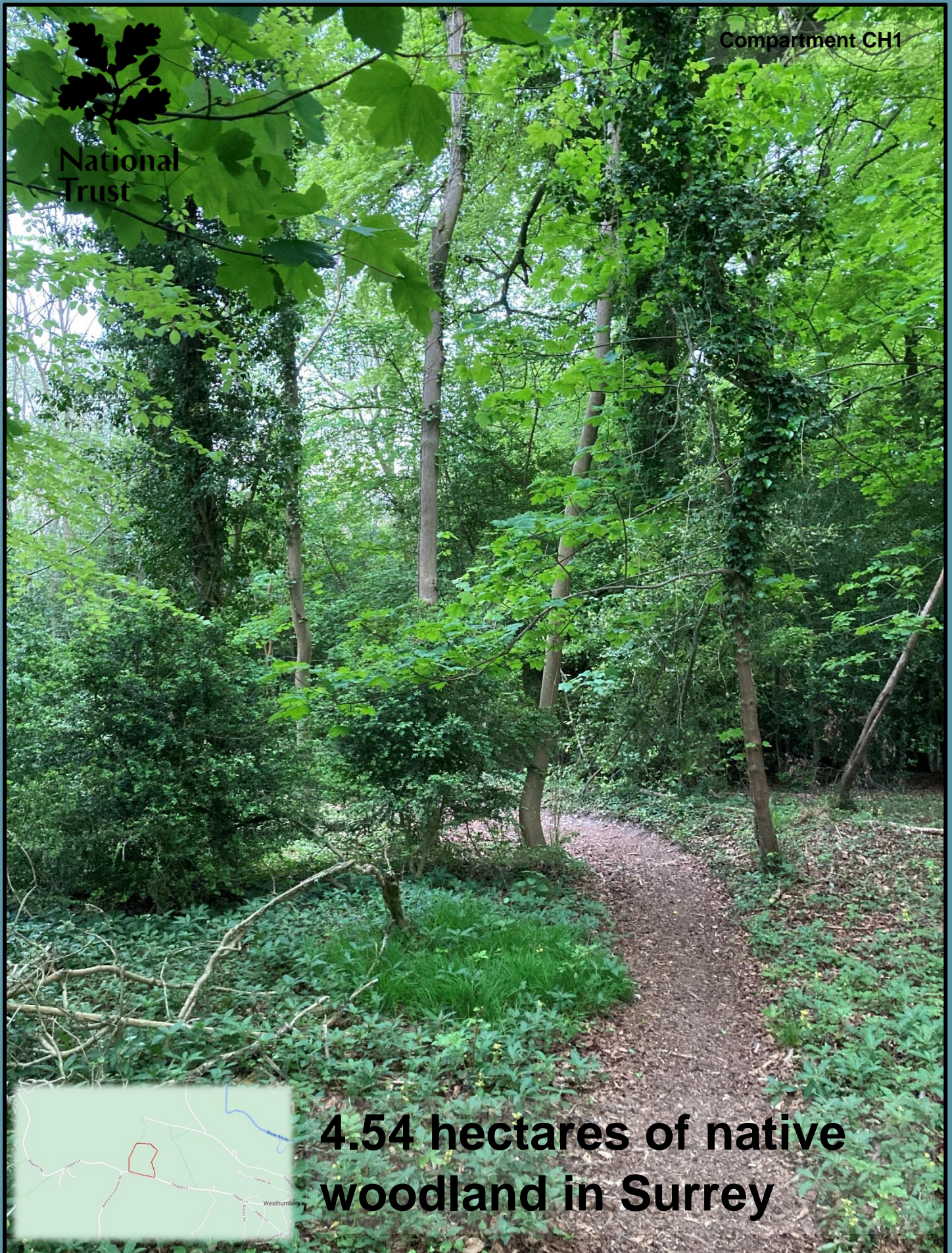


# Chapel Farm Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



Compartment CH1

National  
Trust

4.54 hectares of native  
woodland in Surrey



# Habitats and Species

A network of mine adits cut into the chalk from a disused quarry in Chapel Wood, are of national significance for bats. This relates to three separate aspects of their behaviour and life history: hibernating, breeding and swarming. Taking all three activities together, 80% of the British species of bat is represented here (13 out of 16 species). The species of highest priority here is probably Bechstein's, which is very rare across Europe and GB, swarming here and breeding in tree cavities probably on Ranmore Common or somewhere close by.

Also present at Chapel Farm is the Nationally Scarce soldier beetle *Malthinus balteatus* which is a feature of the wooded base of the North Downs. Other species present include dog's mercury flea beetle *Hermaeophaga mercurialis*, the deadwood beetle *Hemicoelus fulvicorne* and primrose leafminer *Phytomyza primulae*. Birdlife is very sparse owing to the dense uniform structure and lack of older trees.

## Designations

The woodlands here sit within the Mole Gap to Reigate Escarpment SAC and SSSI

All of the woodlands at Chapel Farm sit within the Surrey Hills AONB.

The woodlands at Chapel Farm 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

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.



Surrey Hills Woodland Plan 2023-2043

Chapel Farm Work Map 2023-2043

Scale 1:7500 at A4

Prepared By Matt Taylor of Forest and Land Ltd. On Behalf of the



National Trust