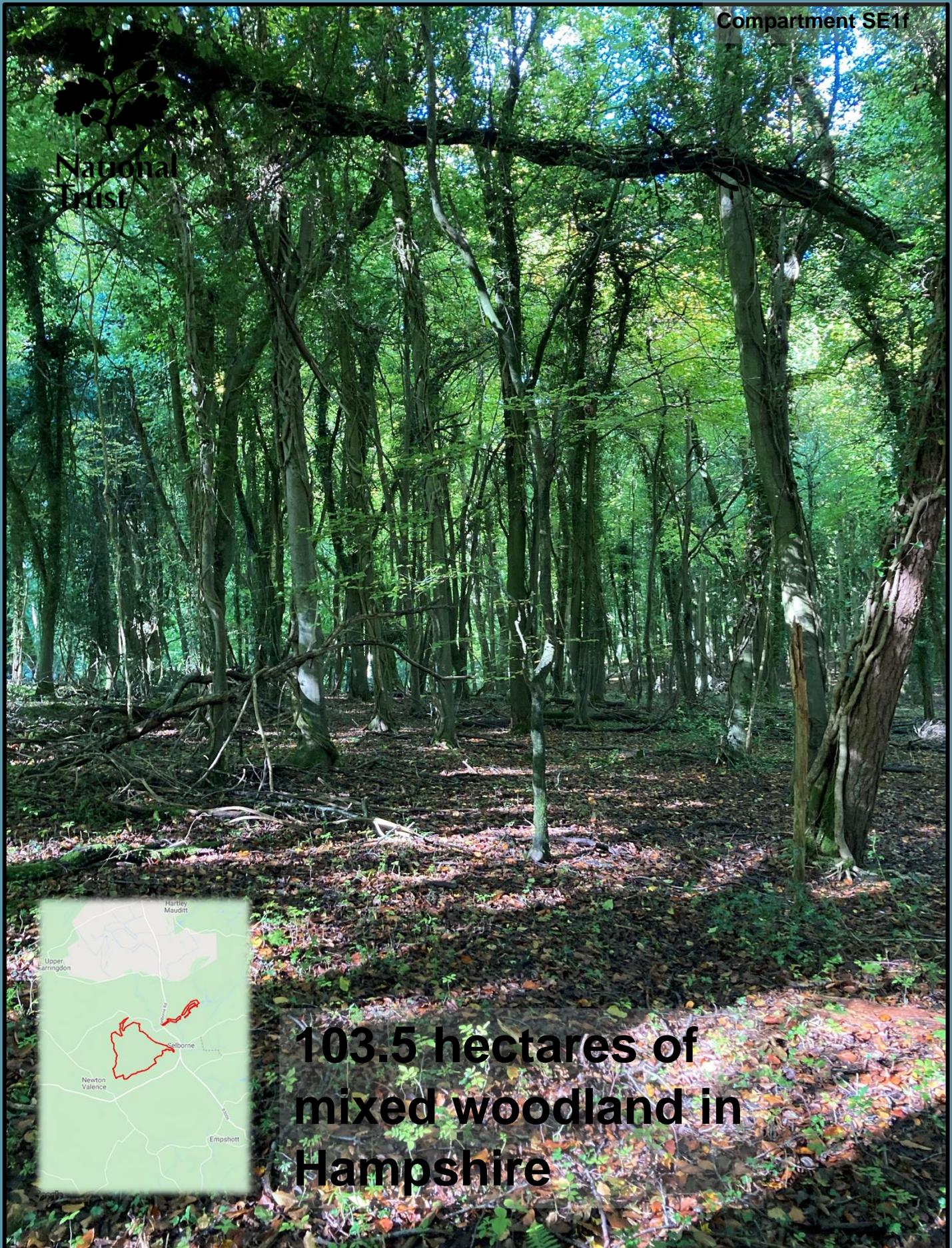


Selborne Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



Compartment SE1f

National
Trust



**103.5 hectares of
mixed woodland in
Hampshire**

Habitats and Species

Selborne has extensive areas of broad-leaved woodland conforming to both the lowland beech and yew woodland and wood pasture & parkland UK BAP Priority habitats. The woodlands contain small areas of grassland conforming to lowland meadows, lowland calcareous grassland and lowland dry acid grassland UK BAP Priority habitats;

Veteran trees (mainly beech pollards), with dead wood and decay habitats support a range of Nationally Scarce invertebrates. Other Nationally Scarce and Red Data Book invertebrates in the woodlands here include the Endangered box bug, solitary bees, ground bugs and a rich mollusc fauna, and several scarce butterflies including brown hairstreak and purple emperor.

There are populations of Nationally Scarce and Red Data Book vascular plants including white helleborine, bird's nest orchid and Italian lords and ladies. The UK BAP Priority dormouse was known from the property in the early 1980's and may still persist. Populations of breeding birds include the Red-listed marsh tit, song thrush, turtle dove and bullfinch (also UK BAP Priority species).

Additional habitats and species at this site are listed in the designation descriptions below.

Designations

Most of the woodland at Selborne is designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands (ASNW), this means it is a woodland that has existed continuously since or before 1600. Work will focus on maintaining and enhancing the health and diversity of the woodland habitat, protecting veteran trees, and management for health and safety.

Compartment SE1 makes up the Selborne Common SSSI, designated for populations of smooth newts *Triturus vulgaris* and palmate newts *T. helveticus* are of special interest as well as a small area of old downland turf. Furthermore, Selborne Common, with its suitably damp and calcareous environment, is a nationally important site for molluscs, having one of the richest woodland faunas of this group in Britain. The old pollards and their associated dead wood habitats support a rich and interesting mature timber fauna. Natural England's 'Views about Management' for this site suggest releasing veteran trees from competition and that felling, thinning or coppicing may be used to create or maintain variations in the structure of the wood, and non-native trees and shrubs can be removed at this time.

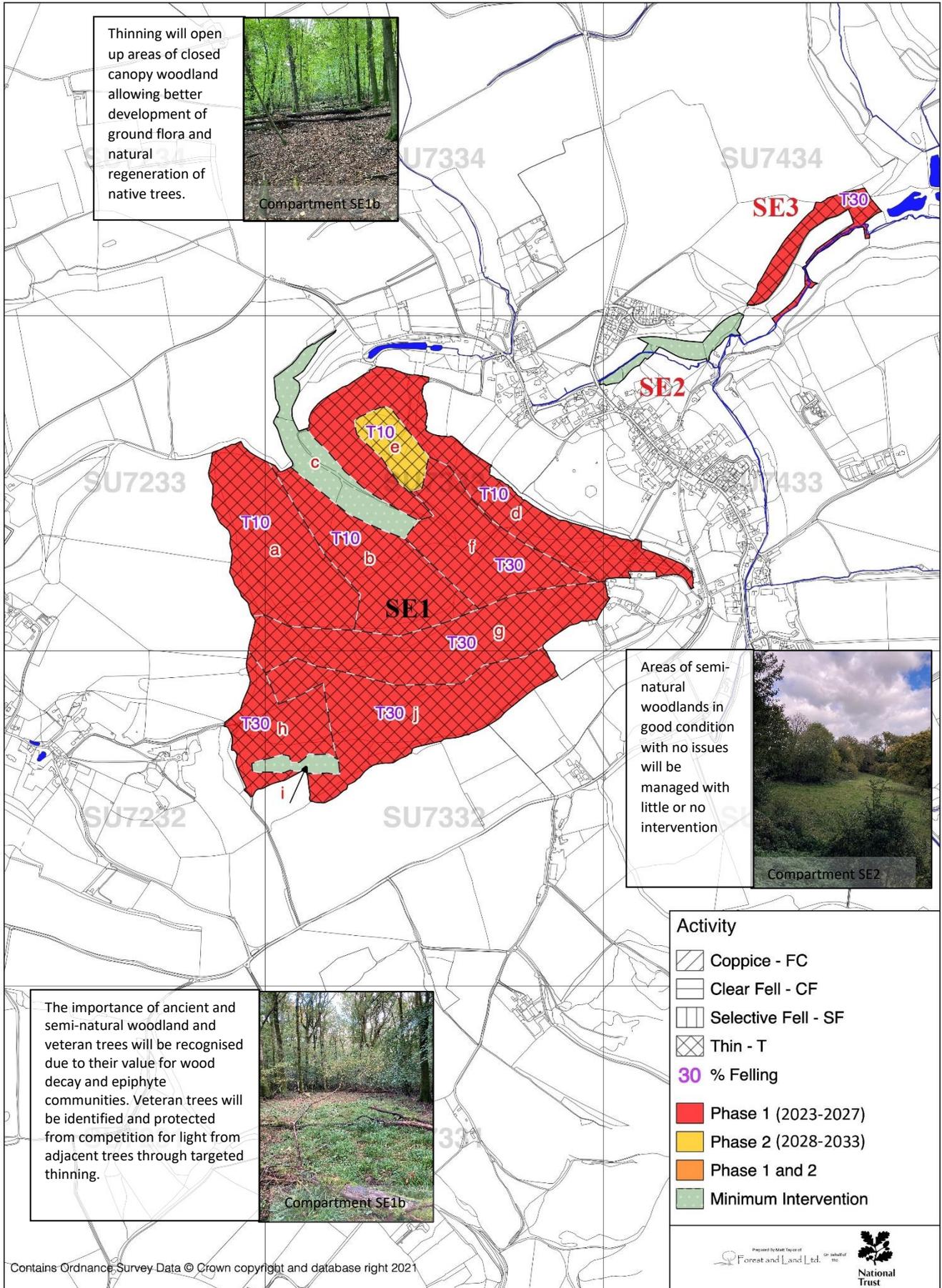
SE3 and the easternmost tip of SE2 sit within the Coombe Wood & The Lythes SSSI, Designated for the relatively rich calcareous ground flora with substantial populations of green hellebore *Helleborus viridis* and violet helleborine *Epipactis purpurata*. The hanger woods also possess a rich bryophyte flora, mostly epiphytic on the older trees. The site contains examples of most of the woodland stand types which occur within the naturally important woods associated with the Upper Greensand and Gault Clay of the western Weald. Natural England's 'Views about Management' for this site also suggests felling, thinning or coppicing to create or maintain variations in the woodland's structure

The whole site also sits within the East Hampshire Hangers SAC designated for woodland and scrub habitats and species. The easternmost end of compartment SE1d sits within The Wakes Registered Park and Garden

Management Approaches

The importance of ancient and semi-natural woodland and veteran trees will be recognised due to their value 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.



South Downs Woodland Management Plan—Selborne Map 2: Activity and Work Phase

Scale 1:10000 at A3