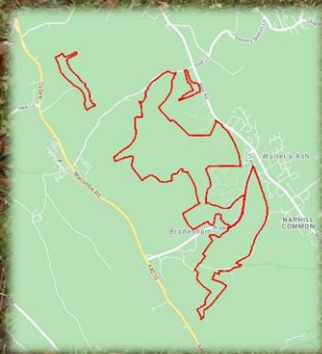


Bradenham Woodland Management Plan Summary 2023-2033



National
Trust

Bradenham



**161.85 hectares of mixed
woodland in Buckinghamshire**

Habitats and Species

The woods are mainly beech dominated and therefore fall within the Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland priority habitat of The UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Parts of this site have been managed as wood pasture in the past and so also fall within the remit of the Wood Pasture & Parkland Habitat Action Plan of the UK BAP.

There are records for over 500 species of fungi, making it a site with exceptionally rich and well recorded fungal population in a UK context and therefore selected as an Important Fungus Area. There are a number of uncommon or locally distributed plant species including the Nationally Scarce coral root *Cardamine bulbifera* and wood barley *Hordeum europaeus*. The variety of wood decay invertebrates reflects long periods of management of a wood pasture regime. The local presence of other characteristic ancient woodland invertebrates, notably molluscs, which include ash-black slug *Limax cinereoniger* and lapidary snail *Helicigona lapicida*. The small relict areas of long-established moister, ash-maple-wych elm type woodland, in combe heads, support specialist invertebrates such as the Red Data Book beetle *Ischnomera cinerascens* and white-letter hairstreak butterfly *Strymonidia walbum*. The site supports a variety of breeding birds.

Designations

The woodlands here form part of Bradenham Woods: Park Wood & The Coppice SSSI, cited for the shrub and ground flora, and several species which are nationally or locally rare. The interest is further enhanced by pockets of naturally regenerating beech, as well as areas of flint scree, blocks of sarsens and puddingstones, and a number of ponds and old clay-pits.

This woodland sits in the Chilterns AONB

It is designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands (ASNW), this means it is a woodland that has existed continuously since or before 1600. In this compartment work will focus on maintaining and enhancing the health and diversity of the woodland habitat, protecting veteran trees, and management for health and safety.

Compartment B4c,d,h, and I are classified as Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS), this is a result of the planting of hybrid larch into these woodlands. In this compartment we will seek to restore and protect the woodland's natural characteristics and features.

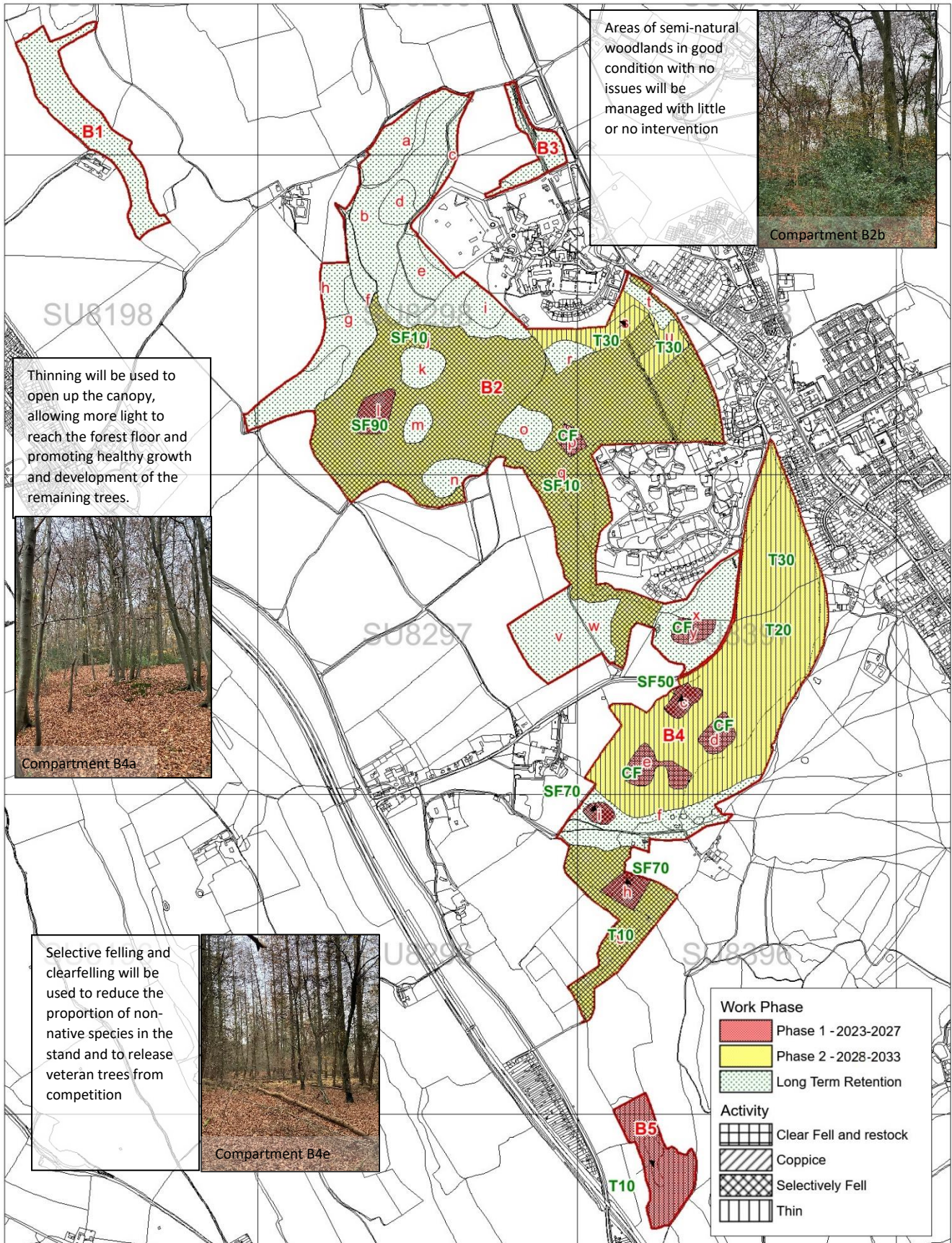
There are scheduled earthworks in B2j and Scheduled Monument, Buckinghamshire Grimm's Ditch runs through B3, B2q, and u.

Management Approaches

Areas of semi-natural woodlands in good condition with no issues will be managed with little or no intervention

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. Selective felling will also allow scheduled monuments to be kept clear of trees where appropriate.

The proportion of non-native trees in areas of ancient woodland will be gradually reduced to protect remnant features of high ecological value.



Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire Woodland Plan - 2023-2033

Bradenham Work Map

Scale 1:15000 at A4

