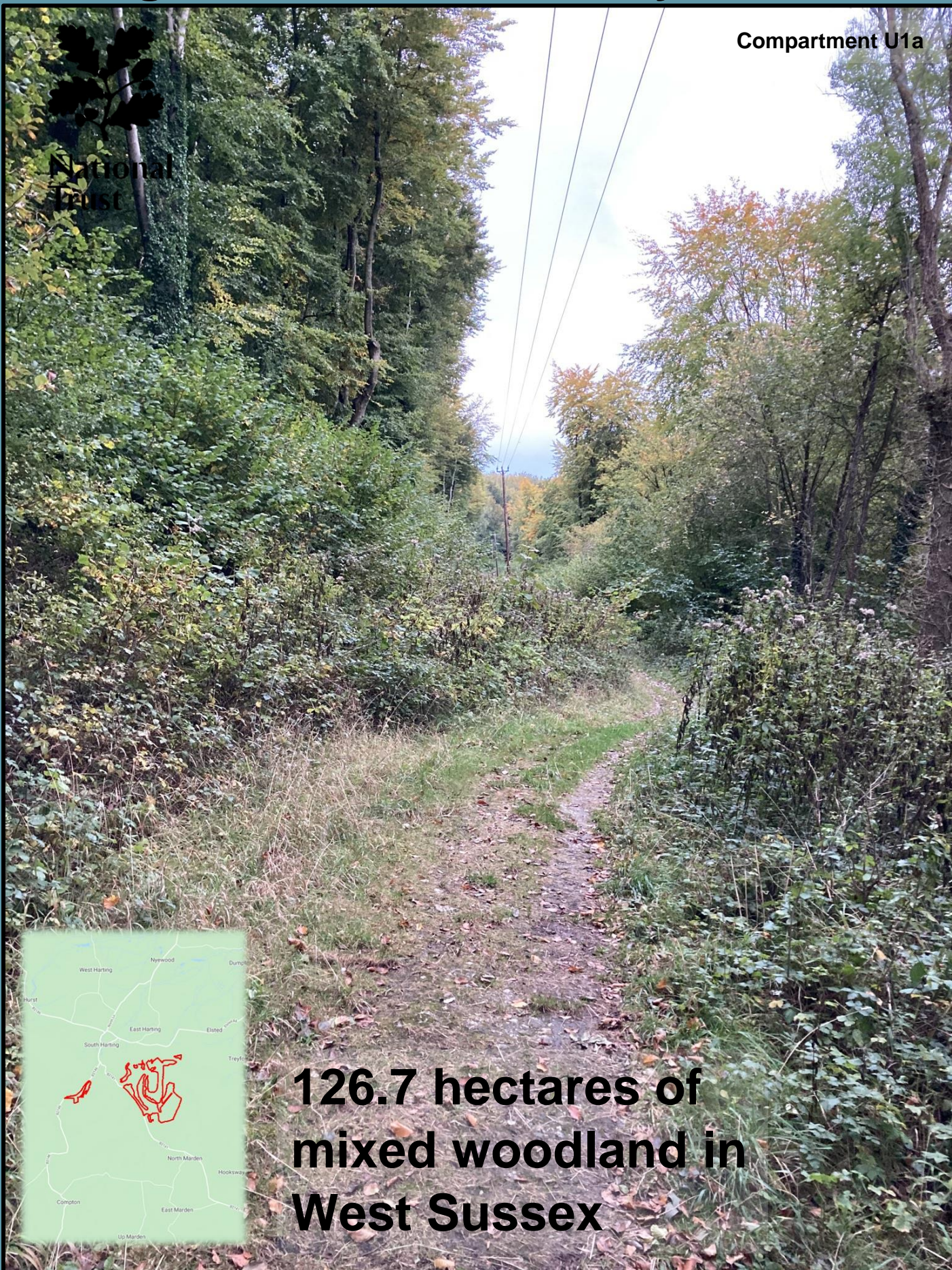


# Uppark and Harting Down Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033

Compartment U1a

National Trust



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

# Habitats and Species

Uppark has areas of semi-natural woodlands - most are of which are of ancient origin, though sections have been replanted. These support a variety of woodland plants, fungi, invertebrates and birds, and include locally distributed species such as silver-washed fritillary butterfly.

Dormouse, a UK BAP Priority List Species, has been reported in recent years.

The site supports a wide variety of birds including spotted flycatcher a Red List and a UK BAP Priority List species, and barn owl (Amber List)

Harting Down has excellent habitat diversity within the property including scrub, including large numbers of the local and declining juniper and semi-natural woodlands, some ancient in origin and including wood pasture and excellent numbers of the Nationally Scarce large-leaved lime as well as areas of yew woodland.

The site is known to support 3 British Red Data Book species and 26 species of Nationally Scarce status.

## Designations

All of these woodlands sit within the South Downs National Park.

Compartments U1a, 2 and 3 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.

Part of compartment U1b is classified as Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). In this compartment we will seek to restore and protect the woodland's natural characteristics and features.

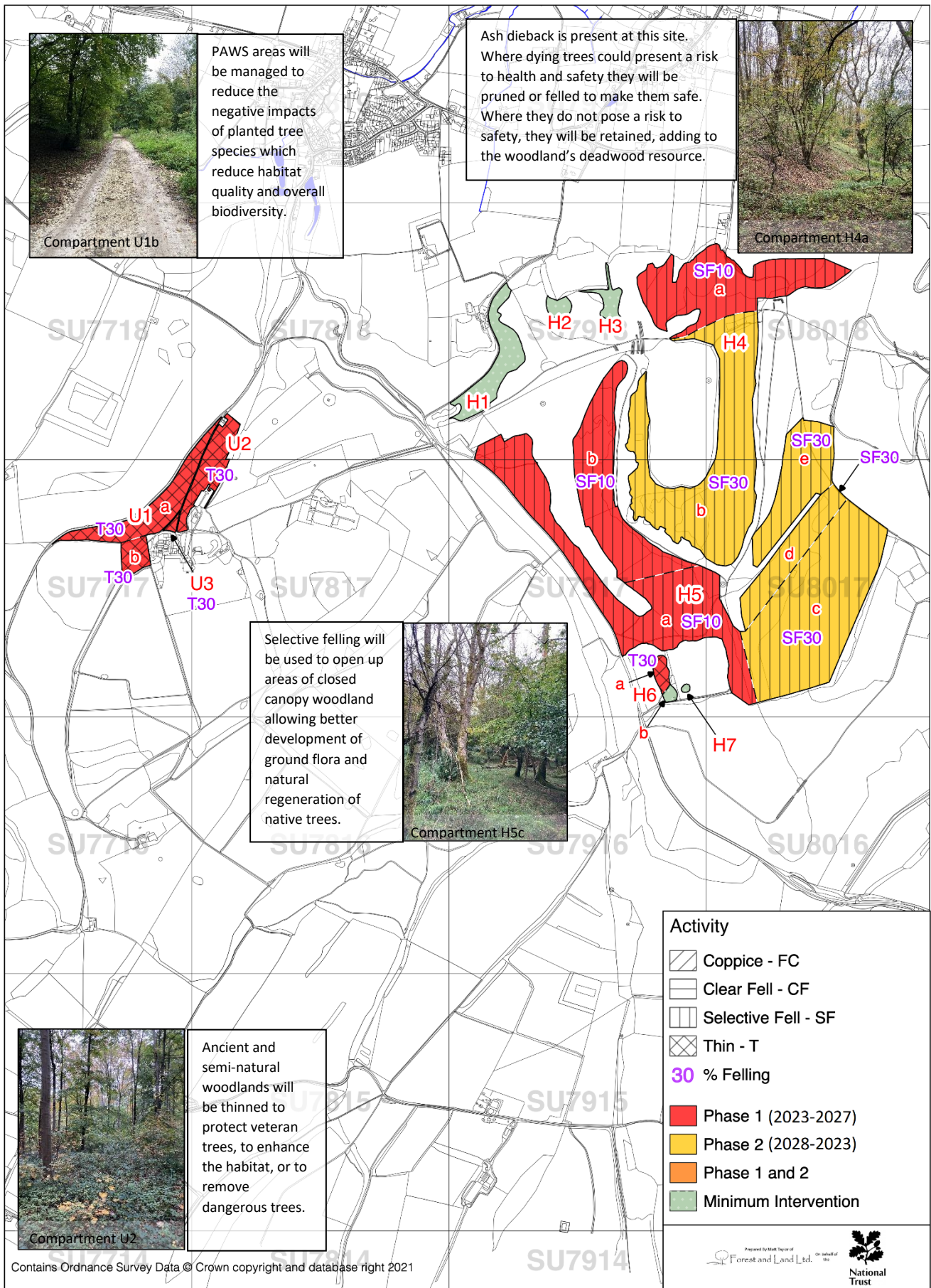
Compartments H1-5 sit in the Harting Downs SSSI designated for its particularly wide range of habitats and the broad range of species it supports. The Natural England 'Views about management' document suggest scrub management through cutting or grazing, and felling, thinning or coppicing may be used to create to maintain variations in the structure of the woodlands. Harting Down is also a Local Nature Reserve.

## 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—Harting Down & Uppark  
Map 2: Activity and Work Phase

Scale 1:13000 at A3