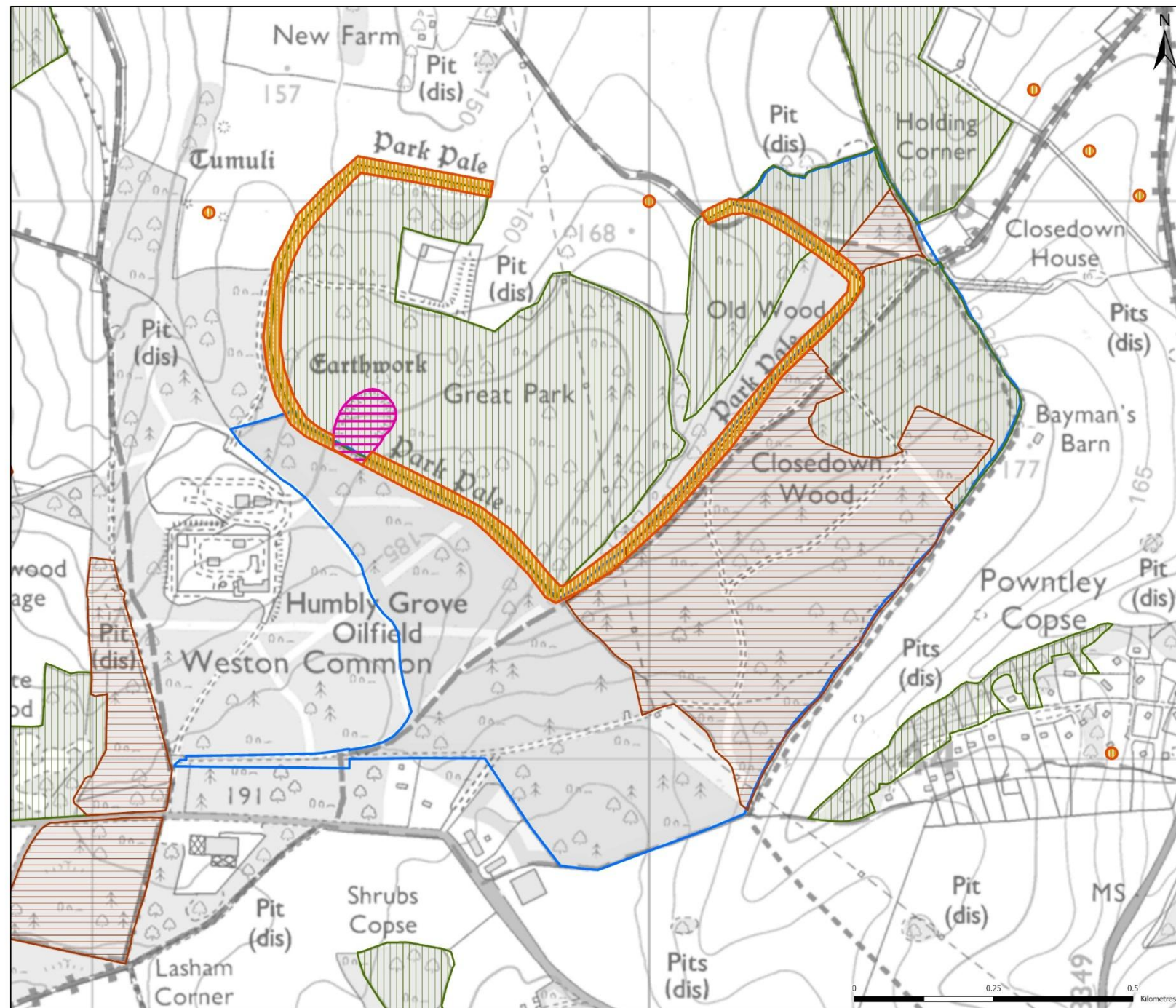


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Hampshire
Downs
Forest Plan



Ancient Woodland & Heritage

Ancient Woodland areas and Heritage features.

Weston Common

Legend

- Blocks
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Designated Heritage
- Undesignated Heritage

Scale: 1:6,500 (@ A3)



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Fire Risk

Illustrates the fire risk on sub-compartment level.

Weston Common

Legend

Fire Break

Fuel Break

Blocks

Fuel_Hazard

Low Risk Conifer

Low Risk Mixed Woodland

Low Risk Broadleaf

Medium Risk Conifer

Other/Open land

Buildings

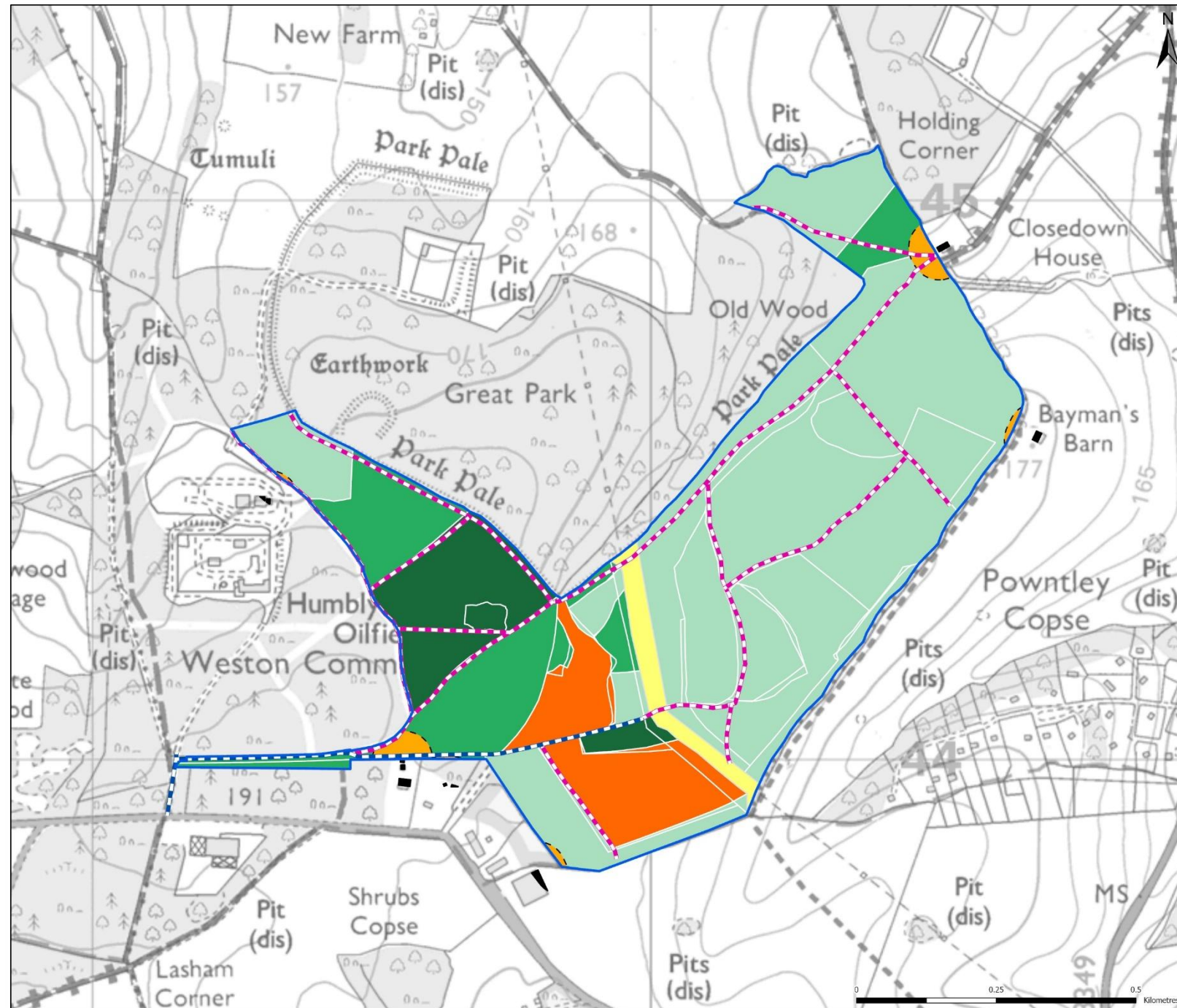
Building Buffer

Scale: 1:6,500

(@ A3)

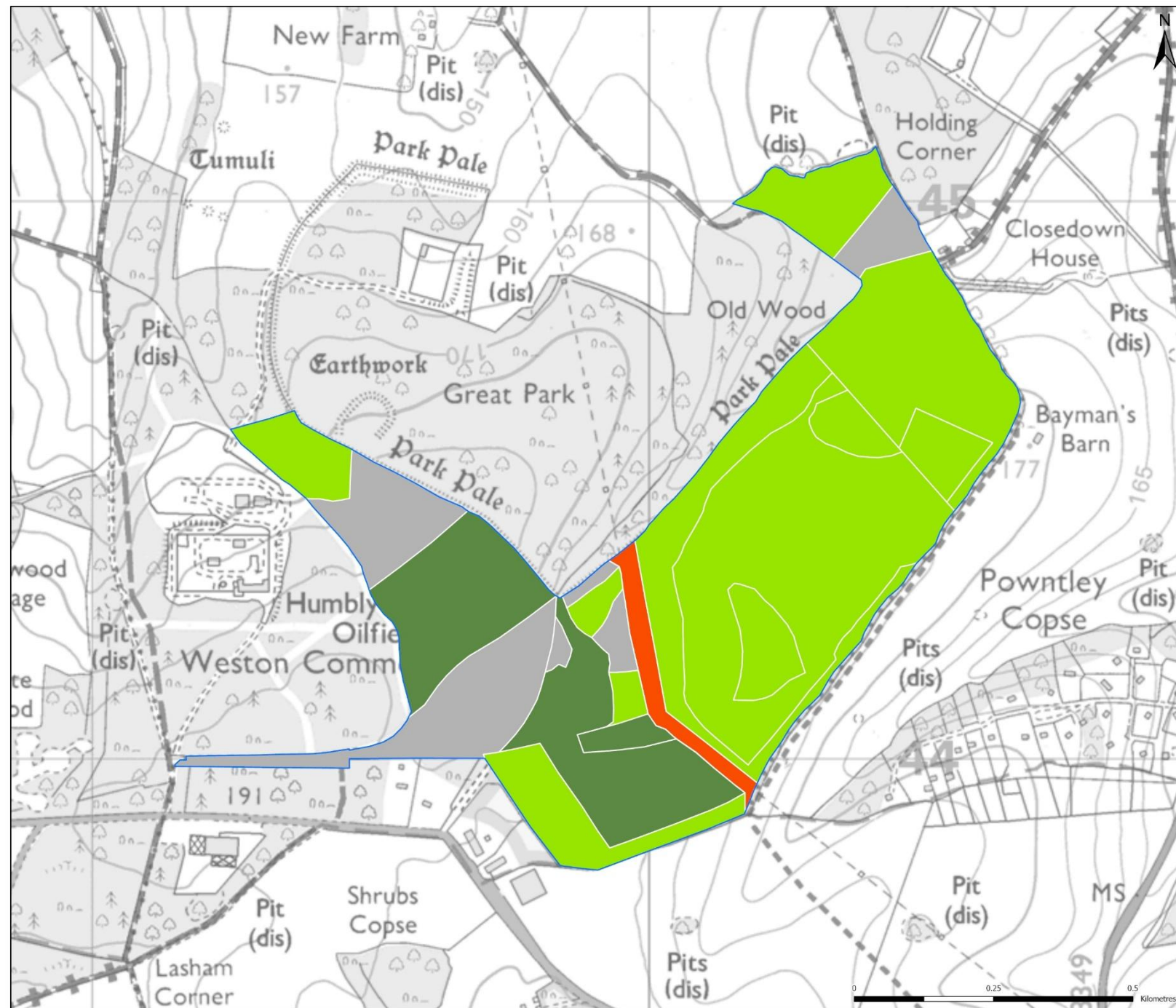


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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Current Structure

Current landscape structure depicted by habitat or woodland type.

Weston Common

Legend

Blocks

Semi-Natural Score

- Native & Honorary/Near Native
- Mixed Woodland
- Coniferous Woodland
- Open

Scale: 1:6,500 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



Declaration by FC as an operator.
All timber arising from the Forestry England estate represents a negligible risk under the Timber and Timber Products Placing on the Market Regulations (UKTR) and UK FLEGT Regulations

Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Felling & Habitat Management 2026 - 2035

Describes how, over the course of this 10 year plan, we will manage the forest to advance towards the long term vision.

Weston Common

Legend

- Blocks
- Roads
- Rides

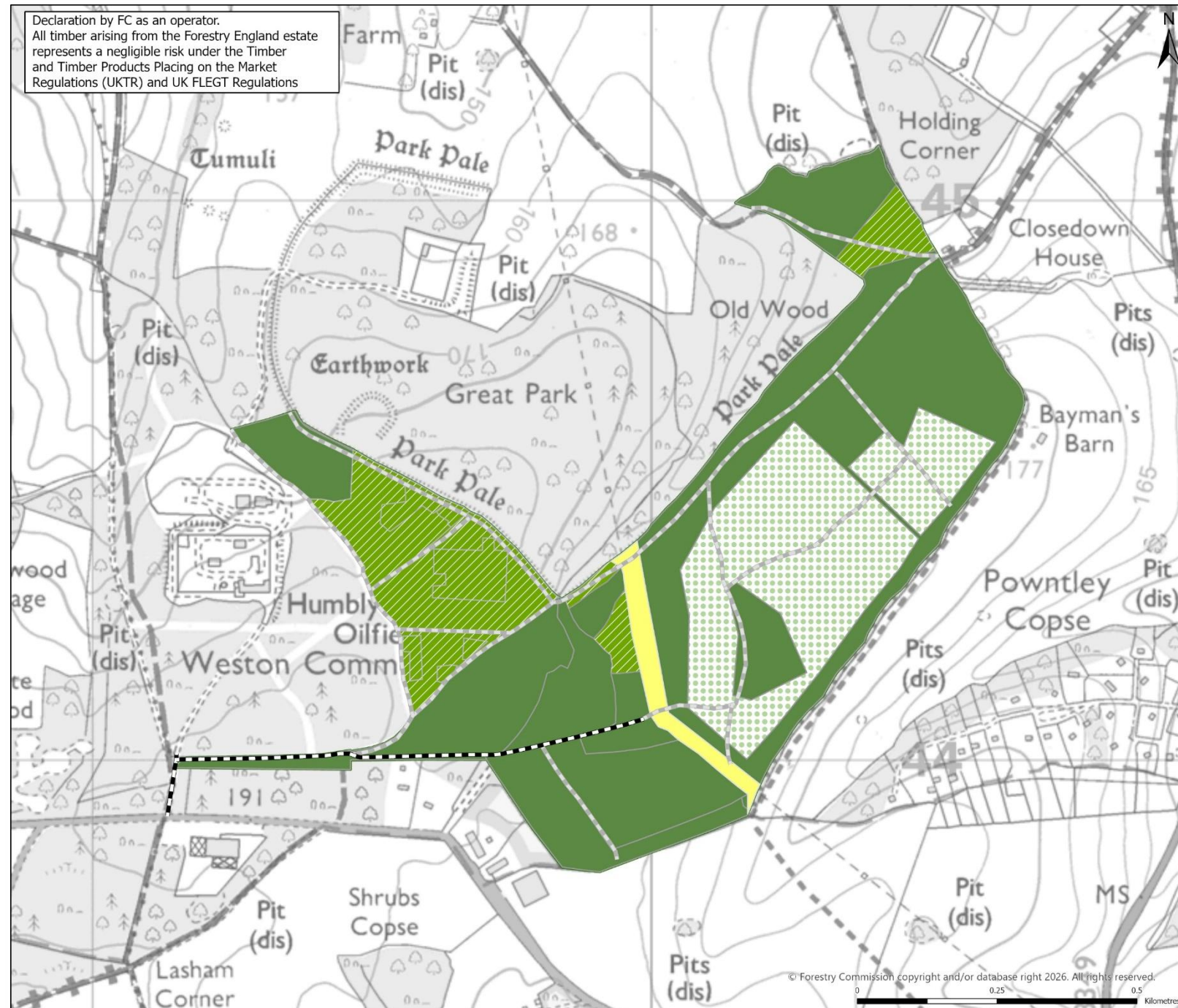
Management Type

- Arboreta
- Clearfell 2026-2030
- Clearfell 2031-2035
- Forest Experiment Site
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- LISS Regeneration Felling
- Managed Open Habitat
- Minimum Intervention
- Coppice
- Other/Open land

Scale: 1:6,500 (@ A3)



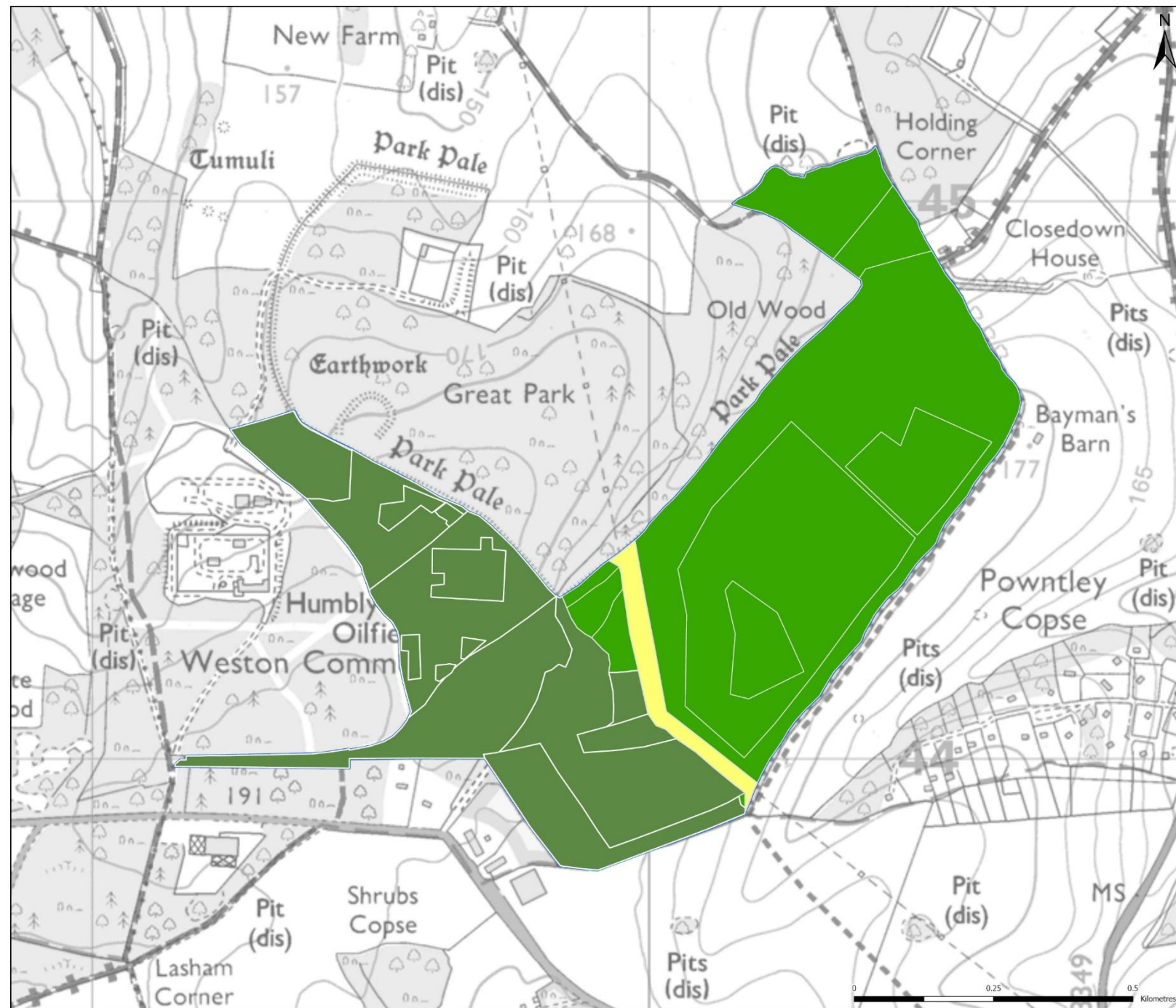
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Date: 22/07/2026



Date: 22/07/2026

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Hampshire Downs Forest Plan



Design Concept

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

Weston Common

Legend

Blocks

Management Objectives

- Managed Mixed Woodland (Non-AW)
- Managed Native Woodland
- Managed Open Habitat

Scale: 1:6,500 (@ A3)



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)





15. Glossary

Ancient Woodland

Areas of semi-natural native woodland that have had continuous woodland cover since at least 1600. They are particularly rich in biodiversity and this is often notable in their characteristic ground flora.

Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*)

Ash dieback (also known as Chalara ash dieback) is a highly destructive fungus killing native ash trees across the UK. Young and coppiced trees will die quickly once infected, more mature ash may survive for a number of years once infected. Causes the timber to lose strength, become brittle and trees to start dropping limbs.

Aspect

The direction a slope faces. This can have a strong influence on the microclimate, ground vegetation, soils and hydrology.

Canopy

The mass of foliage and branches formed collectively by the crowns of trees. The shade it casts has a strong influence on the plants, trees and shrubs beneath it.

Clearfelling

Cutting down of an area of woodland (if it is within a larger area of woodland, it is typically a felling greater than 0.25 ha). A scatter or small clumps of trees may be left standing within the felled area.

Coppice

Coppicing is silvicultural system based on regeneration by regrowth from cut stumps (coppice stools). The same stool is used through several cycles of cutting and regrowth. Coppice can also refer to an area of woodland in which the trees or shrubs are periodically cut back to ground level to stimulate growth and provide wood products. 'Coppice with standards' refers to

coppice with a scatter of trees grown on a long rotation to produce larger-sized timber and to regenerate new seedlings to replace worn out stools.

Coupes

Areas of forest that have been or will be managed together.

Dothistroma Needle Blight (DNB)

DNB is a fungal disease affecting mainly pine species. The fungus affects the needles of the infected tree, which are eventually shed. This can continue year on year and gradually weaken the tree, significantly reducing timber yields. It can also eventually lead to mortality.

Ecosystem Services

Ecosystem services are the goods and services that people depend on that arise from ecosystems. They are usually categorised into Provisioning (eg: timber, water, food production), Regulating (eg: regulation of climate and diseases), Cultural (eg: recreational opportunities, aesthetic value) and Supporting services that underpin these (eg: crop pollination).

Ecosystem

An ecosystem is an interconnected network formed of all the living things in a given area (plants, animals and organisms) and their interactions with each other and their non-living environments (eg: weather, earth, sun, soil & climate).

Forest Plan (FP)

A FP is primarily a landscape-scale felling and restocking plan. It provides a holistic, long-term approach to planning and forest design, detailing felling operations over a 10 year period for the purposes of licencing felling and outlining proposals over the next

50 years. FPs are reviewed every 5 years and redrawn and approved every 10 years.

Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)

An internationally recognised body made up of non-government organisations promoting sustainable forest management to the forest industry and consumers.

Forestry England

Forestry England is the executive agency of the Forestry Commission that is responsible for managing the Nation's Forests in England.

Group Selection

A method of managing irregular stands in which regeneration is achieved by felling trees in small groups. Group selection involves felling groups of trees (generally <0.25 ha per group)

Historic Environment

The physical remains of every period of human development starting from 450,000 years ago and including earthworks, buried remains, structures and buildings.

Ips typographus (larger eight-toothed European spruce bark beetle)

Although the beetle prefers stressed or weakened trees, under the right environmental conditions its numbers can increase enough to result in attacks on healthy trees. If left uncontrolled, the beetle could cause significant damage to the United Kingdom's spruce-based forestry and timber industries.



15. Glossary (cont.)

Landscape Character

England is renowned for its rich, diverse and beautiful landscapes which have their own distinct local characters. These have been shaped over many thousands of years by natural influences such as soil and landform and by generations of human activity.

Long Term Retention

Individual, stable stands and clumps of trees retained for environmental benefit significantly beyond their normal economic age or size.

Low Impact Silviculture Systems (LISS)

Silvicultural systems including group selection, shelterwood or under-planting, small coupe felling, coppice or coppice with standards, minimum intervention and single tree selection systems. LISS are generally compatible with windfirm conifer woodlands and most broadleaved woodlands.

Minimum intervention

Management with no systematic felling or planting of trees. Operations normally accepted are fencing, control of non-native plant species and pests, maintenance of paths and rides and safety work.

National Character Area (NCA)

Broad divisions of landscape form the basic units of cohesive countryside character, on which strategies for both ecological and landscape issues can be based. There are 159 Character Areas, each of which is distinctive with a unique 'sense of place'.

National Nature Reserve (NNR)

NNRs were established to protect some of our most important habitats, species and geology, and to provide 'outdoor laboratories' for research. Most NNRs offer opportunities to the public to experience wildlife first hand and learn more about nature conservation.

Native

Native tree species colonised Britain without human assistance at the end of the last ice age, before the English Channel cut Britain off from mainland Europe.

Natural Regeneration

The growth of new trees from seed found in the soil or cast from adjacent trees. Regeneration only occurs where suitable seed sources and conditions are present.

Natural Reserve

Natural Reserves are areas which are predominantly wooded, usually mature and intended to reach biological maturity. They are permanently identified and in locations which are of particularly high wildlife interest or potential. They are managed by minimum intervention unless alternative interventions have higher conservation or biodiversity value.

Open Space

Areas within a forest without trees, such as glades, stream sides, grass or heathland, water bodies, rocky areas, roads and rides.

Operational Plans

Detailed site plans prepared in advance of all major forest operations providing guidance to Forestry England staff and contractors. They identify site constraints, opportunities and areas requiring special treatment or protection.

Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)

Ancient Woodland areas where semi-natural woodland has been cleared and replaced by plantation, often including non-native species. PAWS can include both broadleaved and conifer woods and often retain remnant ancient woodland features like species-rich

ground flora or undisturbed soils. Also known as Ancient Replanted Woodland.

Pollarding

A form of pruning where the upper branches of a tree are removed, promoting a dense head of foliage and branches. Cutting is usually around 2.4 metres above ground – the height that wild animals or domesticated stock could not reach. Traditionally, trees were pollarded for fodder or for wood. Fodder pollards are generally pruned every two to six years, wood pollards at longer intervals, usually of eight to 15 years, to produce upright poles for eg: fence rails and posts.

Production Forecast

The projected volume of biomass that the forest will produce each year. Calculations are based on species, age, net area and yield class.

Public Rights of Way (PROW)

Access routes open to the public through legal designation. These include footpaths, by-ways and bridleways.

Regeneration Felling

Where individual trees of varying sizes are selected and removed from a stand. The whole stand is worked and the aim is to maintain full stocking of all tree sizes and ages, from seedlings to mature trees, in any one area.

Respacing

Thinning of dense natural regeneration at a young age (generally when trees are 2-5m tall) to produce a more consistent crop, focus available resources on the remaining trees and promote good development.



15. Glossary (cont.)

Restocking

The establishment of trees where felling has taken place. Restocking may be achieved through natural regeneration, but it is more usually associated with replanting.

Ride

Forestry term for unsurfaced roads, paths and tracks within a woodland which provide access for management and other activities.

Scheduled Monument

A scheduled monument is a site that is legally protected because of its historical importance.

Semi-natural woodland

Those woodlands which are comprised mainly of locally native trees and shrubs, and have some structural characteristics of natural woodland.

Shelterwood

The shelterwood system involves the felling of a proportion of the mature trees within an area whilst leaving some trees as a seed source and shelter for natural regeneration. The seed trees are subsequently removed. Note that the term 'seed tree system' is often used to describe 'shelterwoods' with densities of <50 retained mature trees per hectare.

The spatial arrangement of the retained trees can be uniform, in groups, or in strips, so giving rise to the name of different shelterwood systems. The removal of the seed trees can involve several felling operations.

Silvicultural Systems

Silviculture is the process of tending, harvesting and regenerating a forest. Different patterns of felling and regeneration form distinct 'silvicultural systems'.

Different systems may be suitable for different management objectives (eg: conservation in an ancient woodland vs timber production in a conifer plantation).

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

A SSSI is a formal conservation designation. Usually, it describes an area that is of particular interest to science due to the rare species of fauna or flora it contains - or even important geological or physiographical features that may lie in its boundaries.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

SACs are protected areas in the UK designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales. These areas form an internationally important network of high-quality conservation sites that make a significant contribution to conserving Annex I and Annex II habitats and species.

Strategic Plan

Forestry England's guide to the management of woodlands within Forest Districts. It divides the district into zones for the purpose of management and ensures forestry activities reflect the local ecological, social and cultural individuality of each woodland.

Sub-compartments

Areas of forest that form a homogeneous crop in terms of age, species composition and condition. They may be split across several locations and their boundaries may change as the forest develops after felling and restocking.

The nation's forests

The woodlands managed by Forestry England. This includes both freehold and leasehold land, previously referred to as the Public Forest Estate.

Thinning

The removal of a proportion of trees in a forest after canopy closure, usually to promote growth and greater value in the remaining trees.

UK Forestry Standard (UKFS)

Outlines the Government's criteria and standards for the sustainable management of forests in the UK.

UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)

A voluntary scheme for the independent assessment of sustainable forest management in the UK. The Scheme has been developed by a partnership of forestry and environmental organisations in response to growing consumer demand for timber products from sustainably managed forests.



Forest recreation boosts health, reduces stress, and improves overall well-being through nature.



16. References

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Appendix 1: UKWAS Compliance Table

	Forest Plan Area	Forest Plan Percentage	Forest District Area	Forest District Percentage
Total area	1,764 ha	100%	47,565 ha	3.7%
Total Wooded area	1,757 ha	99.6%	28,280 ha	6.2%
Natural Reserves (Plantation)	0 ha	0%	286 ha	0%
Natural Reserves (Semi-Natural)	0 ha	0%	2,959 ha	0%
Long-term Retentions and Low Impact Silvicultural Systems	1,624 ha	92%	21,264 ha	7.6%
Area of conservation value including:				
· Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland				
· Planted Ancient Woodland Sites				
· Natural Reserves	1,736 ha	98.4%	26,404 ha	6.6%
· Long-Term Retentions				
· Low Impact Silvicultural Systems				
· Sites of Special Scientific Interest				



Appendix 2: Tolerance Table

	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 ¹ of the UKFS adjacency rules	Thinning to selective felling or clear felling LISS where > 60% of standing tree volume is to be removed	Clearance of >1 Ha or 10% of the area (whichever is less) in sensitive ² 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 team³	Between 10-25% of the coupe area	Where changes to the felling sequence is likely to result in a minor breach ⁴ of the UKFS adjacency rules	LISS where between 40% and 60% of standing tree volume is to be removed		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> required⁵	< 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 LISS where < 40% of standing tree volume is to be removed	Clearance of <1 Ha or 10% of the area (whichever is greater) in sensitive ² 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%

¹Greater than 20% of the coupe boundary

²Definition of sensitive areas is as per the EIA guidance

³Approval letter retained for compliance inspection purposes

⁴20% or less of the coupe boundary

⁵District team must retain all relevant documentation for compliance inspections



Appendix 3: Monitoring and measurement of success

Objective	Monitoring
Promote species, habitat, and functional diversity by: - Continuing to restore Planted Ancient Woodland Sites towards native and honorary/near native broadleaves. - Taking opportunities to manage open space and ride-edge habitats for the benefit of wildlife. - Maintain and improve functioning forest soils that drive nutrient and water cycling by: - Moving towards the use of Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS) in suitable stands. - Take opportunities to promote soil enhancing species such as birch, hornbeam, and small-leaved lime. - Look for habitat enhancement opportunities for key species groups such as lepidoptera or bats. - Ampfield, Windmills and West Wood are priority sites for habitat management and species recovery under the Butterfly Conservation and Forestry Commission strategy. Seek to enhance biodiversity across Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). - Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) populations to be monitored and managed to minimise impacts on butterflies and other ecological features.	- Review Operational Site Assessments (OSAs) at years 5 and 10 to assess what opportunities have been taken to move towards PAWs restoration and carry out ride/open space management, promote soil enhancing species and carry out habitat enhancement. - Looking at summaries of species and age distribution from SCDB exports at year 10. - Where possible monitor: - Butterfly species richness and abundance. - Bat activity index. - OPM nest numbers and extent. - Number of priority species recorded annually
Develop economic (timber supply) and environmental resilience against climate change and disease impacts by: - Increasing the species and age diversity of the woodland through forest management operations. - Where possible use a combination of natural regeneration, planting trees from local provenances, and from suitable provenances matched with our likely future climate. - Actively manage and remove Norway spruce stands within the <i>Ips typographus</i> demarcation zone (DMA). - Diversify existing beech monocultures by introducing a mix of native and climate-resilient species, enhancing ecological stability and reducing vulnerability to pests, diseases, and climate-related stresses.	- Summaries of felling, species and age distribution at years 5 and 10 from our sub-compartment database. - Consult OSAs and Beat Team at years 5 and 10 to assess what opportunities have been taken to carry out PAWS restoration, heritage feature maintenance/improvement and ride/open space management, including the Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). - Assess opportunities that have been taken to move towards the use of LISS and promote soil enhancing species. - Review SCDB data and Operational Site Assessments (OSAs) to confirm removal or clearfell of Norway spruce components, ensuring alignment with the district's strategic plan for pest management.
In those woods that are accessible to the public: - Maintain the existing recreational capacity of the woodland. - Look for opportunities to develop recreational capacity and a high-quality visitor experience, while retaining woodland resilience. - Conserve features of natural and cultural heritage significance in Micheldever and Itchen Woods, Ampfield, West Wood and Embley Wood.	Consult OSAs and Beat Team at years 5 and 10 to assess what opportunities have been taken carry this out.



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