

Little King's Wood Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



National
Trust

Little King's Wood



**24.46 hectares of mixed
woodland in Surrey**

Habitats and Species

The current conservation interest of the property appears rather limited, certainly by comparison to other Trust properties on the North Downs. However, the older trees and woodland rides are valuable features where they occur, and there is considerable potential for enhancement of wildlife value.

Designations

Compartment L1e overlaps with Hackurst Downs Local Nature Reserve and sits adjacent to Hackhurst and White Downs SSSI

Compartments L1a, b, d, e f, 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.

Compartments L1b,c,d,e have been classified as Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS), this is a result of the planting of western hemlock and Douglas fir into these woodlands. In this compartment we will seek to restore and protect the woodland's natural characteristics and features.

All of these woodlands 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 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.

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

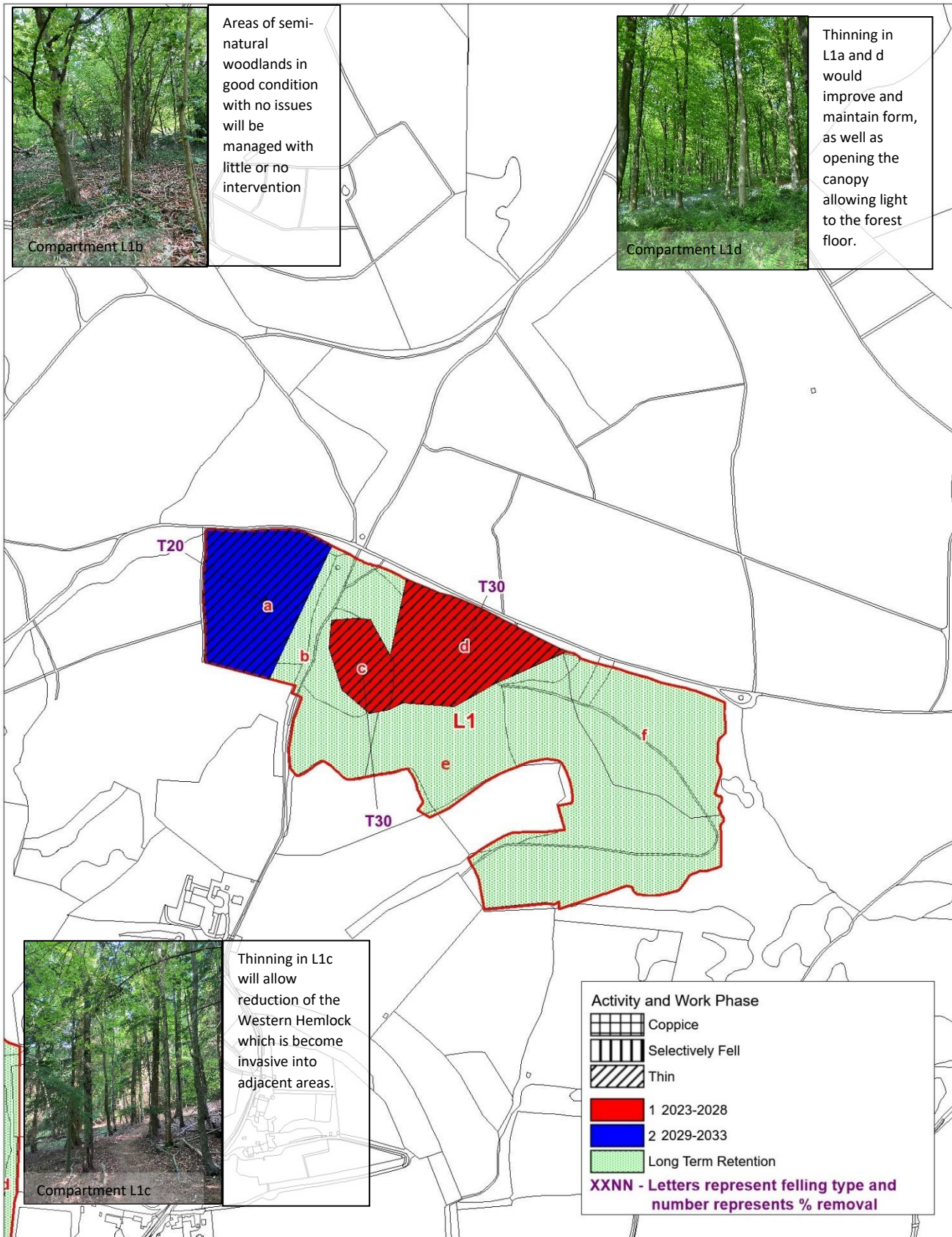
The proportion of non-native trees in areas of ancient woodland will be gradually reduced to protect remnant features of high ecological value.



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Thinning in L1a and d would improve and maintain form, as well as opening the canopy allowing light to the forest floor.



Surrey Hills Woodland Plan 2023-2043
 Little Kings Wood Work Map 2023-2043

Scale 1:7500 at A4

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