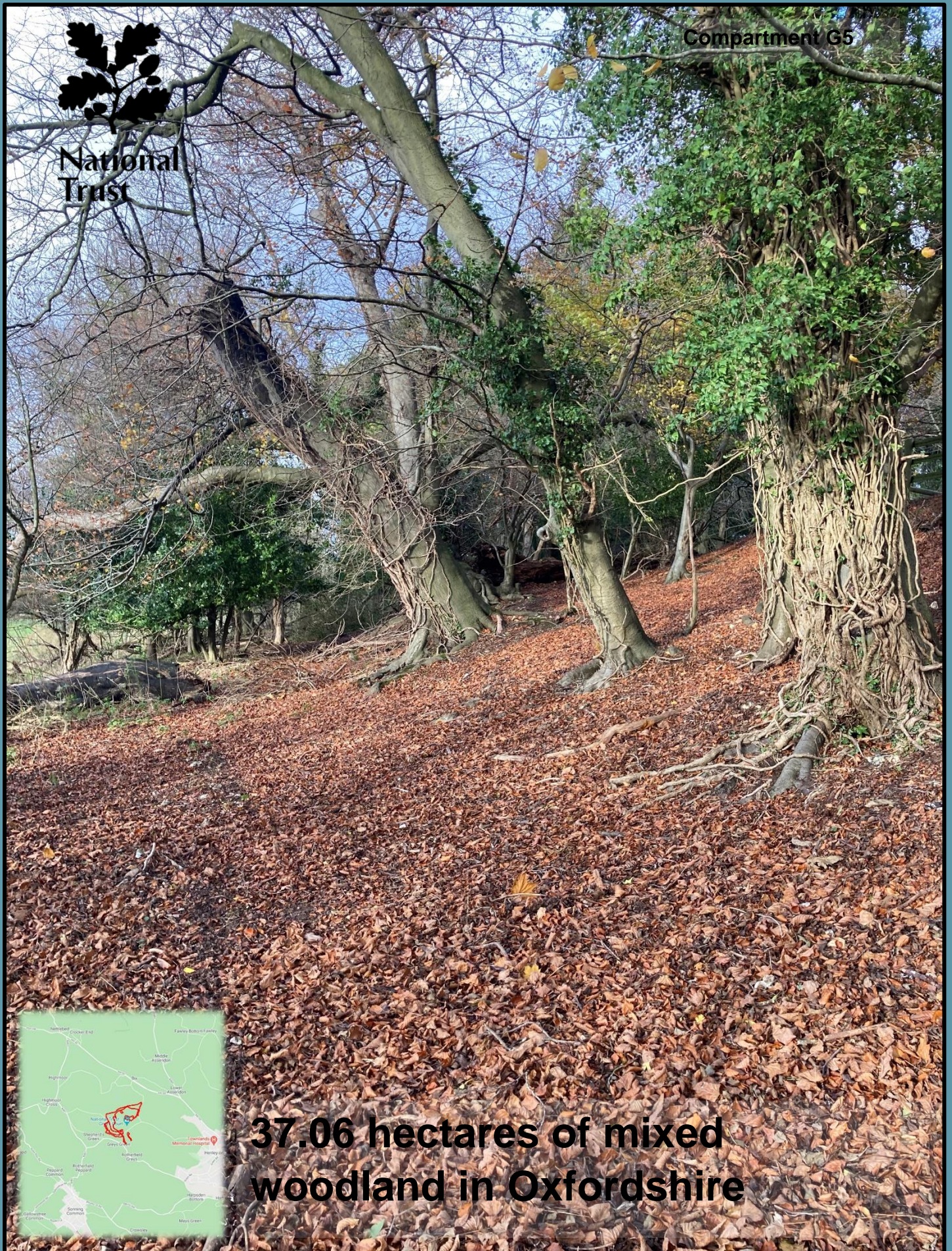


Grey's Court Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



National
Trust

Compartment G5



**37.06 hectares of mixed
woodland in Oxfordshire**

Habitats and Species

These are semi-natural woodlands, many ancient in origin, though some have been modified by 20th century planting. They support areas with ancient woodland plants, including the Nationally Scarce green-flowered helleborine orchid, notable wood-decay associated invertebrates, rare woodland molluscs, and woodland birds including the Red List & UK BAP Priority lesser spotted woodpecker.

Designations

All of the woodlands at this site sit within the Chiltern Hills AONB.

With the exception of compartment 1, the woodlands are designated as the Grey's Court Registered Park and Garden.

The woodland 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.

Compartment G2b is classified as Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS), this is a result of the planting of a range of conifer species into this area. In this compartment we will seek to restore and protect the woodland's natural characteristics and features.

Management Approaches

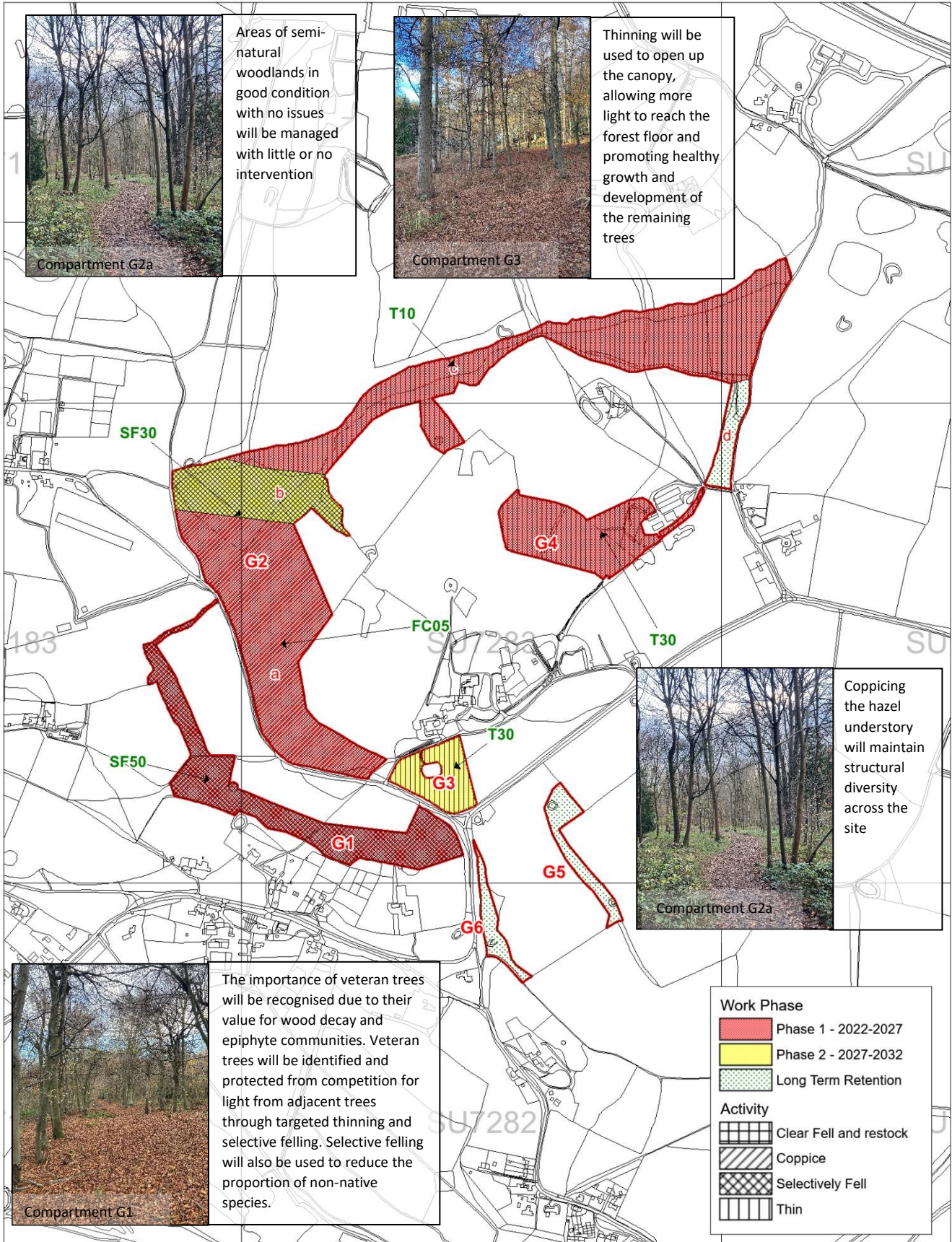
Areas of semi-natural woodlands in good condition with no issues will be managed with little or no intervention.

The importance of 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. Selective felling will also be used to reduce the proportion of non-native trees in the woodlands.

Thinning will open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees.

Coppicing the hazel understory will help to achieve structural diversity.

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.



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



Thinning will be used to open up the canopy, allowing more light to reach the forest floor and promoting healthy growth and development of the remaining trees



Coppicing the hazel understorey will maintain structural diversity across the site



The importance of veteran trees will be recognised due to their value 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. Selective felling will also be used to reduce the proportion of non-native species.

Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire Woodland Plan - 2023-2033

Grey's Court Woodland Work Map

Scale 1:10000 at A4

