



Do you own a wood?

Do you own a wood in the South Downs National Park?

Are you interested in the use of timber and woodland materials from your wood?

Are you interested in increasing the biodiversity of your wood?

Our Forestry and Woodland Development Officer is happy to help. We can advise on appropriate woodland management practices that suit your needs. We can link you with local tradesmen and contractors that work on the South Downs. We can also introduce you to local craftsmen interested in sourcing locally grown wood for a variety of purposes.

To make use of this free service get in touch with The Forestry and Woodland Development Officer using the details on the reverse of this leaflet.

South Downs Forestry Partnership Project

Working together for trees, woods and forests in the South Downs National Park.

The South Downs Forestry Partnership project has been established to bring more woodlands within the National Park into active management.

This is a collective landscape-scale approach that will encourage networking for environmental, social and economic gains and champion local timber in the South Downs National Park.

For more information contact:

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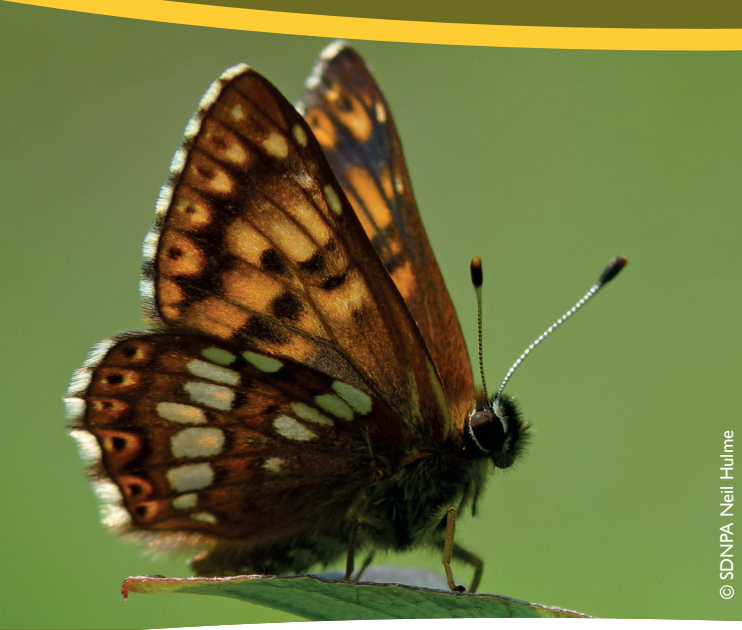
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Owning woodland in the South Downs National Park

The benefits of woodland management, and support available to owners

The benefits of active woodland management



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Wildlife and ecological habitats

Management of woods has many benefits for wildlife:

- increases light to the woodland floor allowing flora to thrive;
- creates open spaces, rides and glades which are havens for wildlife;
- varies the age structure and species mix of the trees making them more resilient to disease and climate change;
- creates good cover for game birds (CLA research suggests coppice in rotation is the best game cover available).

Woodfuel

Woodfuel is an emerging market that uses wood as a sustainable fuel source. Firewood prices reflect increased demand in the domestic market and lower grade timber may be sold as woodchip for woodheat systems.

The Forestry Commission estimate that the woods within the National Park have the potential to produce 60,000m³ of wood per year. That is enough to heat 9,000 homes!

Local economy

It is estimated that if all of the woodland within the national park was actively managed it could contribute £22.8m to the local economy. Management fosters an active local woodland economy in woodland products and services, thereby creating local jobs.

Timber production

The rising cost of imported timber and public interest in local sustainable produce is revitalising the UK timber market. To realise the timber potential of trees they must be carefully managed throughout their life cycle.

Amenity

Management of woods for wildlife and timber often creates access paths, glades and rides. These open spaces greatly improve the amenity and recreation potential of woodland.

Management will maintain the wooded landscape, its culture and heritage, ensuring the next generation have the opportunity to enjoy the woods as we do.