

Felling Licence to fell growing trees



04/11/2024

Application ref: 018/1301/2024

Management Plan Ref: 716161

Felling Licence (Forestry Act 1967)

Woodland Name: Westridge

Please find your approved Felling Licence and associated work area map(s) enclosed. If you are a managing agent receiving this Licence on behalf of the owner / tenant, you must forward a copy of the Licence to the owner / tenant for their attention.

Please note the expiry date for completion of the work.

If this Licence contains conditions for restocking, it is the responsibility of the owner / leaseholder / tenant of the land to ensure that the conditions are met by the required date(s) specified in this Licence. The Forestry Commission may visit the site at any time to inspect compliance of this Licence and its conditions.

Non-compliance with Conditions of the Licence

Failure to comply with the conditions of this Licence may result in an Enforcement Notice being served upon you or any successive owner of the land. Subsequently, failure to comply with an Enforcement Notice may constitute an offence under section 24(4) of the Forestry Act 1967, involving a summary conviction and an unlimited fine. Where an Enforcement Notice is served due to non-compliance with this licence, the Forestry Commission may publish the map attached to this licence (so far as it is replicated within the subsequent Enforcement Notice) upon its publicly facing digital map browser or elsewhere.

Timber Regulations

The Plant Health Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 (PHR) requires the use of Protected Zone plant passports for the movement of all conifers and *Castanea* species (including sweet chestnut) with bark, and standard plant passports for *Juglans*, *Platanus* and *Pterocarya* species (e.g. walnut, plane, wingnut) with or without bark. For these species, a plant passport will be required at each stage of the transport chain where whole or chipped roundwood (including brash) is moved from the harvesting site or site of aggregation, to the processor and the movement of isolated bark whether or not mixed with other materials.

Professional operators must join a register managed by the competent authority, where the professional operator is authorised to issue plant passports. Forest owners will not normally issue passports unless they are responsible for commissioning the movement of timber.

Guidance on how to **Register as a Professional Operator to issue Plant Passports** is available on GOV.UK.

UK legislation governing timber legality prohibits trade of illegally harvested timber and timber products. It requires those responsible for placing UK grown timber onto the market for the first time, the 'Operator', whether they are an owner, contractor or timber merchant, to maintain documentation to prove that the timber is harvested from a legally authorised resource.

A timber regulations Due Diligence checklist is required when placing the timber authorised by this felling licence on the market for the first time. The parties involved will need to complete, and each retain a copy of, the Due Diligence checklist (along with any other documents that demonstrate the timber has been felled in conjunction with all other relevant legislation e.g. Health and Safety). More information on timber regulation is available on GOV.UK by searching '[Regulations: timber and FLEGT licences](#)'.

Protected sites - Sites of Special Scientific Interest or Scheduled Monuments

This Licence only gives you permission to fell the trees specified in the Licence. It does not give you the additional consents that you require in order to conduct works (including felling) within Sites of Special Scientific Interest or Scheduled Monuments (protected sites). These consents may be enclosed with this felling licence, but if they are not, you should not fell trees on protected sites without the formal consent from Natural England or Historic England respectively.

Planning permission

If, after felling trees authorised to be cut down in this Licence, you seek planning permission for any form of development on the felled area, you should be aware that the granting of planning permission will not override the conditions of this Licence or any subsequent Enforcement Notice issued under section 24 of the Forestry Act 1967.

Environmental Information Regulations

Felling Licences are disclosed on request and may be published under the Environmental Information Regulations. Disclosure and publication will take into account the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 in respect to any personal information included in the licence.

Yours sincerely

For the Forestry Commission

Licence to Fell Growing Trees

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This Licence gives you permission under section 10 of the Forestry Act 1967 as amended to fell the trees described in Part 1 of this licence and in the areas shown on the appended map(s).

Tree felling under this Licence has been approved by the Forestry Commission as being in accordance with government policy for the sound management of a renewable resource, based on the application made. The Licence issued is intended for use by the person with an interest in the land that enabled them to apply for the licence in the first instance.

The felling permissions in this Licence expire on: 04 Nov 2029

Prior to felling, all parties (agents, contractors, stakeholders) who are involved or affected by the felling must be made aware of this licence and provided with a copy of the Licence and map(s) on request. After enacting any part of this licence, if you sell the land you should also tell the new owner about this Licence.

If a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is placed on these trees after this Licence was applied for or issued, you must contact the Forestry Commission as you will need a new Licence if you wish to fell the protected trees. Without a new felling Licence, you may potentially be committing an offence under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in relation to the TPO. The local planning authority is not empowered to grant you permission to fell protected trees if that felling would ordinarily require a felling Licence.

Tree felling operations must be carried out in a manner that reflects good forestry practice, as set out in the current UK Forestry Standard (UKFS). When preparing tree felling operations, appropriate consideration should always be given for possible impacts on habitats and species, these will include but not limited to:

- Ensuring operations are in compliance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 relating to European Protected Species (EPS); and
- Ensuring timing of operations (such as in the bird nesting season) are in compliance with the protection of birds under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Any felling operations for 'thinning' approved by this Licence must be implemented evenly across the felling site(s) for thinning identified under Part 1 of this licence. The felling operation for thinning will not exceed 30% of the total number of trees or remove more than 30% of the original canopy cover per operation, unless otherwise agreed by the FC and confirmed in this licence. Note: tree felling operations for 'thinning' that occur at a greater intensity than 30% of the number of trees or area of canopy (in all or part of an operational area) may constitute a breach of the Licence.

Where conditions of the Licence state that restocking is by natural regeneration or by using coppice regrowth, ground conditions must be maintained to facilitate and secure natural regeneration, and coppiced stumps must be retained in situ and be adequately protected to allow site native natural regeneration to occur.

Tree Health

If you have any reason to suspect the presence of tree pests or disease, e.g. *Phytophthora ramorum*, you are obliged to inform the Forestry Commission at the earliest possible opportunity, as per your obligation under article 14 of The Plant Health Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 (PHR).

If larch or other tree species susceptible to *Phytophthora ramorum* included in this licence display symptoms of this disease you must not fell those trees until the FC have had the opportunity to assess their health. If *Phytophthora ramorum* presence is suspected or confirmed, the area will become subject to a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN), the conditions of which will override those contained within this licence.

██████████ Date: 04/11/2024

Signed for and on behalf of the Forestry Commissioners

Part 1 - Description of the trees to be felled

Property: Westridge

Name of wood: Westridge

Local Authority: Stroud District Council

Approved Felling
Details:

Felling site, subcpt or coupe	Type of operation	Marking of trees	Digitised Area ha	Total number of trees	Estimated volume m ³	Species
2a	Regeneration Felling		0.65		98	ash / hazel
5a	Regeneration Felling		1.48		222	ash / hazel
6d	Clear Felling		0.65		98	ash / hazel
7a	Regeneration Felling		2.98		447	ash / hazel
8a	Clear Felling		2.44		90	hybrid larch
10a	Regeneration Felling		0.13		19	ash / hazel
12c	Regeneration Felling		0.25		37	ash / hazel
12d	Regeneration Felling		0.11		17	ash / hazel
14b	Regeneration Felling		1.06		159	ash / hazel
15a	Regeneration Felling		1.48		222	ash / hazel
16a	Regeneration Felling		1.54		231	ash / hazel

Felling site, subcpt or coupe	Type of operation	Marking of trees	Digitised Area ha	Total number of trees	Estimated volume m ³	Species
16c	Regeneration Felling		0.74		149	ash / hazel
10a	Regeneration Felling		0.24		36	ash / hazel
16c	Regeneration Felling		1		149	ash / hazel
2a	Regeneration Felling		0.91		136	ash / hazel
6d	Clear Felling		1.17		53	ash / hazel

Part 2 - Restocking Conditions

Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 15a, 16a.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:
 - a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
 - b. Planted with 30% sycamore 30% hornbeam 30% beech 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site
 2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
 - c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.
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Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 16c, 16c.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:
 - a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
 - b. Planted with 30% sycamore 30% small-leaved lime 30% beech 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site
 2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
 - c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.
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Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 8a.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:
 - a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
 - b. Planted with 40% Scots pine 40% oak (robur/petraea) 20% hornbeam to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site
 2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
 - c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.
-

Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 2a, 5a, 2a.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:

a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
b. Planted with 40% oak (robur/petraea) 40% hornbeam 10% rowan 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site

2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:

- a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
- b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
- c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.

Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 6d.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:

- a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
- b. Planted with 40% oak (robur/petraea) 40% hornbeam 10% small-leaved lime 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site

2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:

- a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
- b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
- c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.

Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 6d.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:

- a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
- b. Planted with 40% oak (robur/petraea) 40% hornbeam 10% wild cherry/gean 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site

2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:

- a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
- b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
- c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.

Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 10a, 12c, 12d.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:

- a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
- b. Planted with 40% oak (robur/petraea) 40% hornbeam 10% wild service tree 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly

distributed over the site

2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
 - c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.
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Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 7a.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:
 - a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
 - b. Planted with 40% small-leaved lime 30% oak (robur/petraea) 20% hornbeam 10% mixed broadleaves to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site
 2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
 - c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.
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Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 10a.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:
 - a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
 - b. Planted with 50% oak (robur/petraea) 40% hornbeam 10% wild service tree to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site
 2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.
 - c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.
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Condition A: Restock on felled area.

The following conditions apply to the licenced felling in 14b.

1. Before 30th June 2032 the land on which the felling took place must be:
 - a. Adequately prepared to provide suitable conditions for successful establishment and the young trees are to be protected against damage and weeded during the period of restocking.
 - b. Planted with 50% small-leaved lime 20% rowan 20% common walnut 10% hawthorn species to achieve not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site
2. For a period of 10 years from the planting:
 - a. The plants must be protected against damage and be adequately weeded.
 - b. Any failure or losses should be replaced as necessary to provide a stocking of not less than 1600 stems per hectare evenly distributed over the site.

c. Any replanting must be maintained in accordance with the rules and practice of good forestry.

Part 3 - Supplementary points

MANAGING ANCIENT SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND:

This licence includes felling operations near/within an Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) site and therefore may pose a risk to the many features of characteristic of an ASNW. The Forestry Authority encourages management which seeks to maintain or restore the special characteristics of ASNW, including their natural diversity of species and habitats, aesthetic and cultural values and genetic integrity, whilst taking appropriate opportunities for wood production for a range of markets. Management proposals should be geared to sensitive and low-impact methods which are suited to the natural dynamics of these woodlands. Wherever possible, heavy machinery should be kept to existing tracks and rides or used on a protective bed of lop and top. Rides however can also be damaged by extraction of wood under the wrong conditions. Winter extraction can seriously damage the ride surface but does little direct damage to plants and animals, whereas summer extraction usually causes only temporary damage. Operators should avoid crossing watercourses and wet ground, banks, ditches and other archaeological features and avoid working when soils are waterlogged. In uneven-aged forests greater care in felling and extraction is required as the size of groups decreases. Retained trees and any advance regeneration should be damaged as little as possible.

Reference should be made to Forestry Commission's Practice Guide: Managing ancient and native woodland in England when planning interventions in ASNW or PAWS.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/720995/FCPG201.pdf

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY:

It is the responsibility of the forest manager to seek a temporary closure of any footpaths that might be affected by works with the local planning authority. Gloucestershire Council have been notified and informed the forest manager to allow up to 12 weeks to process a temporary closure application. Therefore if it is deemed necessary, the forest manager must seek this in advance. All operations must be well advertised in advance, and an alternative route proposed if required. Appropriate signage must be displayed at all times and avoid using heavy machinery on the public right of way to avoid damage to soils and track surface. The landowner may be liable to reinstate damaged tracks/footpaths at the discretion of the local authority.

FELLING NEAR/ON A SCHEDULED MONUMENT:

This licence includes felling operations near/within a scheduled monument and therefore may pose a risk to the integrity of this feature. Adherence to Historic England's "Guidelines for works to trees and scrub on Scheduled Monuments – basic conditions" is essential and a copy will be provided with this licence, as instructed by the local Historic England advisor. There is a general assumption against restocking on a Scheduled Monument and therefore Scheduled Monument Consent will need to be applied for, at the request of the local advisor, if restocking is a condition of this licence. Please note that this licence does not guarantee Scheduled Monument Consent, and Scheduled Monument Consent must be sought separately, if required.

STANDARD SILVICULTURAL THINNING NOTE (individual compartments):

This licence contains compartments where thinning is the chosen silvicultural intervention. Silvicultural thinning aims to improve the quality and vigour of the remaining trees by removing no more than 30% of the canopy cover evenly across the compartment/woodland over the period of the licence. Felling more than this, or felling this proportion in a concentrated area, could constitute regeneration felling and may require restocking.

EPS/BIRDS NOTE:

It is expected that operations will be carried out in a manner that reflects good

forestry practice with appropriate consideration for possible impacts on habitats and species. You are reminded that prior to undertaking woodland management that all necessary checks are undertaken to ensure compliance with the amended Habitats Regulations relating to European Protected Species (EPS).

If undertaking woodland management within the bird nesting season you must ensure you are meeting your obligations on the protection of birds under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

ADVISORY NOTES FOR MANAGING ASH:

Reference should be made to Forestry Commission Operations Notes 46, 46a (or revised versions, should these be updated during the lifetime of this felling licence).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-ash-in-woodlands-in-light-of-ash-dieback-operations-note-46>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-ash-trees-affected-by-ash-dieback-operations-note-46a>

ADVICE FROM HISTORIC ENGLAND:

Compartments 8 and 10 look as though they may just clip the edges of the scheduled monument Brackenbury Camp, 1002133, and I would advise the applicant to mark out the actual scheduled boundary before starting any work so that all contractors are fully aware of the restrictions. Trees felled elsewhere in those compartments should be removed in the opposite direction to the scheduled monument, rather than dragged over earthworks, and the default for replanting should be away from the scheduled area – in order to get SMC they would need very strong evidence that it would not damage any archaeology and could not be planted elsewhere, and it's unlikely they could make the case strongly enough. If any felling is to take place within the scheduled portion, our attached guidance should be followed and they should remove the trees without dragging them over earthworks as far as possible, and if it must be over earthworks to reach a track out of the wood, the removal should take place in dry ground conditions.

NOTES FROM COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGIST (map attached and must be kept with felling licence at all times):

Compartments 8a and 10a

HER 318 – Scheduled monument of Brackenbury Camp Iron Age hillfort. Advice on felling, planting and settings issues should be sought from Historic England. I can see from the PW14 that this is already planned.

Compartment 2a

HER 22028 – An area of medieval strip lynchets is visible to the east of this compartment. Please do not cross to access the works. If this is not possible please only cross during dry weather conditions to avoid rutting and, therefore, damage to the monument.

Compartments 2a and 8a

HER 53121 – An area of medieval strip lynchets is visible to the east, north and west of these compartments. Please do not cross to access the works. If this is not possible please only cross during dry weather conditions to avoid rutting and, therefore, damage to the monument.

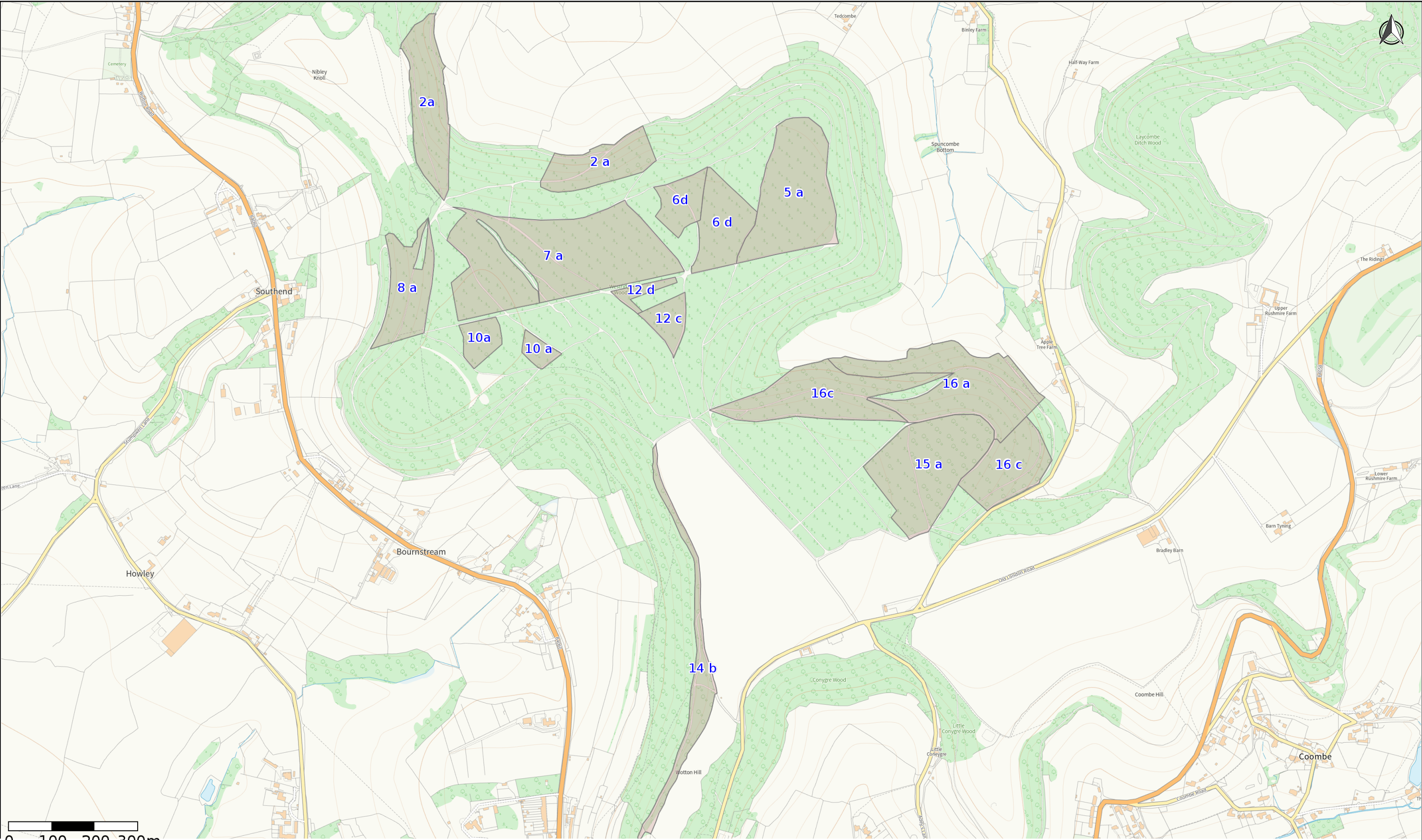
Compartment 14b

HER 4543 – An area of medieval strip lynchets is visible to the west and across this compartment. Please do not cross to access the works. If this is not possible please only cross during dry weather conditions to avoid rutting and, therefore, damage to the monument.

Compartment 16a

HER 4033 – An area of medieval strip lynchets is visible to the north of this compartment. Please do not cross to access the works. If this is not possible please only cross during dry weather conditions to avoid rutting and, therefore, damage to the monument.

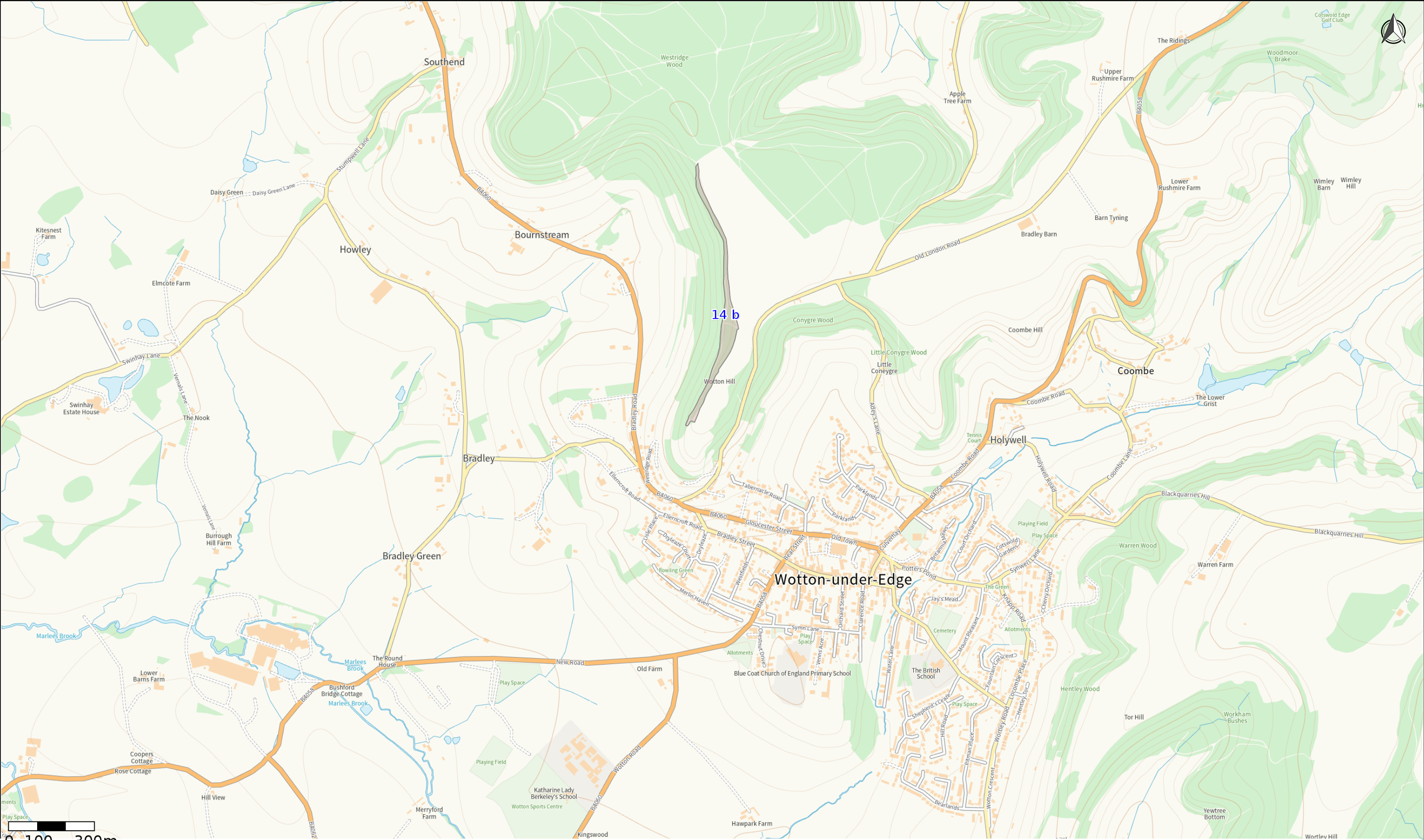
Operations Map



Westridge | ST 753 947 | 018/1301/2024

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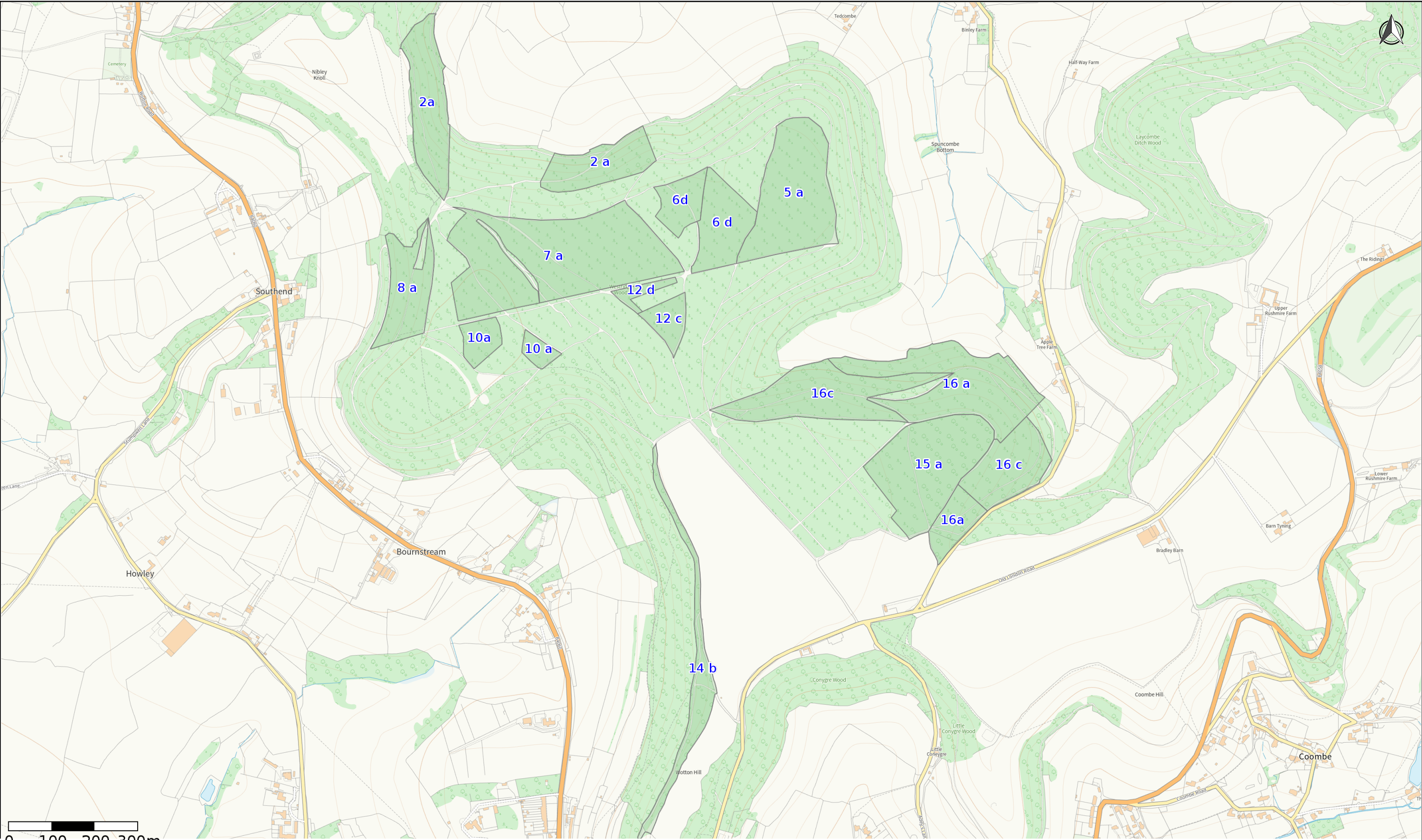
Operations Map



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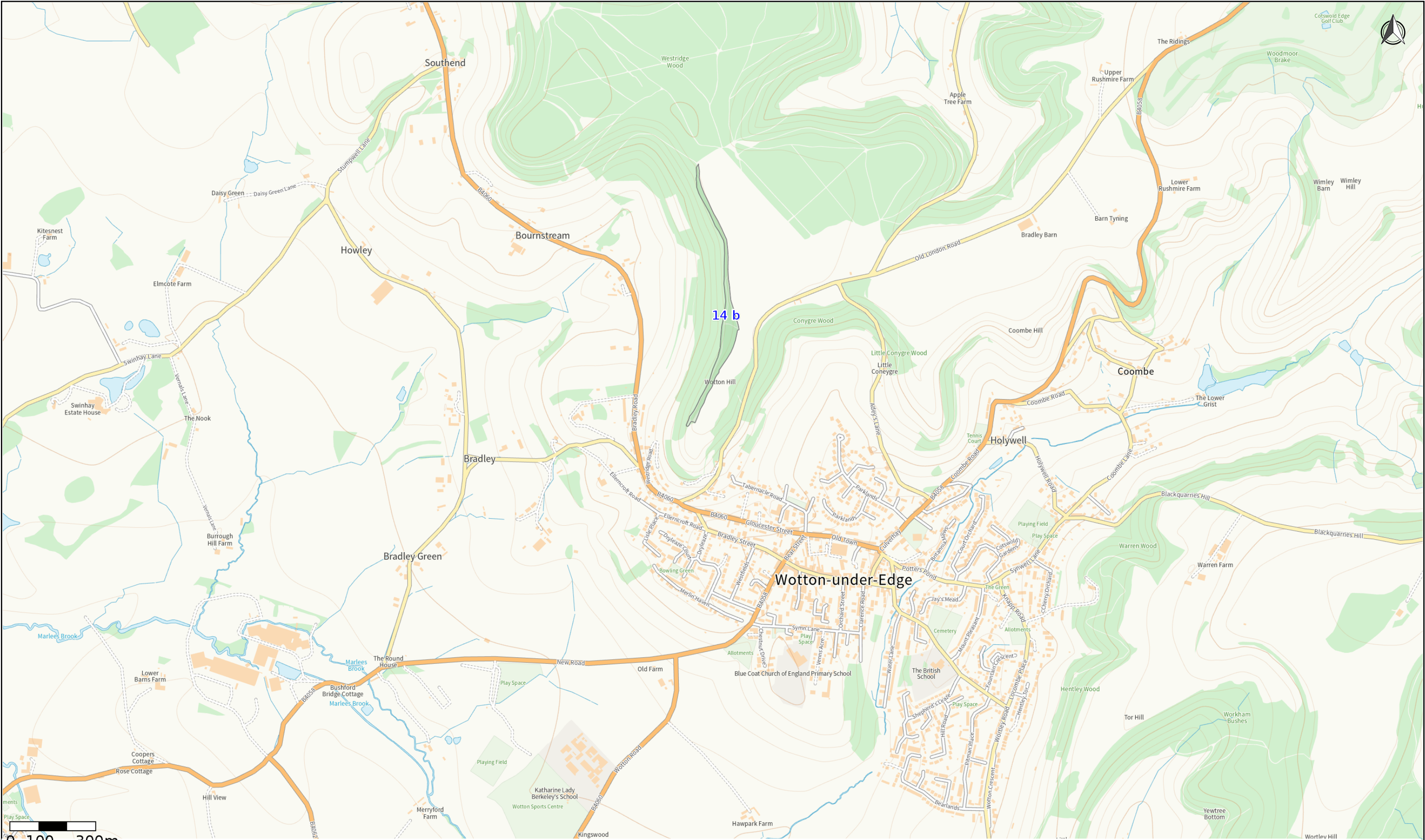
Restocking Map



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Restocking Map



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