

Wolstonbury Hill Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



Compartment W01a

National
Trust



**18.8 hectares of
mixed woodland in
West Sussex**

Habitats and Species

Wolstonbury Hill contains woodland and scrub edge habitats supporting scarce and localised invertebrates. Notable bird species include stock dove, green woodpecker and song thrush. Stock dove is on the RSPB Amber List and song thrush on the RSPB Red List of Species of Conservation concern.

Designations

Parts of compartments WO1a and c have been designated as Ancient Woodland, 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.

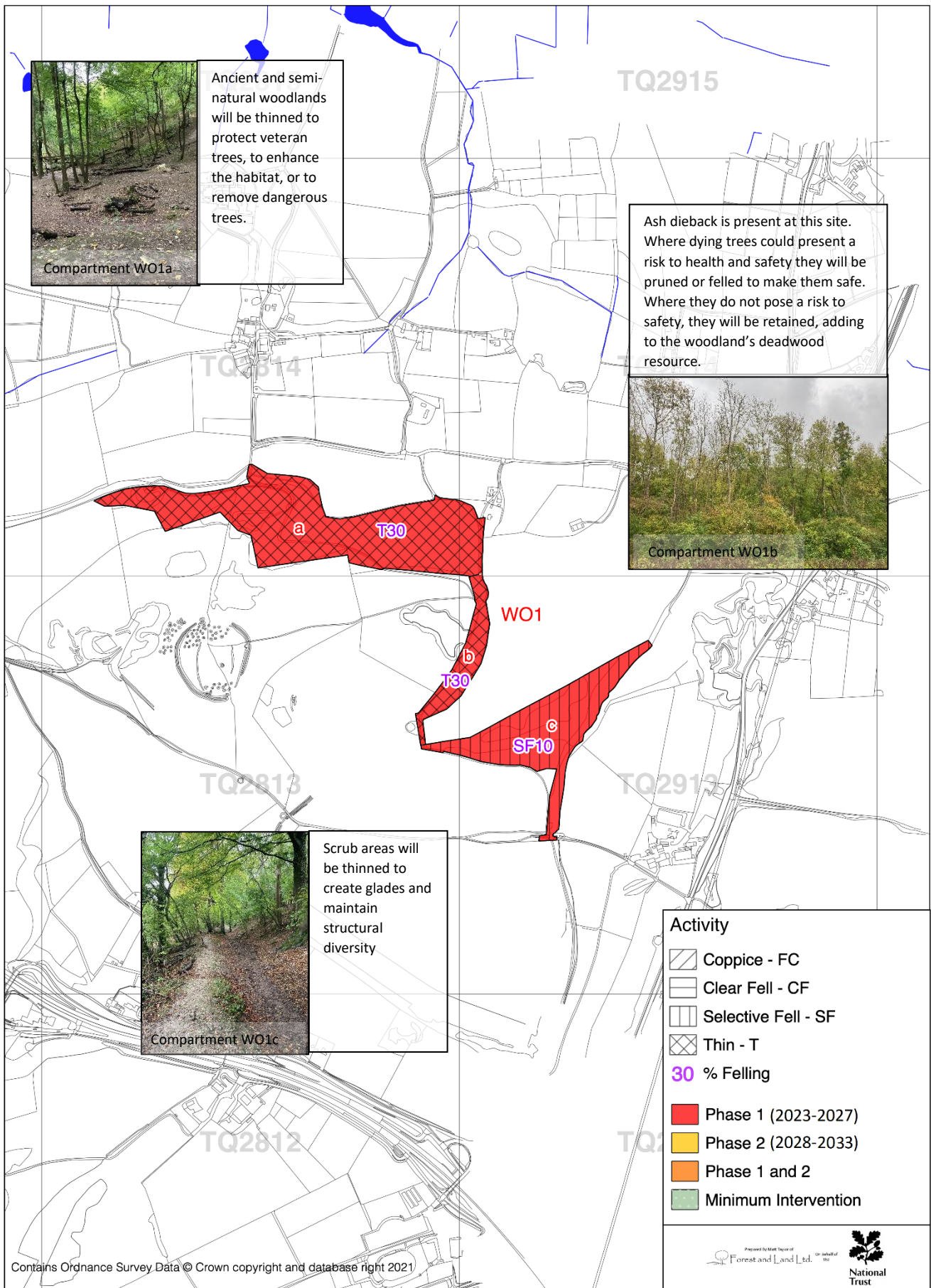
Compartments WO1a and b sit in the Wolstonbury Hill SSSI designated mainly for chalk grassland interest. The Natural England 'Views about management' document suggest scrub management through cutting or grazing, and felling, thinning or coppicing may be used to create to maintain variations in the structure of the woodlands.

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.

Ash dieback is present at this site. Where dying trees could present a risk to health and safety they will be pruned or felled to make them safe. Where they do not pose a risk to safety, they will be retained, adding to the woodland's deadwood resource.



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

Scale 1:8000 at A3