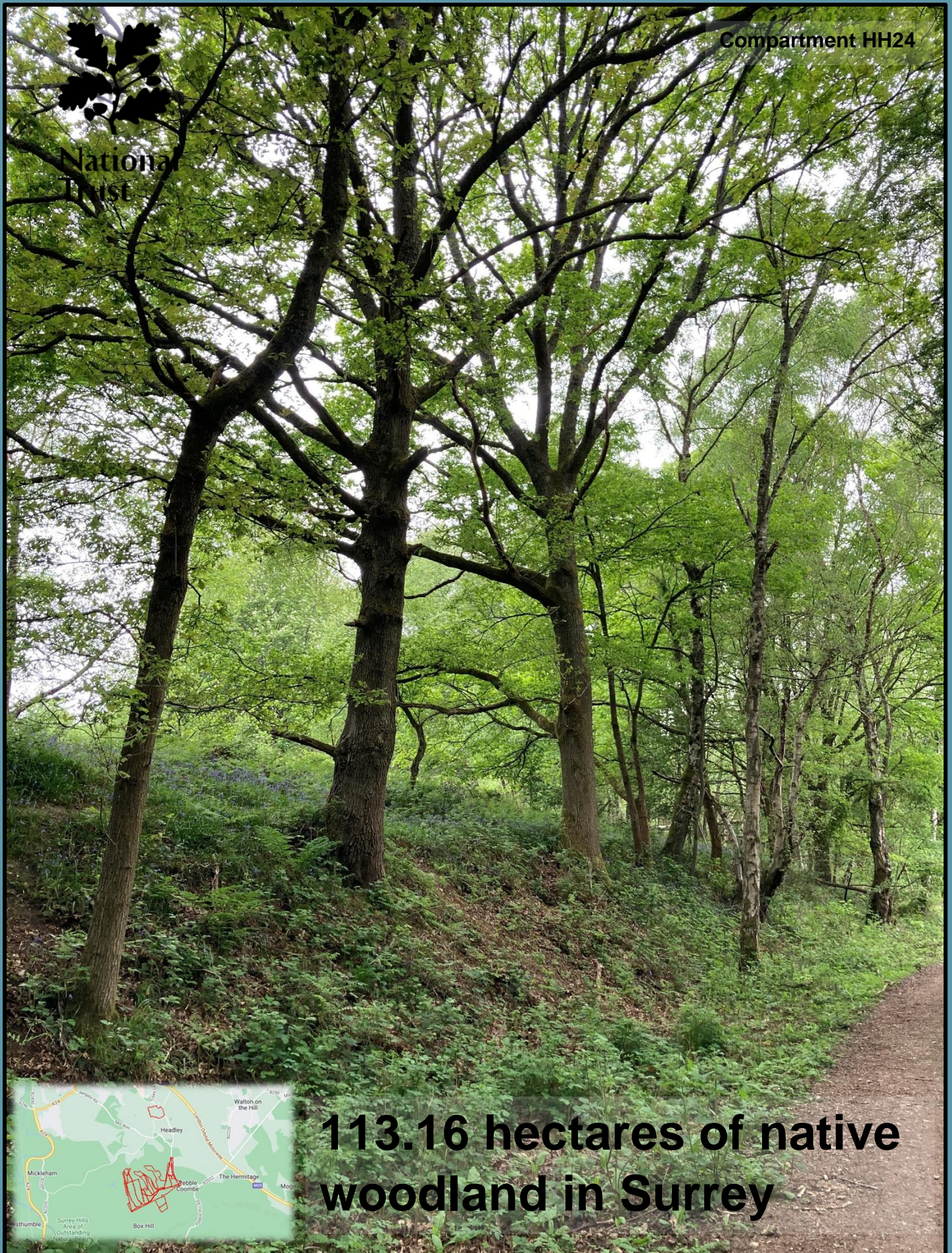


Headley Heath Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



Compartment HH24

National
Trust

**113.16 hectares of native
woodland in Surrey**

Habitats and Species

At Headley Heath there is an area of ancient deciduous woodland at Oyster Hill which conforms to the lowland mixed deciduous woodland Priority Habitat. This holds a large number of insects associated with dead wood and decay habitats recorded in the early 1990's including purple emperor and white admiral butterflies. There are older records of the birds, redstart, song thrush and wood warbler.

There are other areas of broad-leaved woodland, mainly of recent secondary origin but some older and conforming to lowland mixed deciduous woodland Priority Habitat. These are home to invertebrates including the Nationally Notable brown tree ant. Breeding birds include bullfinch and green woodpecker along with song thrush and marsh tit.

The site has a series of ponds with records of the Critically Endangered and Nationally Rare starfruit, legally protected great-crested newt, and Nationally Notable weevils associated with particular wetland plants.

Designations

Compartments HH2-33 sit within the Mole Gap to Reigate Escarpment SAC and SSSI

The woodlands at Headley Heath sit within the Surrey Hills AONB.

Compartment HH1 has been designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands (ASNW), this means it is a woodland that has existed continuously since or before 1600. In these compartments work will focus on maintaining and enhancing the health and diversity of the woodland habitat, protecting veteran trees, and management for health and safety.

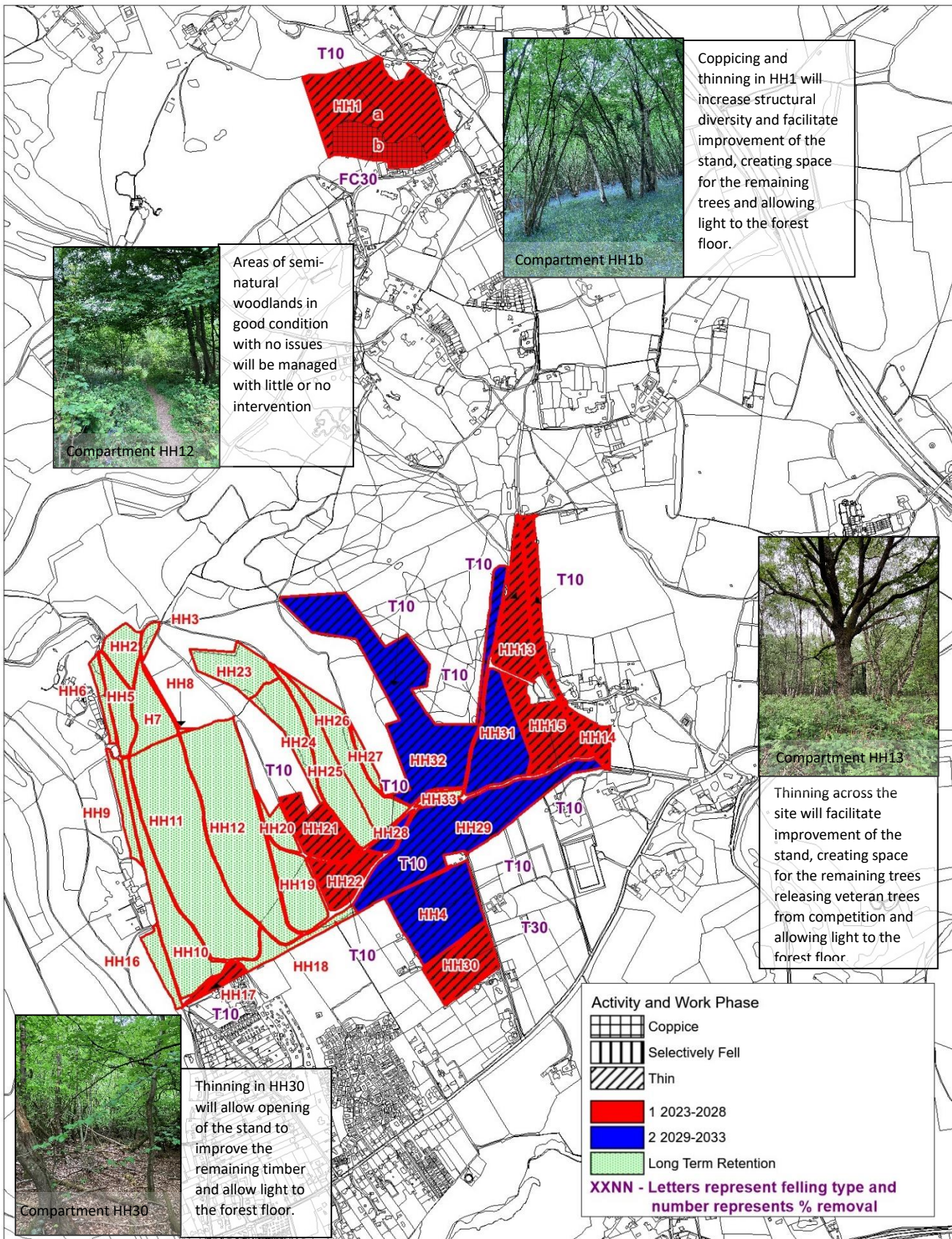
Management Approaches

Areas of semi-natural woodlands in good condition with no issues will be managed with little or no intervention

The importance of ancient and semi-natural woodland and veteran trees will be recognised due to their importance for wood decay and epiphyte communities. Veteran trees will be identified and protected from competition for light from adjacent trees through targeted thinning and selective felling. Thinning will also open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees.

Where thinning or selective felling takes place, regeneration will be achieved through natural processes where possible. This includes allowing natural regeneration from seed or management to encourage coppice regrowth. Some of the selective felling will be used to manage and maintain open rides through the woodland.

Coppicing will be used to maintain and enhance structural diversity



Surrey Hills Woodland Plan 2023-2043

Headley Heath Work Map 2023-2043

Scale 1:10000 at A4