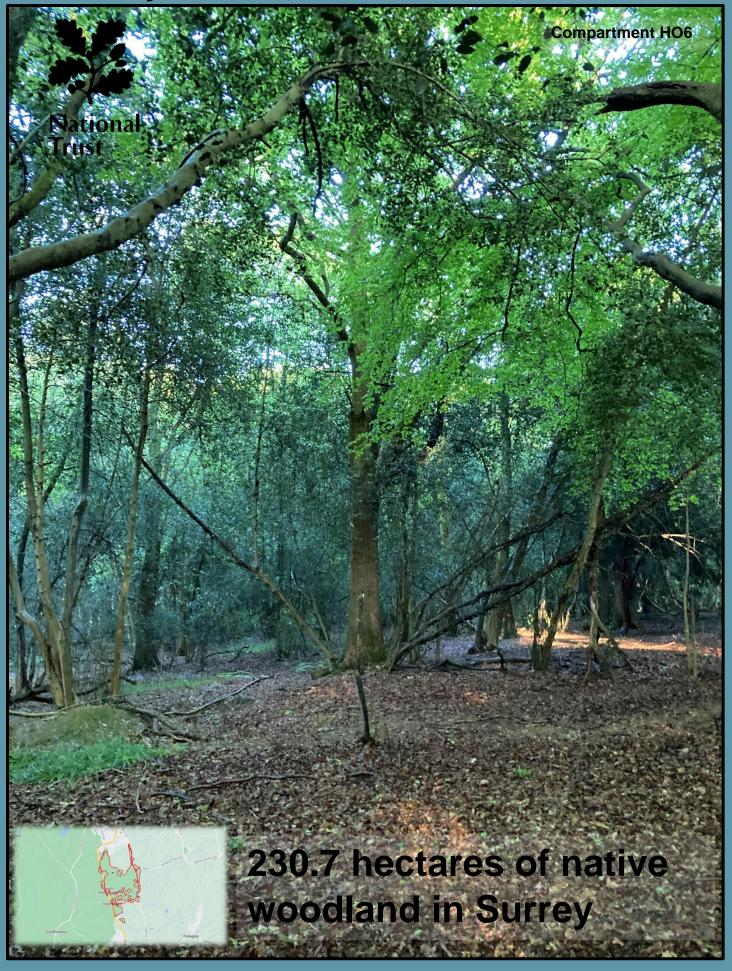
Holmwood Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



Habitats and Species

Holmwood is a large area of native deciduous woodland with significant value to woodland plant, birds and invertebrates. The site has a number of ponds, rides and glades that would benefit from some management - a key objective of this plan.

The most significant invertebrate species found at Holmwood is the weevil Procas granulicollis. Britain supports the entire world population and it was previously only known from the hill country of the north and west; Holmwood is the only known lowland locality. This species is a "Priority" species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan Woodland butterflies are also a key interest of the common, with three Nationally Scarce species all breeding - brown Thecla betulae and white-letter hairstreaks Strymonidia w-album and purple emperor Apatura iris, as well as a number of other uncommon species. The brown hairstreak population is the most important of these.

Common woodland birds are a strong feature of the property. Some are currently listed as of high (song thrush, spotted flycatcher and bullfinch) or medium (green woodpecker, dunnock, blackbird) conservation concern (anon, 1996) due to the dramatic decline in their UK breeding populations in the last 25 years.

Designations

All of the woodlands at Holmwood sit within the Surrey Hills AONB

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. 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.

