

# Box Hill Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033

Compartment B18a

National  
Trust



**239.23 hectares of native  
woodland in Surrey**

# Habitats and Species

Woodlands at Box Hill represent mixed deciduous woodland and lowland beech and yew woodland Priority Habitats. The Yew and Box woodlands are of international importance.

A variety of notable plants and invertebrates are known here, many of the latter associated with wood-decay habitats. Notable woodland flora includes bird's-nest orchid, box, white helleborine, yellow bird's-nest, large-leaved lime), stinking hellebore), sanicle and wood sorrel.

Woodland invertebrates include a wide range of species associated with wood-decay habitats, the majority depend on wood-decay habitats, but others are associated with underground truffles, the leaf litter layer, ground flora, or foliage of shrubs and trees.

The valley of the River Mole, running along the western edge of the property, is a Regionally Important Geomorphological Site (RIGS), designated for its fluvial geomorphology. It contains swallow holes and a rare example of a steep chalk cliff undercut by a river, with an area of floodplain and alluvial soils.

## Designations

There is a Grade II listed folly in compartment B2.

Box Hill sits in the Mole Gap to Reigate Escarpment SAC and SSSI. The area covered by the SSSI is also a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the EC Habitats Directive for yew-dominated woodland (this SSSI is one of the best areas of this habitat in the UK), and natural box scrub (this SSSI is the only outstanding locality in the UK, containing more than 40% of the UK resource).

All of the woodlands at Box Hill sit within the Surrey Hills AONB.

There is a scheduled fort on the edge of compartment B9 and scheduled Bowl Barrows in compartments B16 and B14

Compartments B1,2,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,14, and 16 have 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.

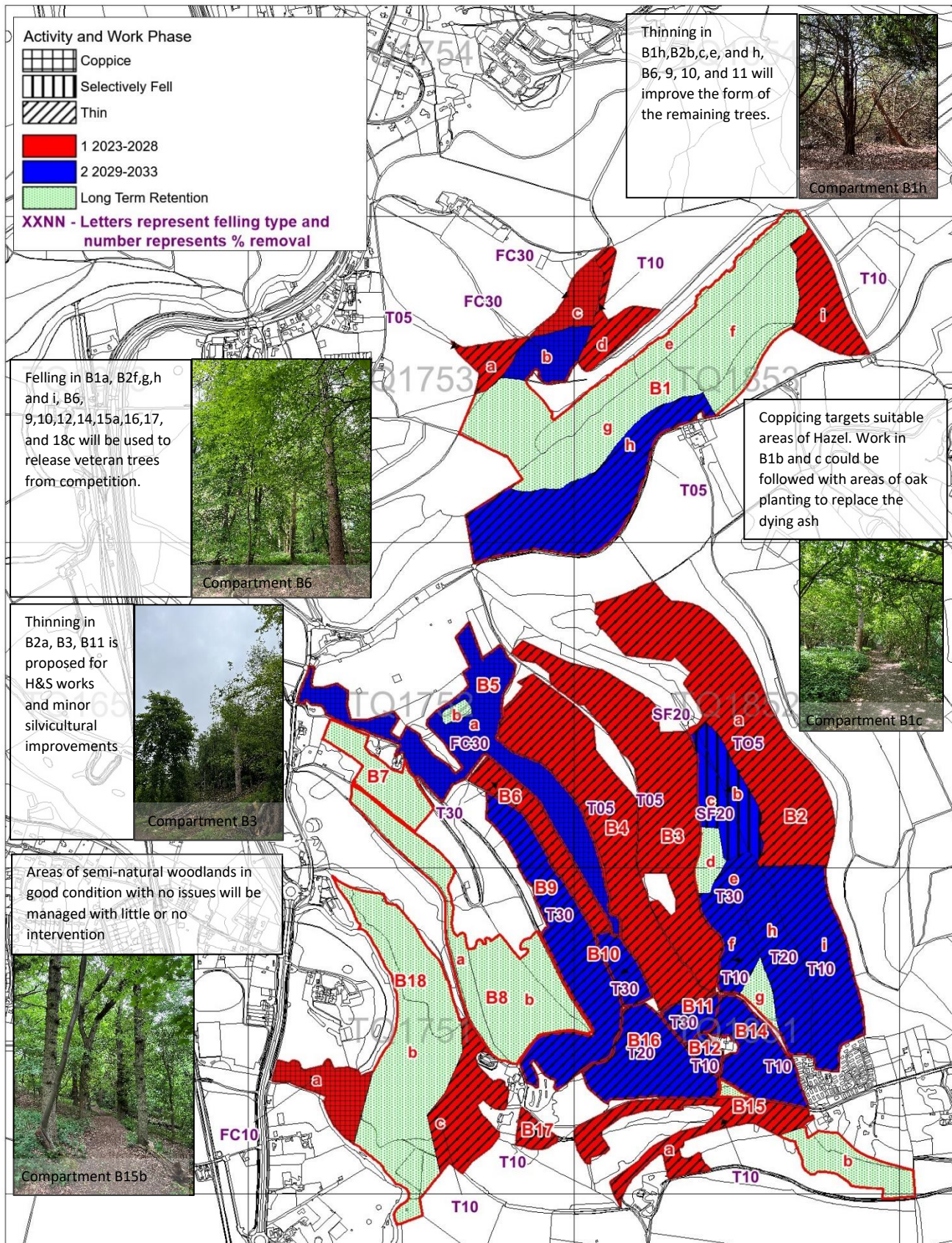
## Management Approaches

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.

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  
 Box Hill Work Map 2023-2043  
 Scale 1:10000 at A4

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 the National Trust