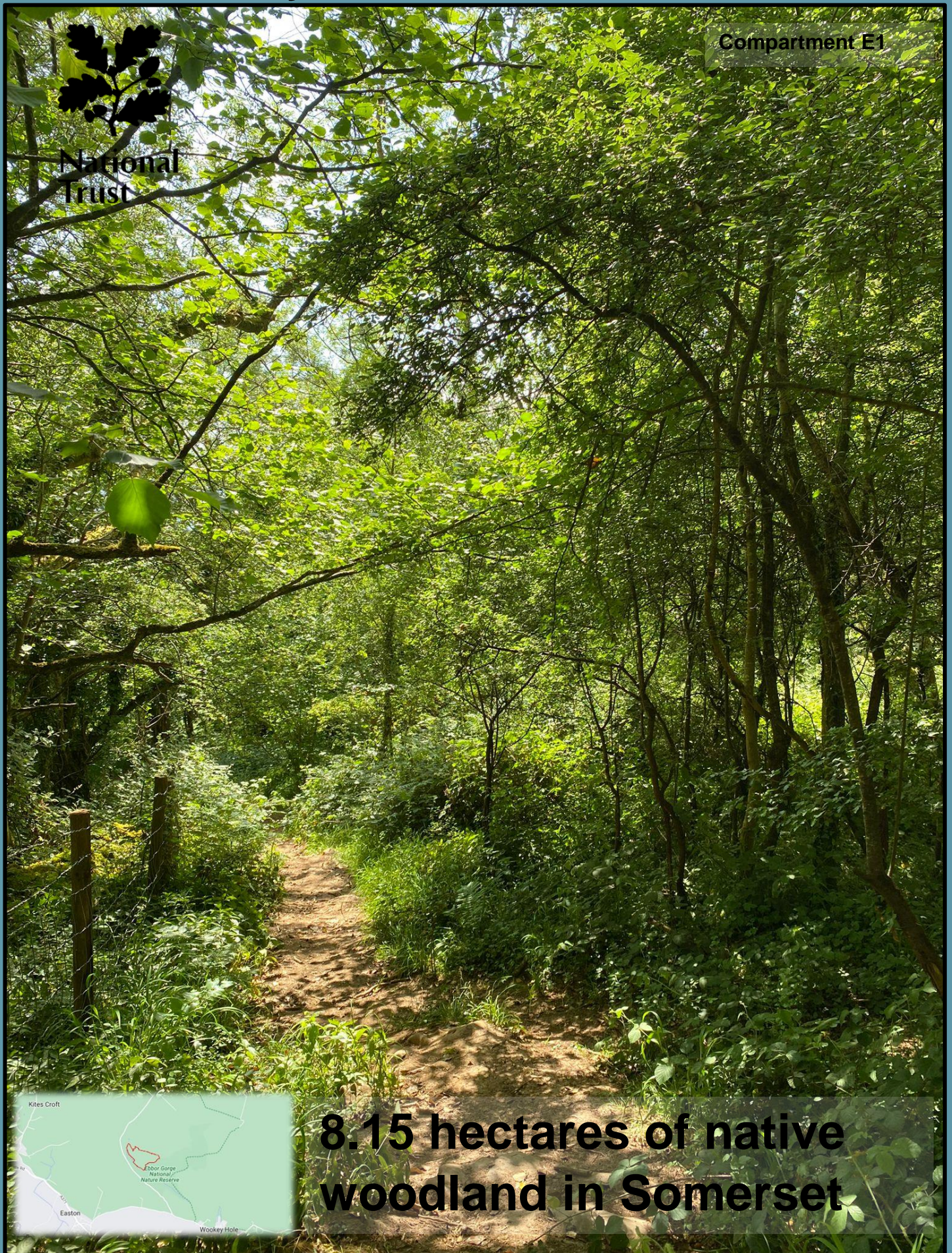


# Ebbor Gorge Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



**8.15 hectares of native woodland in Somerset**

# Habitats and Species

The woodlands here are mostly ash, but also include oak, wych elm, field maple, whitebeam, beech, hornbeam and hazel. The high humidity encourages the growth of ferns and fungi.

The mixed age of the woodland means the forest canopy has multiple levels, which encourages many species of butterfly, including the nationally scarce white-letter hairstreak. Other butterfly species such as the chalkhill blue and brown argus have been recorded on the limestone grassland. Rare lesser and greater horseshoe bats hibernate and roost locally in the cave systems.

# Designations

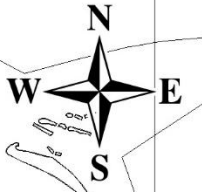
Parts of the woodland at Ebbor Gorge are designated as Ancient Woodland. They also sit in the Ebbor Gorge SSSI and adjacent to the Mendip woodlands SAC and Ebbor Gorge NNR (owned by the NT but managed by NE). Ebbor Gorge SSSI was designated for its ash woodlands, calcareous grassland and humid environment favouring ferns and mosses.

# Management Approaches

Our aim is to manage our woodlands to create a mosaic of woodland, scrub, and grassland habitats across the Mendip Hills and Mid Somerset. This will involve applying active and targeted woodland management over the area to join up vital corridors between the Mendip Woodland SACs, priority ancient woodland and improve existing woodland habitats.

Felling at Ebbor Gorge will allow the maintenance of open areas of adjacent grassland, and deal with any health and safety issues arising from Ash Dieback.

**This abridged plan provides a summary of a detailed plan covering the National Trust owned woodlands across Mid-Somerset. This full plan can be seen by visiting <https://forestplans.co.uk/midsomerset/>.**



Thinning in E1 will allow the maintenance of open areas of adjacent grassland, and deal with any health and safety issues arising from Ash Dieback



Compartment E1

ST5148

ST5248

Long-term activity 2033-2043

 Regeneration felling