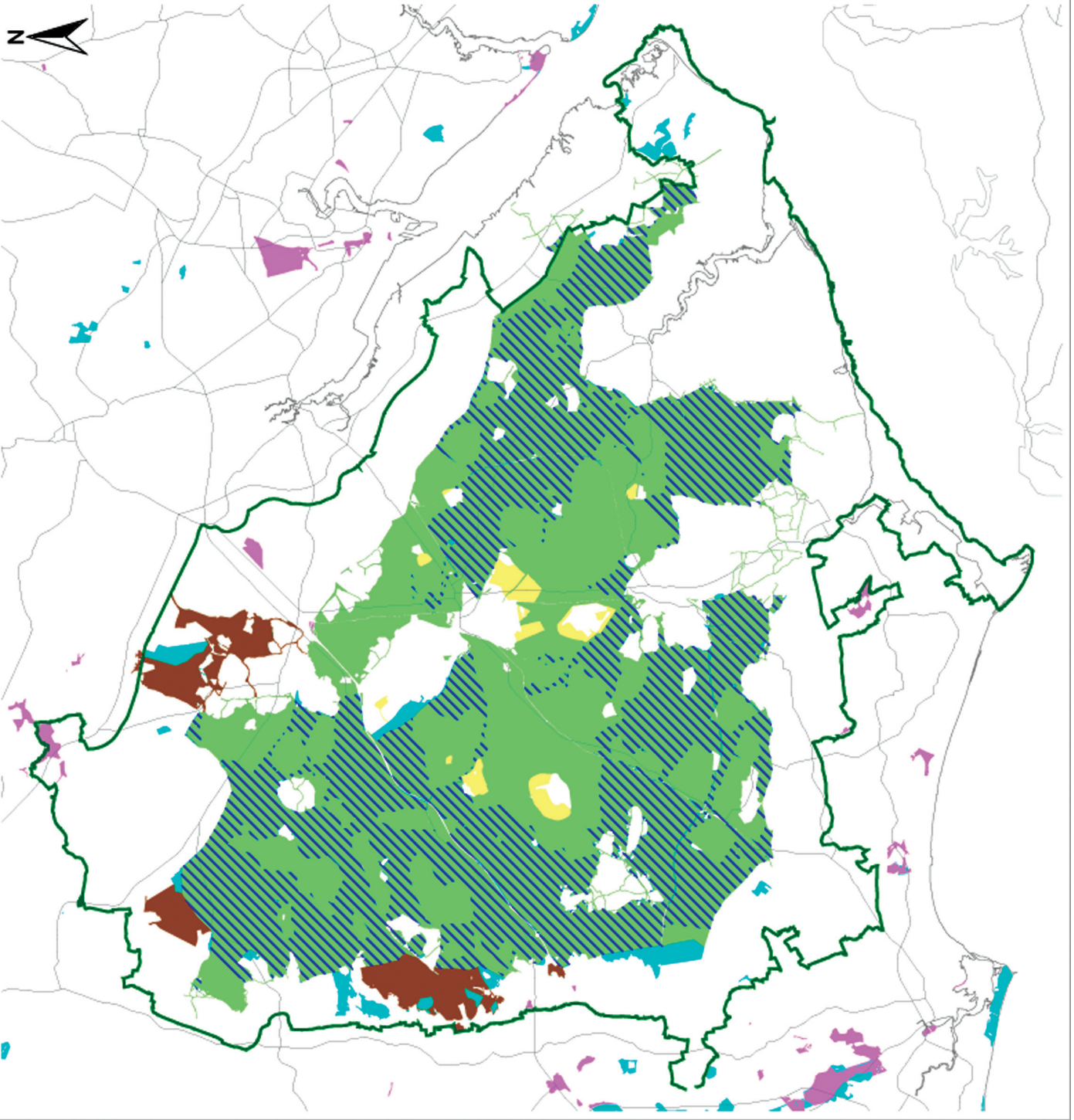


Figure 23

Commons



New Forest Life
PARTNERSHIP



Legend

Open access land to which Section 15 applies

Open access land (not Section 15)

Access land under Part 1 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000; mountain, moorland, heath and down (open country) and registered common land. A wider area of the New Forest heath was classified and mapped in 'open country' but Section 15 rights are higher and therefore this land is not shown as 'Access land'

Land covered by Section 15

Section 15 land - land with existing rights of access under s.193 Law of Property Act 1925 which granted access to common land which was wholly or partially within an urban borough. In this case Lynton and Urban

Dedicated land

Land dedicated as access land under Section 16 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

Registered common land

Land on the statutory register of common under the Commons Registration Act 1965, which became accessible under the CROW Act 2000

National Trust commons

National Trust Commons are treated as Section 15 land, by virtue of Local or Private Act

New Forest National Park

Produced by:

Date: 10 May 2008

Scale: 1:130,000

Source: G:Diels/Life 3/Fire/Report/Mapping

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branding of new foals, marking (the tail is trimmed to a particular pattern to indicate which area/register is assigned to) and removal of any animals that commoners want to sell or return to their holding. Checks can also be made that animals are legally depastured and 'marking fees' paid where appropriate.

Table 3-22: Commoning Rights

Rights	Definition
Common of pasture for commonable animals	Applies to ponies, cattle, donkeys, and mules. Applies to 65,000 acres of private enclosed land in and around the New Forest as calculated by the 1858 Register of Claims. Allows animals to graze freely on the Open Forest and certain Inclosures on Crown Lands and adjacent commons
Common of pasture for sheep	Confined to certain former monastic property in the S.E. of the Forest and to a few fields in the extreme NW. Right is not currently exercised.
Common of mast	Right to turn out pigs in the autumn to eat acorns. Mast season generally runs for 60 days.
Common of turbury and common of marl	No longer exercised
Estovers	Right to receive free firewood annually from the Forestry Commission. Less than 100 households benefit from this Right.

As well as the Crown Lands stock can graze freely on the Adjacent Commons. The Adjacent Commons (Table 3-23 and Figure 23) are areas of common land, contiguous with or near the New Forest. They fall under the doctrine of right of vicinage which states that where two commons adjoin, stock which may be depastured by right on one common, may wander freely between both. Therefore animals depastured on the Adjacent Commons can wander freely onto Crown Land.

Stock depastured on the Forest comprise ponies, cattle, donkeys and at certain times of the year Pigs can be turned out under the "Right of Mast" to eat the acorns which are potentially toxic to horses and cattle. Ponies form the greatest proportion of stock on the Forest while cattle form a larger proportion on the Adjacent Commons as shown in **Figure 24**. The large dip in stock numbers in 2001 was due to the Foot and Mouth Crisis.

Commoning is under pressure from poor financial returns, soaring house prices which prevent the younger generation of commoners from acquiring property from which to continue their commoning rights and the high percentage of commoners who are of an age where they will inevitably give up commoning in the next 10-25 years. There are also a number of key issues relating to commoning and sustainable wetland restoration which are discussed more fully in section **3.8.6**.

Figure 24: Stock Numbers

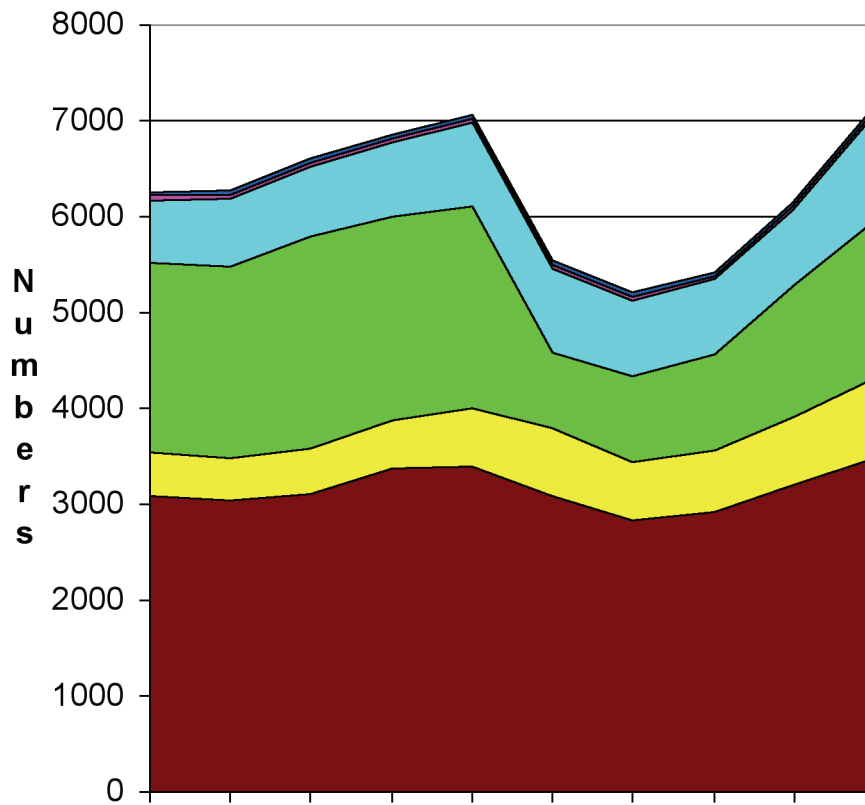


Table 3-23: Adjacent Commons

Adjacent Common	Ownership
Hyde Common	Hampshire County Council
Gorley Hill	Hampshire County Council
Ibsley Common	National Trust & Hampshire County Council
Rockford Common	National Trust, Hampshire County Council & several private owners
Hightown Common	National Trust
Kingston Great Common	Private
Hale Purlieu	National Trust
North Charford Common	Private
Plaitford Common	National Trust
West Wellow Common	Parish Council
Half Moon Common	National Trust
Cadnam and Furzley Commons	National Trust
Minstead Manor	Private

3.8.4 Recreation

The public has had access to a large part of the Forest within the Perambulation on foot and on horseback since time immemorial. Today, recreation and access in the New Forest is overseen by a variety of organisations and individuals including the Forestry Commission's, National Trust, Hampshire County Council, private estates and other individuals. In the future, the new National Park Authority is also likely to adopt a key strategic role. The main recreational uses within the Perambulation are managed by the Forestry Commission and are shown in Table 3-24. The Forestry Commission's *Access and Recreation Plan* guides the policies and strategies for managing and developing recreational access.

The Forestry Commission operates a policy of permissive free access on foot to its land (where lease arrangements allow) and byelaws allow free access to the Crown Lands on horseback. Under the Law of Property Act 1925, most of the Crown Lands are exempt from the CROW Act but at least 800 hectares of Crown Freehold Inclosures will be dedicated for open access under the CROW Act. Cycling is restricted to a cycle network using tracks and roads around the Forest. Other activities are controlled by a licensing system. The Forestry Commission Ranger Team has a key role in educating the public about the Forest and its environment and regulating recreational activities.

The powers conferred to the Forestry Commission for the provision and management of recreation under the New Forest Acts are only exercisable with the agreement of the Verderers. However the two parties have not always been able to agree whether particular items legally require the agreement of the Verderers. Therefore a *Memorandum of Understanding Between the Forestry Commissioners and the Verderers of the New Forest (2002)* has been drawn up to clarify the position and is intended to be binding in honour only (**Appendix L**).

Recreational activities outside Crown Land take place at the discretion of individual land owners and activities such as walking, horseriding and off road cycling are subject to local byelaws or restricted to the Right of Way network of footpaths and bridleways.

However, the Countryside and Right of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act) may provide some limited opportunities for new accessible green space.

In terms of visitor numbers, it has been estimated that at the current time (2005) around 15 million people visit the Forest each year of which 60-70% are made by local people from surrounding villages and conurbations.

Table 3-24: Recreational Use within the Forest Perambuation

Recreation Use	Level of Use	Current Management
Walking including dog walking	10 million visits per year	Forestry Commission operates policy of free access on foot
Horse riding	5000 horses & riders use New Forest	Forestry Commission byelaws allow free access on horseback within perambulation
Cycling	7% of visitors	Forestry Commission operates policy of encouraging cycle access on way marked tracks
Specialist recreation	1200 permits per year	Activities require permits from Forestry Commission with seasonal, locational and other restrictions applying. Activities include orienteering, model boats and aircraft, hunting, fishing, BBQ, Duke of Edinburgh awards, husky training, carriage driving
Other activities	900 permits per year	Activities require permits from Forestry Commission with seasonal, locational and other restrictions applying. Activities include filming, car access to inclosures, military training, bee keeping

Source: Forestry Commission

3.8.5 Settlements & Infrastructure

Figure 25 shows the key settlements and infrastructure. It is estimated that the population contained within the National Park Boundary is around 34,400. The majority of the population is concentrated in towns and villages with the remaining found in isolated properties and hamlets scattered throughout the New Forest. Within the Forest itself the main population centres are focused in Lyndhurst, Brockenhurst and Burley.


The main infrastructure routes through the Forest are the A31, A35 and A337. A network of smaller B and C class roads criss-cross the Forest linking up the major networks. The London to Weymouth railway bisects the southern half of the Forest linking Bournemouth and Southampton.

Figure 25

Infrastructure and Settlements

New Forest Life PARTNERSHIP

Legend

 New Forest National Park



Produced by:

Date: 20 April 2006

Scale: 1:130,000

Source: G-Data/Le 3/Fire/Report/Mapping
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A network of gravel tracks gives access to the Inclosures and the Open Forest and is used for maintenance access and timber hauling. Parts of this gravel track network combined with sections of public highway are used to provide cycle routes and public access throughout the Forest.

3.8.6 Land Use Issues

a) Restricted access to timber harvesting sites

Wetland restoration works have resulted in the modification of some access routes within the Inclosures by taking out culverts and replacing them with fords. Timber harvesting of hardwoods takes place during the winter and there is the possibility that during wet periods when the rivers are high, it will not be possible for machinery and vehicles to use the fords, leaving certain forest stands temporarily isolated. This has already happened at the “concrete ford” in Vinney Ridge (November 05) when timber lorries were unable to cross the ford to pick up timber stacks. Although fords are only likely to be inaccessible for a matter of hours or possibly days during extreme rainfall events, plans for timber extraction routes and locations for timber stacks may need to be given additional thought during the planning stages of timber harvesting. Gauges will also need to be installed at certain fords to assist timber lorries assess the feasibility of crossing fords in flood.

Additional pollution prevention measures will also have to be taken at ford crossings during timber extraction to limit excess sedimentation, including the use of Heather bales and/or booms or sediment mats.

b) Location of works relative to recreational activities

To date the majority of Life 3 works have taken place in areas reasonably remote from recreational pressures where the main activities are restricted to walking and riding. It has only been during the construction phase that any access restrictions have had to be imposed on safety grounds. It has been essential to ensure that crossing points have been maintained and if possible improved.

There is also the perception among some users of the Forest that wetland restoration works will make the Forest less accessible. Future works are unlikely to affect the gravel track network but there may be a few instances where informal “traditional” routes cross an area of restoration. In such cases the recreational use will be given due consideration and if necessary paths re-routed via the existing path network.

c) Honey pot effects along rivers and streams

Certain reaches of the rivers are under significant pressure due to visitor numbers. Where car parks are located close to rivers they act as a honey pot for people to come and play and picnic beside the river. Certain localised reaches of the rivers do suffer from increased bankside erosion as a result. Where damage has been putting SAC habitats at risk, certain car parks

have been closed to try and relieve the pressure. However the public reaction following such closures has demonstrated that much advanced planning and sensitivity is required when carrying out any permanent car parks closures.

d) Grazing Patterns

The commoning community is concerned that wetland restoration works do not affect the quality of the grazing and that the productivity of any new grazing is recognised when opening up new areas. Therefore it is important to understand grazing patterns of stock and the relative productivity of different habitat types. A detailed study examining the food and feeding behaviour of cattle and ponies was conducted in the late 1970's, the findings of which are still highly relevant today (Putman et al 1983).

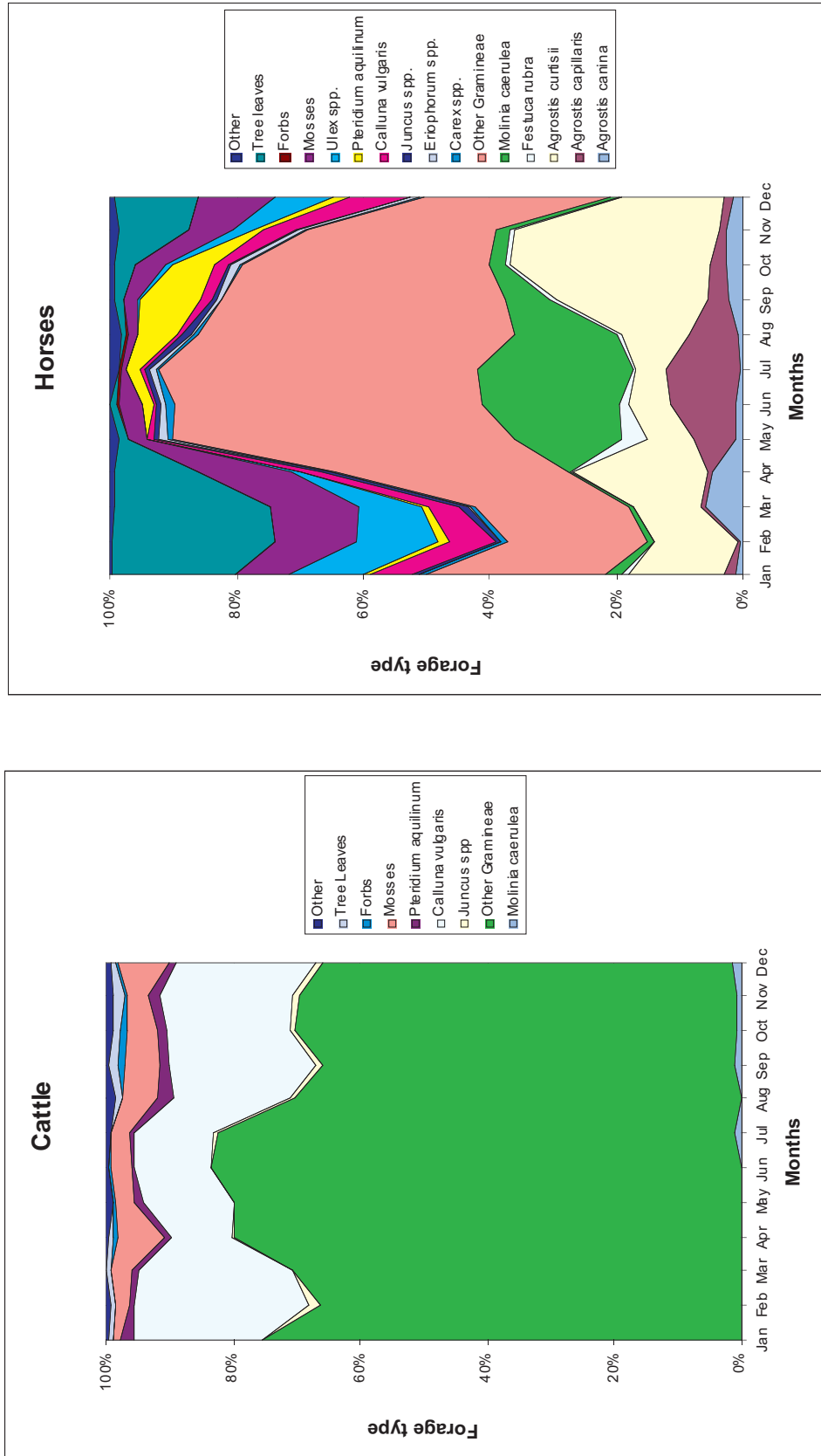
Both cattle and ponies are selective grazers and follow fairly regimented patterns. Cattle use their preferred habitat types throughout the year and have a heavy preference for lawns and improved grasslands with extensive use of heathland. They tend to graze wet heath in summer and drier areas of heath in the winter. Feeding use of other communities is not extensive although deciduous woodland is exploited at times during the winter and acid grassland is used sporadically for most of the year. Cattle tend to spend less time actively feeding than ponies (60% compared to 75-88% for ponies) and restrict much of their feeding activity to daylight hours.

Ponies on the other hand exhibit a more marked seasonal and diurnal use of vegetation types. Improved grasslands and acid grassland are important throughout the year with streamside lawns being particularly favoured. Indeed the majority of ponies feed in discrete groups with each group having a favoured lawn which forms the focus of their grazing. However, wet heath, bogs and regenerating heathlands are used seasonally with peak use in the summer (May – September), which is related to *Molinia* growth which is the most important forage species in bogs and heathland. Feeding in gorse-brakes and deciduous woodland is largely restricted to winter, although woodlands are used for night feeding throughout the year. Indeed ponies tend to move off the lawns and heath during the night to seek shelter among the trees where they continue to graze throughout the night.

Although both ponies and cattle feed on lawns each has its own preferred area on the lawn. Ponies rarely graze their own latrine areas leaving areas of longer sward which in turn are utilised by the cattle which prefer to graze a longer sward.

The feeding preferences of cattle and ponies for different plant species are shown in Figure 26 while the productivity of different habitat types is shown in Table 3-25.

Figure 26: Forage Preferences of Cattle and Horses



Source: R.J. Putman et al (1987)
 Based upon the percentage species composition of cuticular fragments in the faeces of New Forest cattle & ponies

Table 3-25: Productivity and grazing pressure on different habitat types

Habitat Type	Growing Season Production (tons/acre)	Percentage removed by grazing
Reseeded lawns	0.90	94%
Commoners' improved grassland	1.31	86%
Streamside lawns	1.96	66%
Acid grassland	0.63	91%
Bog	1.84	89%
Molinia Heath	0.90	48%
Molinia Bog	0.90	48%
Juncus sp	4.89	72%
Bramble leaves	1.27	24%

Source: Putnam et al

e) Importance of grazing in maintaining habitats

The streamside lawns and mires are key sources of grazing for commoners' stock and indeed grazing is essential in maintaining the characteristics and sward composition of the SAC habitats. Indeed several areas of riverine woodland within the Inclosures would benefit from increased grazing. In some wet areas poaching by stock is important in developing habitat diversity and encouraging species which would not otherwise colonise these areas.

Ponies are capable of foraging deep into mires which helps to control scrub ingress and maintains an open habitat. However, ponies are also quite territorial and are often reluctant to graze new areas even when the productivity of grazing on their favoured areas is low.

f) Fencing & Drift Lines

The pattern of fencing is important for maintaining drift lines during the annual round up of stock. When planning any changes to Inclosure fences it is necessary to consider the impact on drifting and take into account potential stock holding areas highlighted in the "Foot and Mouth Contingency Plan".

It is also important to maintain crossing points.

g) Creation of increased grazing

The wetland restoration works offer the potential to increase the area available for grazing through:

- ◆ Opening up areas within Inclosures for grazing
- ◆ Restoration of lawns
- ◆ Scrub clearance
- ◆ Erosion repair and drain infilling

There is also potential for increased productivity on some lawns due to flushes of nutrients from the restoration of natural flooding. A key point to bear in mind is that as long as the flooding is of short duration (less than 48 hours) damage to the sward is generally negligible (Oakwood Environmental 1992, Scott Wilson/Environment Agency 1996). Flood peaks on Forest streams are likely to pass through in a matter of hours rather than days.

It has also been noted that bracken prefers drier ground and it is possible that bracken coverage could reduce alongside restored watercourses. However, this will require observation and monitoring over time.

h) Stock watering

During dry summers accessible drinking water for stock can become scarce in some areas putting pressure on remaining "watering holes" resulting in increased poaching and erosion around some mires. Raising bed levels should mean that stock can more readily and safely access water sources that were previously unavailable or dangerous due to the narrow, over-deepened channels. If restoration works are successful in reducing the drying of mires then more water should also be available for watering stock in the summer.

Some localised reaches of streams and ditches running alongside certain lawns, for example Butts Lawn and Lyndhurst race course have suffered from excess erosion and poaching from stock trying to access the over deepened watercourse. A number of stock have also had to be rescued from over deepened ditches. The aforementioned sites have now been restored.

i) Improved safety

Deep drainage ditches have resulted in stock fatalities in the past. The works will result in the infilling of many of the deeper, more dangerous ditches which may make the Inclosures safer for legitimate and/or straying stock.

j) Consultation and consent

A significant component of the Life 3 Project to date has been consultation with stakeholders and increasing public awareness of the importance of wetland habitats, the type of work required and the issues involved. It has been extremely important to get public and stakeholder support in order for works to proceed successfully. It is important to retain this support if works are to proceed into the future.

k) Socio- Economic Impacts of Wetland restoration works

It is likely that restoration and maintenance works will provide some additional temporary employment for contractors and staff within the Partner Organisations. At this point in time it is not envisaged that restoration works will result in any significant changes to the current grazing regime or recreational activities within the Forest.

Further Reading

Management Plan For the Crown Lands of the New Forest 2001-2006,
Forestry Commission

Plan For the Ancient & Ornamental Woodlands of the New Forest,
April 99, Forestry Commission

Enjoying the Forest – Access & Recreation Plan, June 2001, Forestry Commission

Heathland Plan, March 2001, Forestry Commission

New Forest Special Area of Conservation Management Plan 2001

Putman R.J. et al (1983) The Food and Feed Behaviour of Cattle and Ponies
in the New Forest Hampshire, NCC

Putman R.J et al (1987) Food and Feeding Behaviour of Cattle and Ponies
in the New Forest, Hampshire, Journal of Applied Ecology, Vol 24, p369-380

Verderer's Countryside Stewardship Scheme – Grazing Management Plan (2003)

www.verderers.org.uk

3.9 OTHER LEGISLATION, PLANS & STRATEGIES

3.9.1 Existing Legislation, Plans & Strategies

A number of plans and strategies have been prepared or are currently being developed for the New Forest, which are relevant to the Wetland Management Plan because:

- ◆ They contain statutory policies relevant to the works that may be important for supporting and/or gaining statutory approvals for works proposed.
- ◆ It is important to be aware of any contradictory policies that could prevent the works from progressing beyond the planning stage.
- ◆ Non statutory plans may contain policies or objectives which could be important in gaining general support or otherwise during the consultation process
- ◆ The Strategies and actions proposed under another plan may be complimentary to solving issues highlighted in relation to wetland restoration and present opportunities for collaboration with other organisations to progress certain works or associated projects.

A summary of the relevant plans & strategies including their relevance to the Wetland Management Plan is given in Table 3-26.

A significant amount of UK legislation applicable to wetland restoration works in the New Forest including the:

- ◆ Water Resources Act 1991
- ◆ Environment Act 1995
- ◆ Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975
- ◆ Land Drainage Act 1991
- ◆ Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- ◆ Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- ◆ Town & Country Planning Act 1981
- ◆ Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994
- ◆ Waste Management Licensing Regulations 2005

This legislation helps to determine which consents and conditions are applicable to the restoration works. Further details and explanations of the legislation can be found at www.legislation.hms.gov.uk

3.9.2 Issues relating to Plans & Policies

a) Compliance with legislation

When preparing work plans it is important that sufficient time is allowed in the project planning process to obtain the necessary consents. The PATHFINDER Project is currently reviewing the consents procedure and will be reporting later in 2006.

b) Compliance with existing policies & plans

It is important when preparing plans and consents for the works that a check is made to ensure that the works are in accordance with policies and plans set out in key documents, in particular the:

- ◆ New Forest Special Area of Conservation Management Plan 2001
- ◆ Management Plan for the Crown Lands of the New Forest 2001-2006 (or any revisions) and associated Subject Plans

Due regard should also be given to the Verderers' Policies (**Appendix L**)

The Forest Design Plan which maps out in general terms how the Forest will be managed over the next 50-100 years is part of the Management Plan for the Crown Lands of the New Forest. The Management Plan is currently under review and the Forest Design Plan is being updated accordingly. Therefore it is important that any plans for future wetland restoration works are built into this review process.

Where works require permission for structures (e.g. bridges) under the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 then consideration must be given to the policies set out in the New Forest Local Plan (or future plans produced by the National Park Authority).

c) Stakeholder interest in other plans & strategies

Other plans that are currently being prepared are of interest and relevance to issues associated with wetland restoration in the New Forest, notably:

- ◆ New Forest Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS)
- ◆ New Forest Catchment Flood Management Plan

Therefore it is important that the Partner Organisations maintain their interest in stakeholder consultations to ensure that the staff involved in preparing these plans have the necessary information to allow them to consider wetland restoration issues within the plan preparation process.

d) Actions arising from other plans & strategies

Actions arising from other plans and strategies are often of direct relevance to the wetland restoration works. Therefore there may be scope for mutual co-operation between various partner organisations to achieve similar aims and objectives.

Plan/Strategy	Background	Relevant Catchments	Status*	Relevance to Implementation Plan
New Forest District Council Local Plan (Adopted July 2005) NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL	The New Forest District Local Plan First Alteration was adopted in August 2005 and is part of the statutory Development Plan for the District, together with the Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996-2011 (Review) and the Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Minerals and Waste Local Plan (1998).	All	Current. Will be reviewed after 5 years	A number of planning policies are relevant to the works where works require consent under the Town & Country Planning Act 1990
New Forest Special Area of Conservation Management Plan 2001 PREPARED BY ENGLISH NATURE ON BEHALF OF NEW FOREST LIFE 2 PARTNERSHIP	Describes the New Forest's features of European Importance for nature conservation and cultural factors of significance for their well being. Evaluates SAC habitats and issues affecting them. Outlines set of generic management prescriptions for habitat restoration and management.	All	Due for review in 2006	Of key relevance to Implementation Plan both in terms of issues and management prescriptions for SAC habitats targeted for restoration under Life 3
Management Plan for the Crown Lands of the New Forest 2001-2006 FORESTRY COMMISSION	Management Plan drawn up as a result of the Minister's Mandate 1999 and is a key component in implementing both the objectives of the Minister's Mandate and the management prescriptions set out under the SAC Management Plan. Supported by seven subject plans relating to Heathlands, Ancient & Ornamental woodlands, Inclosures, Deer Management, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Access and Recreation, Community Involvement.	All	Currently under review.	All subject plans contain key policies, strategies and objectives directly relevant to the implementation of wetland restoration works. Need proactive involvement in any plan revisions to ensure that future works are in compliance with the Forest Design Plan and where possible included within budget allocations.

Plan/Strategy	Background	Relevant Catchments	Status*	Relevance to Implementation Plan
<p>New Forest Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS) ENVIRONMENT AGENCY</p>	<p>CAMS set out how water resources will be managed at a local level. Consider how water abstraction need to be balanced against the needs of the environment</p>	<p>All except Hampshire Avon Tribs.</p>	<p>In preparation. Consultation document due Summer 2006. Final report due for publication in Spring 2007</p>	<p>Protection of wetland water resources and possible actions to help alleviate low flows.</p> <p>Partners need to take active part in consultation process to ensure potential benefits for wetland restoration are considered.</p>
<p>Hampshire Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS) ENVIRONMENT AGENCY</p>	<p>CAMS set out how water resources will be managed at a local level. Consider how water abstraction need to be balanced against the needs of the environment</p>	<p>Hampshire Avon Tribs</p>	<p>Published March 2006</p>	<p>Protection of wetland water resources</p>
<p>New Forest Catchment Flood Management Plan ENVIRONMENT AGENCY</p>	<p>Strategic level plan setting out flood control policies for the New Forest</p>	<p>All except Hampshire Avon Tribs which fall under Environment Agency SW Region</p>	<p>In preparation</p>	<p>Need to ensure that aims, objectives and flood benefits of wetland restoration works are considered within New Forest Catchment Flood Management Plan. Project partners need to maintain role as stakeholders through consultation process.</p>
<p>River Avon cSAC Conservation Strategy (2003) ENGLISH NATURE</p>	<p>Prepared as part of Life in UK Rivers, which is a partnership project between the EU Life Nature Fund and main statutory bodies in the UK. On the Avon the 10 year strategy aims to define issues affecting the rivers, to note any mechanisms in place to tackle the issues and to identify any further action required.</p>	<p>Hampshire Avon Tribs</p>	<p>10 year plan</p>	<p>Strategy applied to Dockens Water. Need to be aware of any initiatives being progressed in relation to such issues as debris dams & flood control, non-native invasive plant species and habitat rehabilitation. Scope to co-ordinate works and potential to set up partnership projects</p>
<p>Local Environment Agency Plan (LEAP) New Forest ENVIRONMENT AGENCY</p>	<p>Identified issues & actions to be incorporated into Agency's Business Plans</p>	<p>All except Hampshire Avon Tribs</p>	<p>Out of date</p>	<p>Useful for identifying key issues</p>

Plan/Strategy	Background	Relevant Catchments	Status*	Relevance to Implementation Plan
Local Environment Agency Plan (LEAP) Hampshire Avon ENVIRONMENT AGENCY	Identified issues & actions to be incorporated into Agency's Business Plans	Hampshire Avon Tribes	Out of date	Useful for identifying key issues
Lymington River Strategy (June 2004) ENVIRONMENT AGENCY	Considered various options to alleviate flooding in Brockenhurst and Lymington	Lymington R	Options selected for Lymington.	Considered effects of Life 3 works on flooding. Proposed a number of options which would have had implications for the Life 3 restoration works. Could be relevant in the future if flood alleviation work is progressed for Brockenhurst or Life 3 works are carried out on the Weir Stream.
Verderer's Countryside Stewardship Scheme Grazing Management Plan (May 2005)	10 year agreement between the Verderer's and DEFRA which allows commoners to receive headage payments via the Countryside Stewardship Scheme by entering their stock into a management agreement which has the aims and objectives to support commoning and the environmental and economic benefits of the traditional depasturing of animals	All	Current	Grazing is important in maintaining wetland SAC habitats and need to liaise with Verderers over management of grazing in restored areas.
Strategy for the New Forest 2003 NEW FOREST COMMITTEE	Sets out policies and actions needed to conserve the special character of the Forest	All	Current	Being used by National Park Authority as a basis for the new National Park Management Plan.
Verderers' Policies (July 2005) VERDERERS	The primary objective of the Verderers is to protect the special qualities of the Forest including commoning, traditional landscape, aesthetic character, flora & fauna, peacefulness, natural beauty and cultural heritage.	All	Current	Need to be aware of Policies particularly when planning works and undertaking consultation in the open Forest where the Verderers' consent is required.

Further Reading

Strategy for the New Forest , New Forest Committee 2003

New Forest District Council Local Plan (Adopted July 2005)

Forestry Commission, **Management Plan for the Crown Lands of the New Forest 2001-2006** plus associated subject plans

English Nature, **New Forest Special Area of Conservation Management Plan 2001 -**

English Nature (2003) **River Avon cSAC Conservation Strategy**

www.legislation.hmsso.gov.uk

(N.B. At the time of writing the Environment Agency's New Forest Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy, New Forest Flood Defence Strategy and River Basin Management Plans are still under development)

PART 4
WETLAND RESTORATION WORKS

4. WETLAND RESTORATION WORKS

4.1 Introduction

This section of the Plan:

- ◆ Presents a summary of the works carried out to the end of the Life 3 Project (June 2006)
- ◆ Provides information on potential future works to help plan work programmes or prepare applications for funding to carry out the works
- ◆ Gives an idea of potential project costs through the provision of itemised cost menus and Case Studies
- ◆ Highlights the different restoration techniques used to date
- ◆ Notes the maintenance actions required to secure the habitat improvements made under the Life 3 Project
- ◆ Provides a summary of Issues/Actions & Priorities

4.2 Wetland Restoration Works (2002 – 2006)

A number of generic activities have been carried out to achieve habitat restoration, notably:

- ◆ River restoration in channel
- ◆ Selective felling and removal of exotics from the immediate floodplain and waterways
- ◆ Drain infill
- ◆ Vegetation management including holly pollarding, scrub clearance, grazing and fence realignment
- ◆ Road and track maintenance in particular road/ride side drains

These tasks can be applied across several habitat restoration types as shown in Table 4.1 and are described in more detail in Section 4.8.

Table 4.1: Restoration Works

Habitat Restoration Type	Potential works required
Mire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub clearance & management • Drain infilling • Tree felling • Removal of conifers and other exotics
Riverine & Bog Woodland Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drain infill • Scrub management • Pollarding of holly/oak/ash/beechn • Exotics removal and treatment (including conifers) • Glade creation and mire restoration in previously mixed woodland and disruption of the even aged structure of woodland • Deer fencing for small regeneration exclosures • Re-aligning of Inclosure fences to re-introduce grazing • Re-establishment of a natural river system, by reconnecting the river with its floodplain through reinstatement of the original river channel including meanders and debris dams
Wet grassland (streamside lawns)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establishment of a natural river system, by reconnecting river with its floodplain through reinstatement of original river channel including meanders and debris dams • Scrub management • Pollarding of holly/oak/ash/beechn • Exotics removal and treatment

Table 4-2: Wetland Restoration works carried out under Life 3

Catchment/Location	E.U. Action Type	Habitat Restoration Type	Partner Responsible
Lymington			
Highland Water - River Restoration	C4.1-4.3	River Restoration	EA
Blackensford Bottom River Restoration	C4.1-4.3	River Restoration	EA
Dames Slough River Restoration	C4.1-4.3	River Restoration	EA
Rhinefield River Restoration	C4.1-4.3	River Restoration	EA
Holly Coppicing/Pollarding	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Pollarding Oak/Ash/Beech	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Waters Copse (fencing/hedging)	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Access Routes	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Anderwood Riverine Work	C2.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Burley Outer Rails	C2.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Dames Slough	C2.1	River Restoration	FC
Vinney Ridge Deer fencing (Enclosure Plots)	C2.1	Veg Management	FC
Highland Water (Deer fencing)	C2.1	Veg Management	FC
Highland Water	C2.1	Mire	FC
Holmhill Riverine Work	C2.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Holmhill Fencing	C2.1	Grazing	FC
Knightwood Fence Re-alignments	C2.1	Grazing	FC
Knightwood Western Hemlock Removal	C2.1	Exotics Removal	FC
North Oakley Riverine Works	C2.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Slufters Fence Removal	C2.1	Heath & Mire	FC
Vinney Ridge	C2.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Markway Lawn	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Markway Lawn	C3.1	River Restoration/Riverine Woodland	FC
Allum Green	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Brinken Wood Lawn	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Warwickslade Bog	C3.1	Mire	FC
Withybed Bottom	C3.1	Mire	FC
Slufters Mires	C3.1	Mire	FC
Bratley Mire	C3.1	Mire	FC
Millyford Green	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Sporelake Lawn	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Mill Lawn	C3.1	Mire/Wet Grassland	FC
Red Rise/Creek Bottom	C3.1	Mire/Wet Grassland	FC
Black Knowl/Butts Lawn	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Whitemoor	C3.1	Mire	FC
Markway Inclosure	C3.1	Heath	FC
Avon Water			
Removal Sallow Carr/Invasive Species	C1.1	Mire	FC
Sheepwash Lawn Scrub Management	C1.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Pollard 140 trees (not Holly)	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Holly Pollarding/coppicing other species	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Re-instate access routes	C1.1	Erosion protection	FC
Holmsley Fence Removal	C2.1	Heath & Mire	FC
Holmsley Riverine Work	C2.1	Stream Restoration	FC
Wilverley Bog	C3.1	Mire	FC
Wooton Copse Riverine Works	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Wooton Deer Fencing/fence re-alignments	C2.1	Grass/Lawn Restoration	FC
Holmsley Bog	C3.1	Mire	FC
Stony Moors	C3.1	Mire	FC
Sheepwash Lawn	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Hampshire Avon Tributaries			
Broomy Bottom	C3.1	Mire	FC
Holly Hatch	C3.1	Mire	FC
Rhododendron control	C1.1	Riverine Woodland	FC
Alluvial Grasslands- burning up scrub	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Broadway Bottom	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Woodford Bottom	C3.1	Wet Grassland	FC
Ibsley Common	C2.2	Mire/Riverine & Bog Woodland	NT
Newlands Plantation	C2.2	Mire/Riverine & Bog Woodland	NT
Digden Bottom	C3.1	Wet Grassland	NT
Milkham	C3.1	Mire	FC
C1.1 = Ensure Favourable Condition of riverine woodland and stimulate natural succession			
C2.1 = Restoration of Links between pre-Inclosure riverine and bog woodland and nearby networks to stimulate natural succession on Crown Land			
C2.2 = Restoration of Links between pre-Inclosure riverine and bog woodland and nearby networks to stimulate natural succession on National Trust Land			
C3.1 = Restoration of periodic inundation patterns in the upper catchments to maintain stream water levels throughout the year on the Crown Lands			
C4.1 - 4.3 = River Habitat Restoration Work to Protect and Enhance Natura 2000 Priority Habitats			

4.3 Future Works

The information on Future Works can be used to help support or target funding applications and/or to plan works as funding becomes available.

An initial indication of the location and priorities¹ for future works is given in **Figures 27 to 34**. The series of plans show:

- ◆ The river reaches where some form of restoration work needs to be carried out
- ◆ The potential type of restoration work that needs to be carried out, although a detailed review needs to be conducted in the field to ascertain the exact extent of work required. River corridor survey data is also available to help with planning along some reaches
- ◆ A priority for those works
 - Priority 1 works are the most urgent where action is required to meet the favourable SSSI condition targets (**Appendix P**). In order to meet the PSA Target these works need to have been carried out or be in the advance stage of planning by 2010.
 - Priority 2 works tend to be located on the Open Forest or in more sensitive areas. Although these works are still required to meet the favourable SSSI condition targets it is considered that more time is needed to ensure that the techniques and works completed under Life 3 are working according to plan and to ensure that stakeholders have confidence that any new works will achieve their aim.
 - Priority 3 works are works which are not necessary to achieve SSSI favourable condition status but if undertaken would help to restore the condition of the majority of New Forest Wetlands.
- ◆ Forestry Commission Inclosure Working Blocks – where possible it is useful to phase works to coincide with the 5 year working block rotation in order to reduce the impact on these areas.

Tables 4.3 to 4.8 summarise the map data in written form and can be used as a cross reference tool.

Data relative to the Future Works will be held on the Forestry Commissions ARC9 system and can be added to/modified as more data becomes available.

¹The potential future works were identified by representatives from English Nature, Environment Agency and Forestry Commission who are extremely familiar with the network of Forest streams and watercourses.

Table 4-3: Future Work Requirement - Lymington River

SSSI Condition Unit	Working Block*	Reach Code	Location	Priority	Nick Point Restoration	Drain Infill	Bed Level Raising	Debris Dam	Meander Restoration	Spoil Bank Removal	Veg. Mgmt.	Aquatic Exotics
113	2	LR1	Suifers	1								
113	2	LR2	Suifers	1								
113	2	LR3	Suifers	1								
113	2	LR4	Suifers	1								
113	2	LR5	Suifers	1								
114	2	LR6	Suifers	1								
114	2	LR7	Suifers	1								
114	2	LR8	Suifers	1								
134	2	LR9	Bratley Water	2								
344,350	OF	LR10	Bratley Water	2								
357	4	LR11	North Oakley Plantation	1								
357	4	LR12	North Oakley Plantation	1								
127,138	OF	LR13	North Oakley Plantation	2								
120,126	OF	LR14	Mill Lawn Brook	2								
120	OF	LR15	Ridley Green	2								
136	OF	LR16	Mill Lawn Brook	2								
156	OF	LR17	Oldhouse Bottom	1								
561	2	LR18	South Oakley Inclosure	3								
128	2	LR19	South Oakley Inclosure	3								
366	2	LR20	South Oakley Inclosure	3								
558	1	LR21	Andenwood/Dog Kennel	3								
357,371	1	LR22	Andenwood/Dog Kennel	3								
362	5	LR23	Knightwood Incl (Winding Shoot)	3								
363,362	5	LR24	Knightwood/Dameslough	3								
363,362	5	LR24	Knightwood/Dameslough	3								
358	3	LR25	Puckpits - Bagshot Gutter	1								
347	2	LR26	Holidays Hill Inclosure	1								
362	2	LR27	Knightwood Inclosure	3								
362	2	LR28	Knightwood Inclosure	3								
356	2	LR29	Knightwood Inclosure	3								
356	2	LR30	Knightwood Inclosure	3								
356,386	2	LR31	Knightwood Inclosure	3								
335	OF	LR70	Red Rise	2								
507	OF	LR55	Duckhole	2								
473, 384	OF	LR32	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
500	OF	LR33	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
473,504	OF	LR34	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
504	2	LR35	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
484,498	2	LR36	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
498	2	LR37	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
503	2	LR38	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
469,476	2	LR39	Warwicksiade Cutting	2								
503	OF	LR40	Queen's Meadow	2								
476,501	OF	LR41	Fletchers Water	2								
489	2	LR42	Fletchers Thorns Inclosure	2								
499	2	LR43	Fletchers Hill Inclosure	2								
499,469,501	2	LR44	Fletchers Hill Inclosure	2								
477	OF	LR45	Ober Heath	2								
476	OF	LR46	Ober Heath	2								
469	OF	LR47	Ober Heath	2								
472	OF	LR48	Butts Lawn	3								
472	OF	LR49	Butts Lawn	3								
494	2	LR50	Hurst Hill Inclosure	2								
495	2	LR51	Hurst Hill Inclosure	2								
496,486	2	LR52	Buckford Inclosure	37								
509	OF	LR53	Buckford Inclosure	3								
511,513	OF	LR54	Silver Stream	1								
591	1	LR56	The Weir	3								
491	1	LR57	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
491	1	LR58	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
491	1	LR59	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
491	1	LR60	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
491	1	LR61	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
491	1	LR62	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
570	5	LR63	Etherise Gutter (Parkhill)	3								
570	5	LR64	Etherise Gutter (Perrywood Hasley)	3								
569	3	LR65	Etherise Gutter (Perrywood Hasley)	3								
515	OF	LR66	Hincheslea Bog	2								
515	OF	LR67	Trenley Lawn	2								
506	OF	LR68	Blackhamley	3								
517	OF	LR69	Milking Pound Bottom	2								
362	1	LR71	Knightwood Inclosure	3								
362	2	LR72	Knightwood Inclosure	3								

* Working block dates -

Block 5	2006-2007	2012-2013
Block 1	2007-2008	2013-2014
Block 2	2008-2009	2015-2016
Block 3	2009-2010	2016-2017
Block 4	2010-2011	

Table 4-4: Future Work Requirements - Cadnam River

SSSI Condition Unit	Working Block*	Reach Code	Location	Priority	Nick Point Restoration	Drain Infill	Bed Level Raising	Debris Dam	Meander Restoration	Spoil Bank Removal	Veg. Mgmt.	Aquatic Exotics
99,56	OF	LR1CR1	Sheepwash Green	3		•	•	•				
109,110	5	CR2	Coppice of Linwood	1	•	•	•	•				
109	5	CR3	Coppice of Linwood	1	•	•	•	•				
109	5	CR4	Coppice of Linwood	1		•	•	•				
109	5	CR5	Coppice of Linwood	1		•	•	•				
109	5	CR6	Coppice of Linwood	1		•	•	•				
110	5	CR7	Coppice of Linwood	1		•	•	•				
549	2	CR8	King's Garn Gutter	1		•	•	•				
389,399	3	CR9	Shave Green Inclosure	3			•	•	•			
389,399	3	CR10	Shave Green Inclosure	3			•	•	•			
399,400	3	CR11	Shave Green Inclosure	3			•	•	•			

* Working block dates -

- Block 5 2006-2007 2012-2013
- Block 1 2007-2008 2013-2014
- Block 2 2008-2009 2015-2016
- Block 3 2009-2010 2016-201
- Block 4 2010-2011

Table 4-5: Future Work Requirements - Bartley Water

SSSI Condition Unit	Working Block*	Reach Code	Location	Priority	Nick Point Restoration	Drain Infill	Bed Level Raising	Debris Dam	Meander Restoration	Spoil Bank Removal	Veg. Mgmt.	Aquatic Exotics
401	1	BW1	Brockshill Inclosure	3			•	•	•			
564	1	BW2	Brockshill Inclosure	3				•				
564	1	BW3	Brockshill Inclosure	3				•				

Table 4-6: Future Work Requirements - Avon Water

SSSI Condition Unit	Working Block*	Reach Code	Location	Priority	Nick Point Restoration	Drain Infill	Bed Level Raising	Debris Dam	Meander Restoration	Spoil Bank Removal	Veg. Mgmt.	Aquatic Exotics
337	2	AW1	Holmsley Inclosure	3	•	•	•				•	
326,329	OF	AW2	Holmsley Bog	1	•							
538	2	AW3	Little Wootton Inclosure	2		•	•					
537	2	AW4	Wootton Copse Inclosure	2		•	•					
536	2	AW5	Wootton Copse Inclosure	2			•					
536	2	AW6	Wootton Copse Inclosure	2			•					
539	OF	AW7	Avon Water (Wilverley)	2			•			•		
533	3	AW8	Wilverley Inclosure	3			•					
533	3	AW9	Wilverley Inclosure	3			•					
535,539	5	AW10	Broadley Inclosure	1	•	•	•					
523,535	5	AW11	Broadley Inclosure	1	•	•	•					
536,539	2	AW12	Wootton Copse Inclosure	2		•	•					

* Working block dates -
 Block 5 2006-2007 2012-2013
 Block 1 2007-2008 2013-2014
 Block 2 2008-2009 2015-2016
 Block 3 2009-2010 2016-2017

Table 4-7: Future Work Requirements - Beaulieu River

SSSI Condition Unit	Working Block*	Reach Code	Location	Priority	Nick Point Restoration	Drain Infill	Bed Level Raising	Debris Dam	Meander Restoration	Spoil Bank Removal	Veg. Mgmt.	Aquatic Exotics
404	4	BR1	Pondhead Inclosure	2			•	•				
404	4	BR2	Pondhead Inclosure	2			•	•			•	
362,581,384,375	n/a	BR3	Longwater Lawn	2			•	•		•		
381,384	n/a	BR4	Fulliford Bog	2			•	•				
388,397,488,490	5	BR5	Bishop of Winchester's Purlieu	2		•	•	•				
388,488	OF	BR6	Bishop of Winchester's Purlieu	2		•	•	•				
388	OF	BR7	Bishop of Winchester's Purlieu	2		•	•	•				
458	4	BR8	Frame Heath Inclosure	3								
463,464	1	BR9	(Worts Gutter) Stockley Inclosure	1			•	•		•		
464	4	BR10	(Worts Gutter) Hawkshill Inclosure	1			•	•				
464	4	BR11	(Worts Gutter) Hawkshill Inclosure	1			•	•				
464	4	BR12	(Worts Gutter) Hawkshill Inclosure	1			•	•				
464	4	BR13	(Worts Gutter) Hawkshill Inclosure	1			•	•				
464	4	BR14	(Worts Gutter) Hawkshill Inclosure	1			•	•				
412	OF	BR15	Yew Tree Heath	1	•							
412	OF	BR16	Yew Tree Heath	1	•							
417	OF	BR17	Dibden Bottom	1			•	•				
417	OF	BR18	Dibden Bottom	1			•	•				
411	OF	BR19	Dibden Bottom	3			•	•				
411,418	OF	BR20	Dibden Bottom	3			•	•				
426	OF	BR21	Buckhill	3			•	•				
419,411	OF	BR22	The Noads	3								
412,566	2	BR23	Crabhat Inclosure	3	•							
437	4	BR24	Dibden Inclosure	3								
443,450,451	OF	BR25	Greenmoor	2			•	•			•	
453	OF	BR26	Upper Crockford Bottom	2			•	•				
456,443	OF	BR27	Lower Crockford Bottom	2			•	•				
456	OF	BR28	Lower Crockford Bottom	2			•	•				
455,433	OF	BR29	Shipton Bottom	2			•	•				
457	OF	BR30	Horsebush Bottom	2			•	•				
454	OF	BR31	Bagshot Moor	2			•	•				
448	OF	BR32	Little Wood	1			•	•				
452	OF	BR33	Bullhill	2			•	•				
455	OF	BR34	Peaked Bottom	2			•	•				
444,465	3/OF	BR35	Norley	3			•	•				
458,467	4	BR36	Frameheath Inclosure	3			•	•				
458	4	BR37	Frameheath Inclosure	3			•	•				

* Working block dates -

- Block 5 2006-2007 2012-2013
- Block 1 2007-2008 2013-2014
- Block 2 2008-2009 2015-2016
- Block 3 2009-2010 2016-2017
- Block 4 2010-2011

Table 4-8: Future Work Requirements - Hampshire Avon Tributaries

SSSI Condition Unit	Working Block*	Reach Code	Location	Priority	Nick Point Restoration	Drain Infill	Bed Level Raising	Debris Dam	Meander Restoration	Spoil Bank Removal	Veg. Mgmt.	Aquatic Exotics
65	4	HA1	Godshill Wood	1								
65	4	HA2	Godshill Inclosure	1								
162,68	5	HA3	Millerford Plantation	3								
28,33	OF	HA4	Cunninger Bottom	3								
33	OF	HA5	Millerford Bottom	3								
28, 35,38	OF	HA6	Ditchend Bottom	1								
38,41,543	3	HA7	Must Thorns Bottom	1								
540	1	HA8	Island Thorns	1								
58	OF	HA9	Claypits Bottom	1								
540	1	HA10	Island Thorns	1								
540	1	HA11	Island Thorns	1								
540	1	HA12	Island Thorns	1								
540	1	HA13	Island Thorns	1								
540	1	HA14	Island Thorns	1								
540	1	HA15	Island Thorns	1								
66	5	HA16	Amberwood Inclosure	1								
66	5	HA17	Alder Hill Inclosure	1								
66	5	HA18	Alder Hill Inclosure	1								
66	5	HA19	Alder Hill Inclosure	1								
66	5	HA20	Alder Hill Inclosure	1								
66	5	HA21	Alder Hill Inclosure	1								
541	5	HA22	Deadback Hill/Sioden	1								
48	OF	HA23	Latchmore Bottom	1								
44,48	OF	HA24	Latchmore Bottom	1								
54	OF	HA25	Howen Bottom	2								
54	OF	HA26	Eyeworth Pond	3								
54	OF	HA27	Gorley Bushes/Eyeworth	2								
54	OF	HA28	Gorley Bushes/Eyeworth	2								
12,29	OF	HA29	Eyeworth Walk	1								
75	OF	HA30	Springy Beeches	1								
101,104,545	1	HA31	Anses Wood	1								
545	OF	HA32	Broadway Bottom	2								
50	OF	HA33	Ogdens	1								
116	3	HA34	Milkham Inclosure	1								
115, 553	3	HA35	Milkham Inclosure	1								
97,116	3	HA36	Milkham Bottom	1								
553	1	HA37	Roe Inclosure	1								
94, 117	1	HA38	Roe Inclosure/Buckherd	1								
88	OF	HA39	Greenford Bottom	1								
70,93,107	OF	HA40	Akercome Bottom	1								
88	OF	HA41	Linford Bottom	1								
71	3	HA42	Holly Hatch	1								
115	4	HA43	Holly Hatch	3								
105	OF	HA44	Amberslade Bottom	1								
552	4	HA45	Broomy Inclosure	3								
256	OF	HA46	Digden Bottom	2								
91	OF	HA47	Picket Bottom	1								
43	OF	HA48	Thompson's Castle	1								
125	OF	HA49	Foulford Bottom	1								

* Working block dates -
 Block 5 2006-2007 2012-2013
 Block 1 2007-2008 2013-2014
 Block 2 2008-2009 2015-2016
 Block 3 2009-2010 2016-2017

NOT FC LAND

Figure 27
Future works
Map 1



Legend

Future works priority

- 1
- 2
- 3

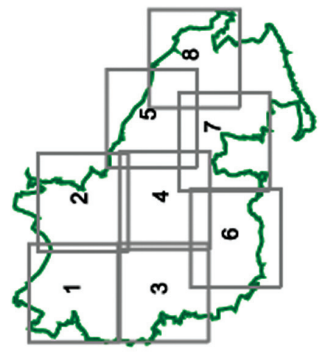
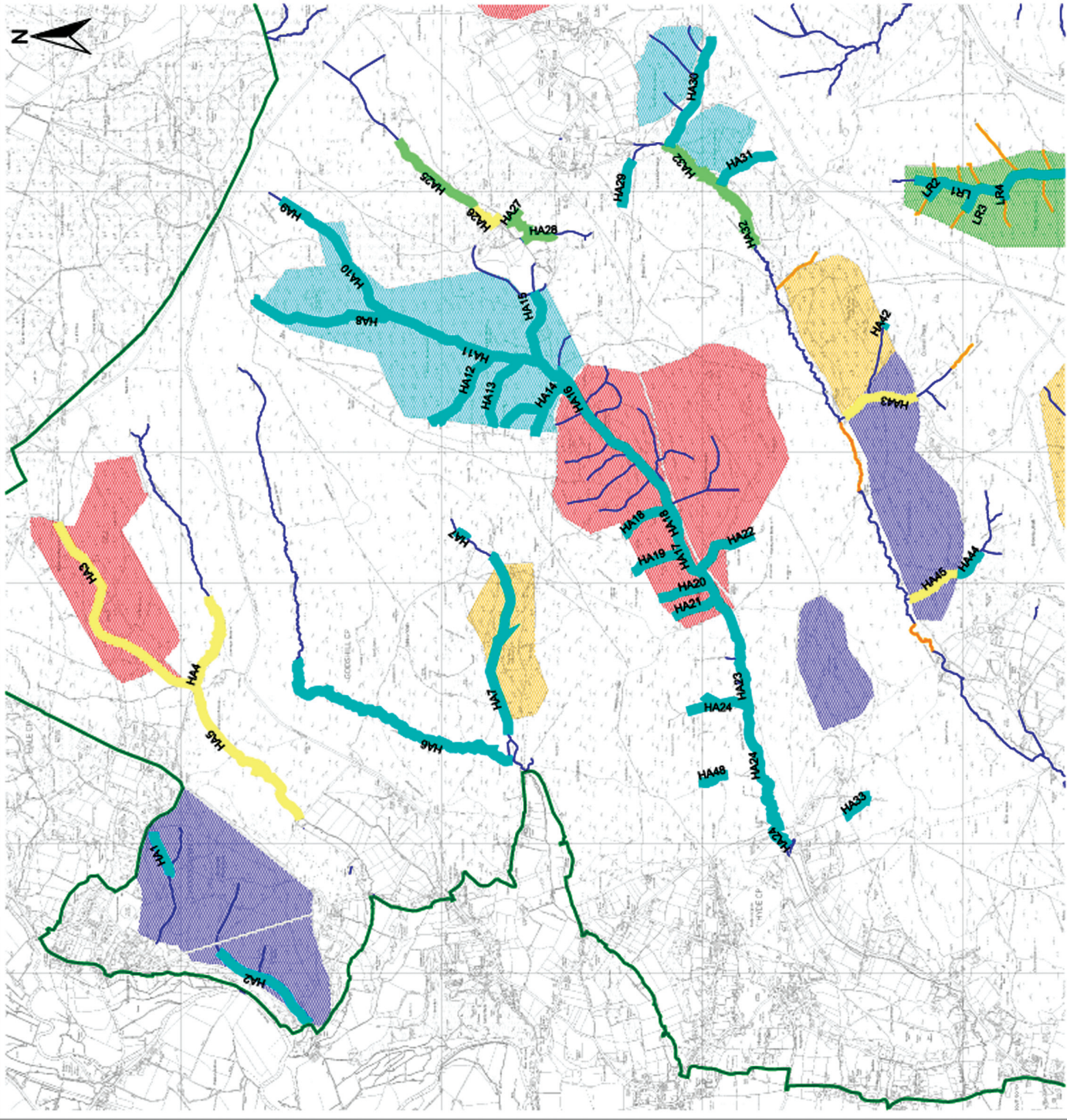
Works planned to July 2006

Working blocks

- Block 5: 2006-2007, 2012-2013
- Block 1: 2007-2008, 2013-1024
- Block 2: 2008-2009, 2015-2016
- Block 3: 2009-2010, 2016-2017
- Block 4: 2010-2011

HA1 Reach code

New Forest National Park



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