

PLANNED COPPICING WORK AT BECKLEY WOODS

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2021

This work is the second phase of the National Grid grant funded 'Wonderful woodlands' administered by the High Weald AONB Unit which aims to enhance the landscape and biodiversity by reinstating a coppice rotation, widening rides and desilting ponds.

Coppicing will create rotational open space which will benefit a number of species of butterfly and other invertebrates across the woodland. Birds which benefit include nightjar in the open stage, and once the natural regeneration matures to thicket stage, it will provide quality habitat for Schedule 41 species such as nightingale, turtle dove, cuckoo and willow warbler. Standard trees, mostly Oaks will be retained, as well as any trees showing veteran features.

Forestry England carried out annual breeding bird surveys in this, and its other sites in The Weald to monitor trends.

A public footpath runs through the site as well as a forest ride, both of which will ultimately be enhanced by the works. Appropriate warning signage will be put in place through the works. PROW officer to be informed prior to works commencing.

See map attached