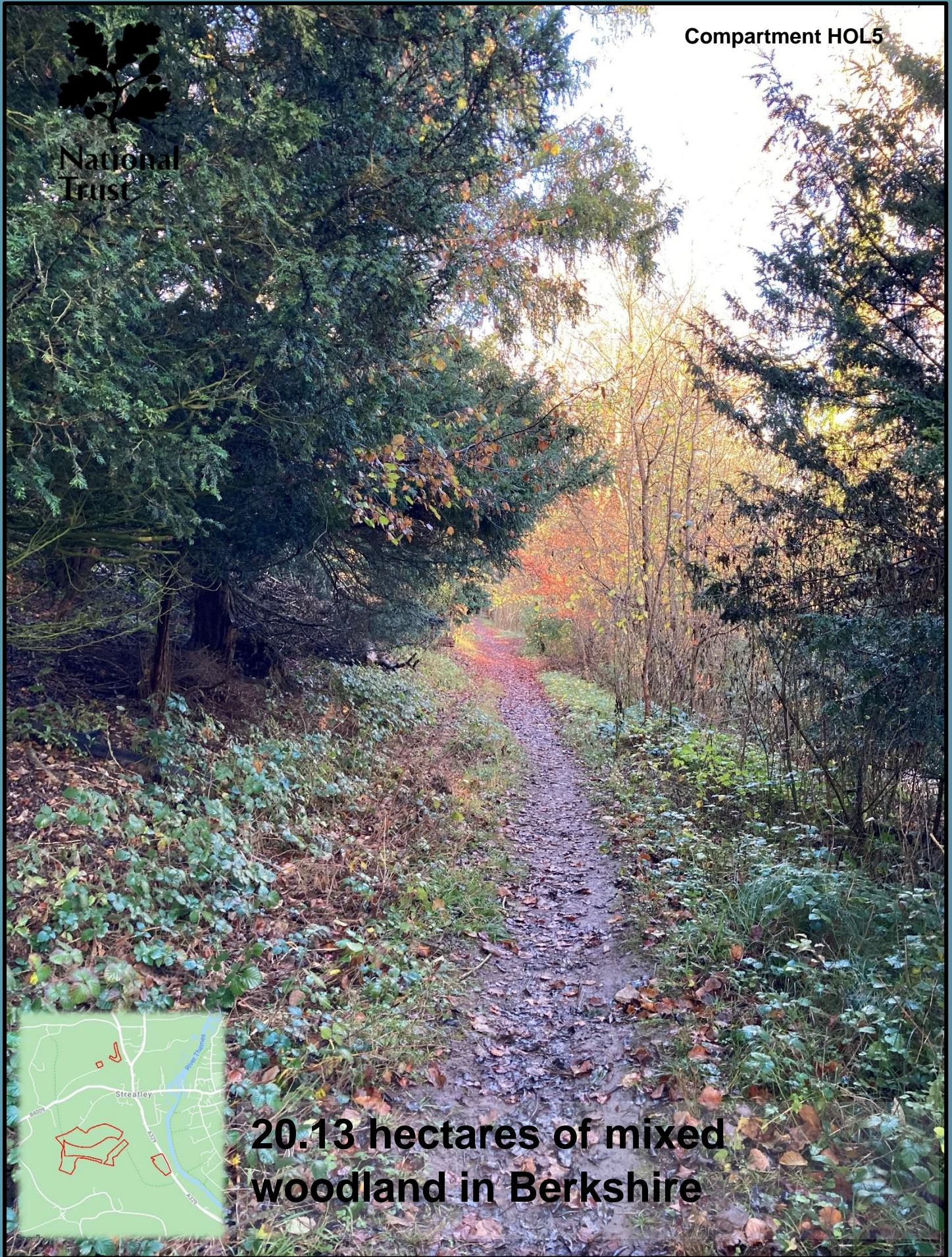


Holies – Goring Gap Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033

Compartment HOL5



20.13 hectares of mixed woodland in Berkshire

Habitats and Species

The Holies have areas of semi-natural woodland, probably mainly secondary in origin, but much less modified by recent management than most woods within the region. They including rich ground flora locally and fall within the Lowland beech and yew woodland UK BAP

These woods are home to a variety of widespread woodland birds, including the Red list bullfinch, Amber list green woodpecker and nuthatch and provide a valuable habitat for a range of invertebrates.

Designations

All of the woodlands at this site sit within the North Wessex Downs AONB.

HOL2 sits in the Lardon Case SSSI, designated for forming one of the largest remaining fragments of unimproved chalk grassland on the Berkshire Downs in Berkshire.

HOL3 and 4 have been designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands (ASNW), this means they have been continuously wooded 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.

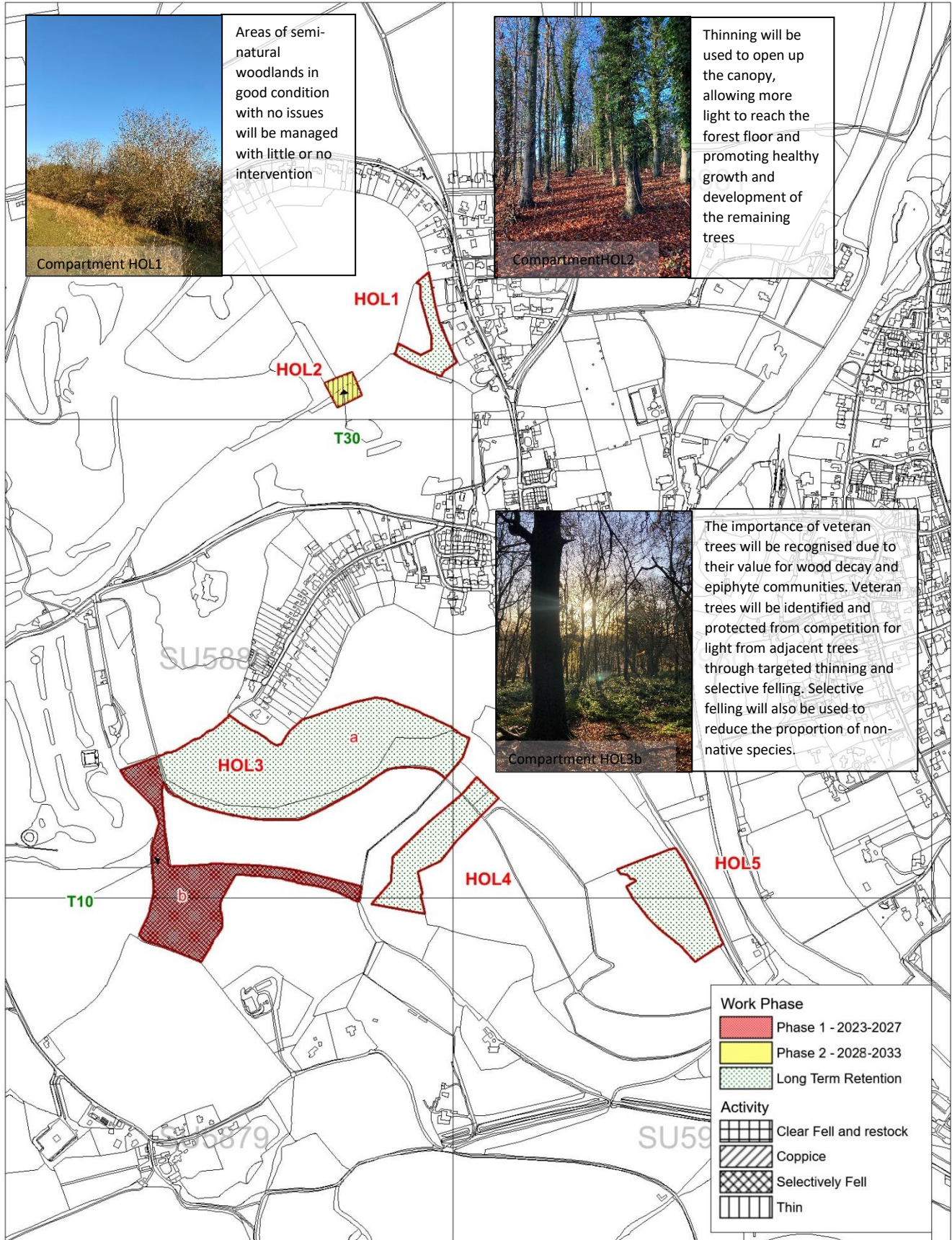
Management Approaches

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

The importance of 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.

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.



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

Holies Woodland Work Map

Scale 1:10000 at A4

