Batemans Woodland Management Plan Summary 2022-2032

1.28 hectares of native woodland in East Sussex

Habitats and Species

Batemans has large numbers of mature trees and old coppice stools, and also a few old standard trees, these support a notable invertebrate fauna associated with wood-decay habitats. The woodlands are rich in ancient woodland ground flora in places with greater habitat diversity provided by the presence of partially silted pits within the woods, with open water, bare muddy areas, willow scrub and other wetland flora.

At Batemans there is an excellent diversity of native trees and shrubs, the Midland hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata* is scattered within the woods

Coralroot, *Cardamine bulbifera*, a Nationally Scarce ancient woodland species was recorded along the margin of a small wood on the south-west side of the property in 1987. Hopefully it still survives, but both sites where it was seen in 1987 are vulnerable to damage through nutrient-enrichment and spray drift, so confirmation is required.

Other plant species of interest at Bateman's include three-nerved sandwort *Moehringia trinervia*, giant horsetail *Equisetum telmateia*, and wood sedge *Carex sylvatica*.

Scarce and locally distributed invertebrates include the click beetle *Stenagostus villosus* – other scarce wood decay insects are recorded from the hedgerow and field trees and probably occur in the woods also.

Designations

All of the woodlands at Bateman's sit within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

A number of compartments 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.

Management Approaches

All the semi-natural woodlands at Batemans are in good condition with no issues so can be managed with little or no intervention.

