



National Trust
Brimham Rocks
Woodland Plan
(2018 to 2028)



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Refer to National Trust Woodland Plan Guidance

1. Details Sheet

NT region: North

Property: Brimham Rocks

Location (reference map no) : Summerbridge, North Yorkshire,

Os grid reference: SE 2064

Area covered by plan: Ha

Plan period: 10 years

Date of last review (UKWAS 2.1.3):

Land owner: National Trust

Agent/contact: Ranger on staff

Grant scheme reference no: N/A

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Signed declaration of tenure rights and agreements to public availability of plan (UKWAS 1.1.3/1.1.5/2.1.2):

2. Summary.

The woodland management of Brimham Rocks is very low interference and designed to allow the habitat to thrive in its own way for the benefit of wildlife and the enjoyment of our visitors.

3. General description of the woodlands

Brimham Rocks is primarily a moorland site with woodland concentrated mainly around the base of the escarpment along the northern and western edges of the site, with small pockets of woodland and tree encroachment throughout the rest of the site. Woodland cover has increased since 1970 when the trust took on the site.

The woodland on site is outlined on the map in Appendix 1.

Throughout the woodland, the species composition is frequent Birch (*Betula pendula*) with locally frequent Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and occasional Oak (*Quercus petraea*). The Oak varies in age and size and does include some mature/over mature specimens which contribute much to the woodland habitat. There is a limited understory of Holly, Honeysuckle and Elder throughout. The field layer is often moss and grasses dominated by ferns (such as Broad Buckler) and in some areas, bracken in

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the summer months, spring can see an array of wild flowers including wood sorrel, bluebells and chickweed wintergreen. Some areas are host to patches of degenerate Bilberry and Heather. There are some small areas of wet woodland dominated by willow and birch with a ground flora of acidic flush species such as cross leaved golden saxifrage, sphagnum moss and soft rush. Brimham rocks woodland does well for quantities of standing and lying dead wood which enhances the habitat for invertebrates and birdlife.

An area to the West of the site is protected by a TPO. See attached TPO map in Appendix 2. It is believed that the TPO was put in place prior to National Trust Ownership in the 1970's and was in response to a previous owner attempting to clear fell the area.

4. Woodland information

Designated area	Map/Cpt. Number/ reference document e.g. SSSI schedule and comment	In woodland (cross)	Adjacent to woodland (cross)
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	Brimham Moor SSSI		X
Special Protection Areas (SPAs)			
Ramsar sites			
National Nature Reserves			

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(NNRs)			
Other designations e.g.: National Parks (NPs), Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)	AONB?		
Details: for SSSI citation, see site management plan.			
Rare and important species			
Red data book or BAP species	Pied Flycatcher	X	
Rare, threatened, EPS or SAP species	Killarney fern	X	
<p>Details:</p> <p>Pied Flycatcher is of Red conservation status in the UK and has been recorded as nesting in the woodland at Brimham Rocks since 2014.</p> <p>Killarney fern has been recorded historically at Brimham rocks but no records of location can be found.</p>			
Habitats			
Ancient semi-natural woodland			

(ASNW)			
Other semi-natural woodland		X	
Plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS)			
Semi-natural features in PAWS			
Woodland margins and hedges			
Veteran and other notable trees			X
Breeding sites		X	
Habitats of notable species		X	
Unimproved grassland			
Rides and open ground			
Valuable wildlife communities			
Feeding area			
Lowland heath			
Peatlands			X
Other features and general details;			
Water			

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Watercourses			
Lakes			
Ponds			X
Wetland habitats		X	
Other features and general details;			
Landscape			
Landscape designated areas			
Landscape features			
Rock exposures		X	X
Historic landscapes			
Areas of the woodland prominent from roads			
Areas of the woodland prominent from settlements			
Other features and general details;			
Cultural features			
Public rights of way		X	X

Prominent viewing points		X	X
Existing permissive footpaths			
Proposed permissive footpaths			
Areas managed with traditional management systems			
Other features and general details;			
Archaeological features			
Scheduled monument			
Historical feature (including designed landscapes, registered parks and gardens)			
Other features and general details;			

5. Long term vision and strategy

The long term vision for our woodlands is to maximise their value for biodiversity and access. In practice this will mean that the woodlands are managed using minimal interference, allowing the woodland to develop as naturally as possible. It is decided that this will be best for the woodland and all the species that live in it. We will maintain the extent of the existing woodland cover, encourage structural and age class diversity through thinning interventions, halo thinning and encouraging natural regeneration.

5.1 How can we achieve this?

We will divide the woodland into compartments and each year, one will be worked in for one or 2 days by hand. The main areas of work will be:

- Halo any small oak trees to allow them to develop as 'open grown'
- Remove any trees from along the escarpment to open up areas for climbers and maintain views from the top of the escarpment.
- 'Thin to waste' or ring bark 1 in 10 birch to increase dead wood habitat within the woodland and allow more light to the woodland floor.
- Some silvicultural thinning will take place to maintain light levels to the woodland floor and encourage natural regeneration. Enrichment planting will supplement regeneration as and where necessary.

This felling work will be in addition to, and worked alongside, our annual tree felling programme on the moor.

6. Additional considerations

6) Additional considerations	Management in place
Pest and disease management, including deer.	There is a small number of transient deer but numbers do not affect the health of the woodland. Moles and Rabbits also populate the woodland but their presence is only an issue on the moorland.
Fire plan	In progress
Waste disposal and pollution	N/A
Protection from unauthorised activities	N/A
Protection of other identified services and values	N/A
Game management	N/A
Management of designated areas	N/A I suppose the TPO is a designated site, therefore any work on the site will need the consent of the local authority.
Measures to enhance biodiversity and other special features (UKWAS 2.1.1/6.1.1)	Any trees that are felled in the woodland for any reason will be left in situ to break down to provide deadwood habitat for invertebrates and birds.
Special measures for ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) and semi-	N/A

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natural woodland (SNW) and Special measures for plantation on ancient woodland site (PAWS)	
Measures to mitigate impacts on the landscape and neighbouring land (UKWAS 3.1.2)	Some trees in the woodland may be cleared to create glades but also to keep views over the wider landscape of Nidderdale, from the rocks, clear for our visitors. Views are an important part of the visitor experience and the history of the site and how it sits in the landscape.
Archaeology and sites of cultural interest	An archaeological survey of the site was conducted in winter 2018 and we are awaiting the report.
Public access and impacts on local people	There is a public right of way that follows along the line of the track through the woodland to Druids cave farm. There is also one that cuts across the field to the NE of the site and up into the woodland below the escarpment. These are kept clear where necessary with grass cutting.
Emergency procedures etc	N/A
Water Course Management	N/A

7. Five year plan summary.

As the woodland is quite small and simple in structure, with no commercial output or complex management needs, we will not be putting together a complex plan, rather maintaining the work we already do to keep the trees safe for visitors and the woodlands healthy for wildlife. Below is a table showing the tasks to be carried out and the frequency with which they should be repeated.

Task	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Tree Safety Management	x	x	x	x	x
Litter picking	x	x	x	x	x
Bird Box monitoring	x	x	x	x	x
Create plan for thinning/haloing	x				
Ongoing programme of thinning/haloing oak trees		x	x	x	x
View / crag clearance	x		x		x
Assess habitat monitoring needs and implement monitoring			x	x	x

8. Long term plan summary.

As discussed in section 5, every year a compartment of woodland will be worked at low intensity to improve certain aspects of the habitat.

Below is a record of what work has been done. The map of compartments can be found in Appendix 3.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2027/28	2028/29
Compartment No. worked										

Year and compartment worked	Description/extent of work

9. Monitoring

Objective number, issue or UKWAS/UKFS requirement	Indicator	Method of assessment	Monitoring period	Responsibility	How will information be used (link/reference to documentation)
Tree Safety Management	Compliance with NT policy	Inspections in line with Property Rationale	As per Property Rationale, 1-5 years depending on the zone.	NT staff	Prove compliance with the law.
Creation of deadwood	Aim for a minimum of 20 cubic metres/ha of standing and laid deadwood.	Visual assessment based on seeing sites with 20 m ² ha	5 years	NT staff	Increase deadwood creation if lacking.
Bird boxes					
Natural regeneration	Where we have created glades or increased light levels, regeneration	Site visits to relevant points within the woodland	5 years	NT staff	If insufficient, either increase light levels or plant.

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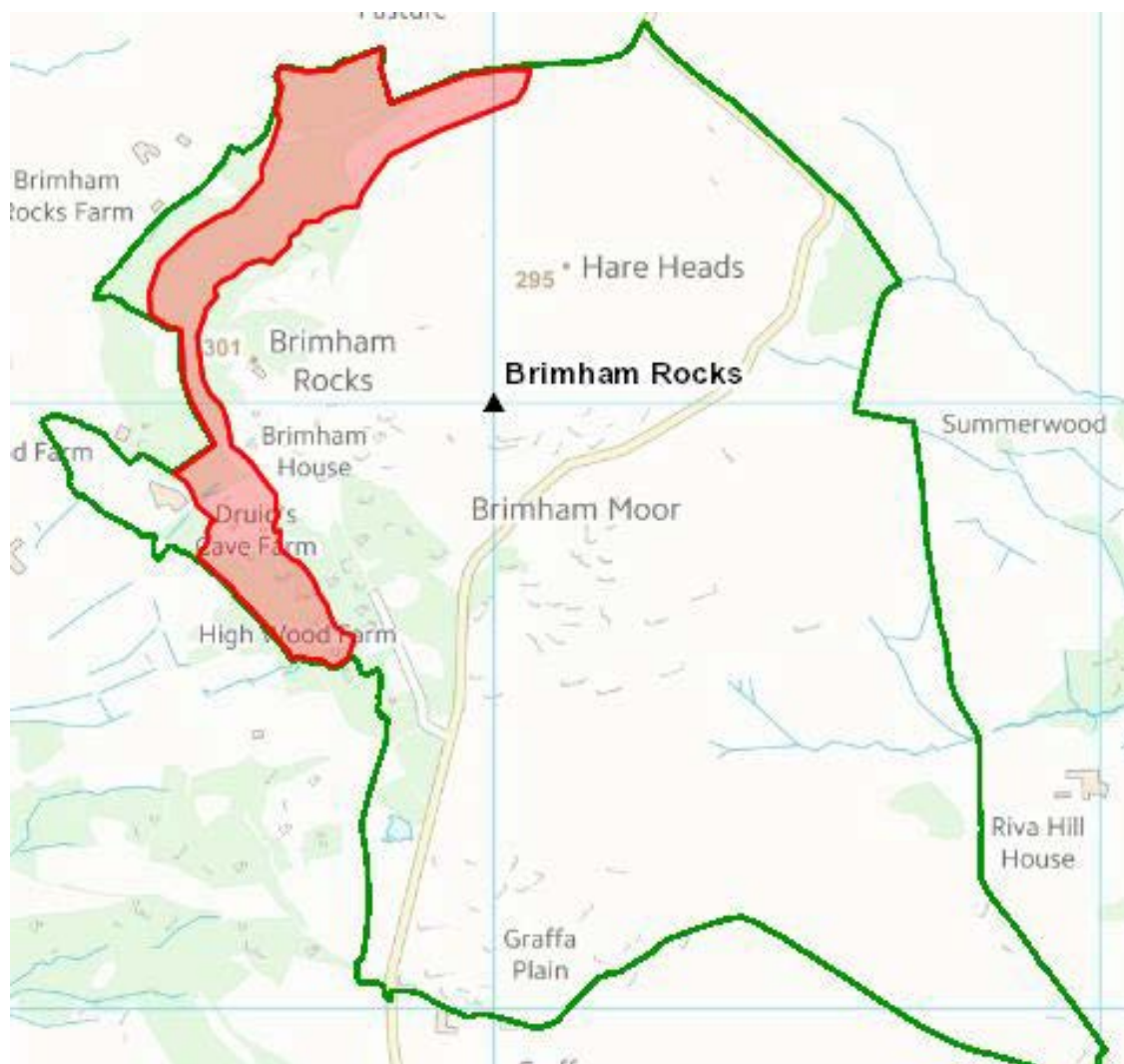
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	of tree and shrub species will be present.				

10. Table of Appendices.

List of attachments (maps, photos, supporting documentation)	Description
Appendix 1 – Woodland Map	A map to show the location of the woodland on site, outlined in red.
Appendix 2 – TPO map	A map showing the area protected by the tree protection order.
Appendix 3 – Compartment map	A map showing the location of woodland compartments to be worked throughout the 10 years of this plan.

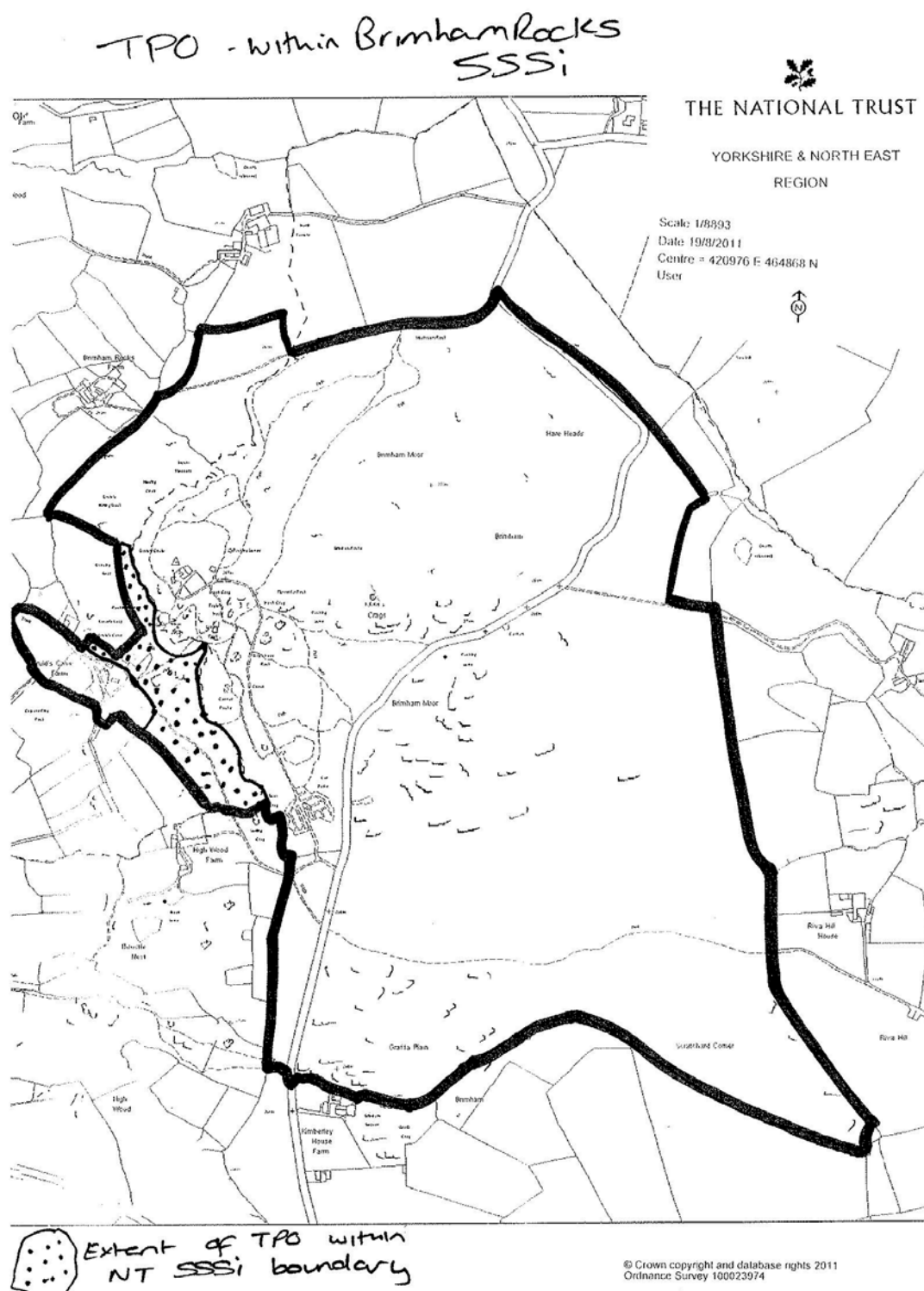
Appendix 1



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Appendix 2

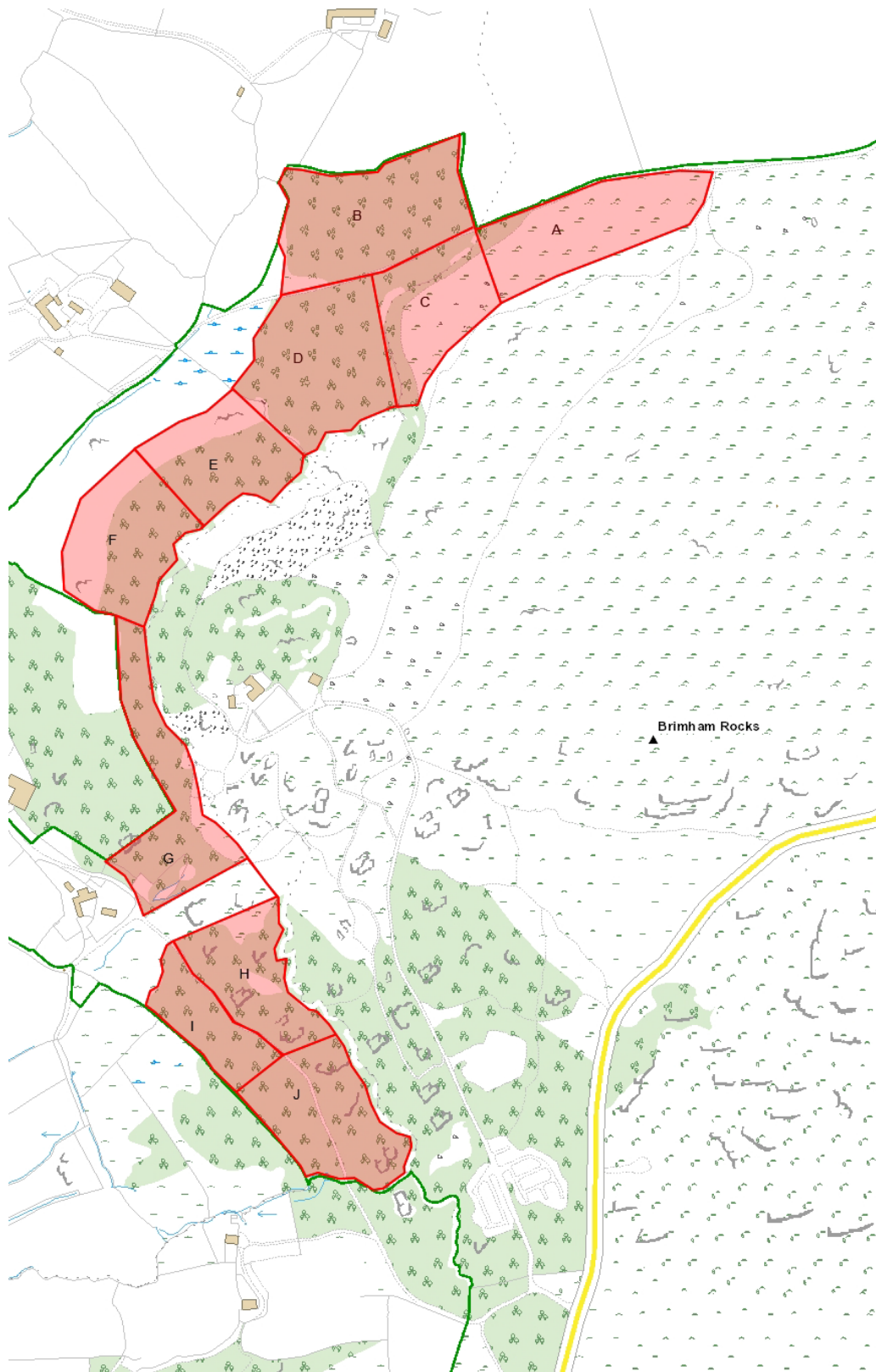


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Appendix 3



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