

Committee(s): Epping Forest Consultative	Dated: 15 June 2022
Epping Forest & Commons	11 July 2022
Subject: Countryside Stewardship 2023 Applications Proposals (SEF 17/22)	Public
Report of: Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director of Environment	EF&CC – For Decision
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Appendix 1

Countryside Stewardship Proposals

Key to font:

Habitat Management

Historic Feature

Visitor Access

Epping Forest

Compartment Number and Name	Site	Proposal	Number on map	Map No.
3 Lower Forest	Purlieu Bank	Remove trees off the bank to prevent further damage to earthworks by roots	A48	2
	Thornwood Common	Continue to manage the grassland to maintain species diversity	A25	2
	Ride management	Opening up rides and undertake veteran tree management to promote their health and ground flora	A1-3, A49, A54	2
5 Epping Thicks and Sheppard's Meadows	Sheppard's Meadows	Continuing grassland management to maintain species diversity Reintroduce grazing	A15	4
	Pylon Field	Clear scrub across part of the site to restore a grassland	A16	4
	Bell Common Pond North	Desilt the pond to the original depth across 70% of the pond area.	A155	
6 St Thomas' Quarters	Access	Open up a route through the relict wood pasture by thinning trees between the east side of compartment to the green lane to Woodredon South	A88	5
	Lodge Road	Improve visitor entrances at each end of the road	P46	5
	Bog management	Remove small trees and competitive plants to help maintain water levels and benefit bog plants	A10-13	5

		Shore up the bank next to the road to prevent further water loss		
	Rhododendron removal	Remove rhododendrons to remove risk for beech trees of Ramorum outbreak	A125 & A14	5
7 Long Running & Ambresbury Banks	Long Running	<p>East</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing the area of heathland by tree removal, bracken management, scraping vegetation to promote heathland species regeneration. Reintroduce grazing. <p>Main Long Running heathland and adjacent wood pasture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue grazing Bracken management and small tree removal Scrape small areas of vegetation to promote heathland species regeneration New pond at the head of Jack's Hill bog north 	A21 A46 A159	5
	Ambresbury Banks	<p>Manage veteran trees to reduce the risk of windthrow that would damage the earthworks.</p> <p>Start to remove a small proportion of trees across the site to reduce the impact of roots on buried archaeology – this would be the start of a work programme to occur over several decades so that the risk of wind throw is managed.</p> <p>Replace interpretation boards.</p> <p>A committee report on the future management of Ambresbury Banks will be presented in 2022.</p>	A47	5
8 Genesis Slade & Theydon	Theydon Plain	<p>Continue management of the grassland.</p> <p>Open up around the edge of the grassland through tree thinning to maintain the area of grassland.</p>	A34 A75	5
	Genesis Slade Bog	Remove any trees which will benefit the condition of the condition	A165	
15 Warren Plantation	Copped Hall Drive	Open up the drive on both sides by tree removal of large conifers and thinning of other trees to establish a more open avenue in keeping with the main entrance to a historic house and estate	A6	5
17 Rats Lane and Speakman's, Fernhills, Trueloves	High Beach	Reduce levels of sycamore trees in areas where its dominance is preventing regeneration of beech, hornbeam and oak.	A35, A39, A51, A52	7
	Speakman's Pond	Control Crassula across the pond through chemical control.	A36	7

	Fernhills, Trueloves	Continue grassland and scrub management to maintain the grassland species and associated wildlife. Scrape existing less diverse grassland to promote wildflowers like orchids and Ragged Robin	A24 A20	6
20 Staples Hill & Loughton Brook	Woodbury Hollow	Create a corridor of more open wood pasture to allow management access to Woodbury Hollow. Continue grassland management of Woodbury Hollow to encourage species diversity.	A26 A22	8
29 Barn Hoppitt & Whitehall Plain	Wood pasture	Veteran tree management. Wood pasture restoration through tree thinning, creation of new pollards, management of glades and grazing.	A40, A43, A45	9
	Grassland	Manage grassland through a combination of grazing, mechanical mowing and removal of scrub by hand. Manage bramble where required.	A41, A44	9
	Grazing infrastructure	New livestock handling corral.	P102	9
	Warren Pond	Coppice the pondside willows on a rotation. Manage the amount of reeds to keep open water. Thin trees on the south side of the pond to link up with the path between the Hunting Lodge and Whitehall Plain.	A50	9
	Access and structures	New finger posts for visitor orientation. New pedestrian bridge over the River Ching at Whitehall Plain plus a possible ford for horses	P1-5, P41	9
	River Ching	Three leaky dams along the River Ching to slow the flow and create a wetland area along the flood plain.	P43-45	9
30 Hatch Plain & Hatch Forest	Access and structures	New finger posts for visitor orientation.	P6-11	9
	Hatch & Bluehouse Groves	Manage these ancient coppice coupes by re-coppicing hornbeams. Pollard additional hornbeams. Thin holly.	A37, A38	9
	River Ching corridor	Open up the habitat along the northern section of the River Ching by removing some scrub, tree thinning and veteran hornbeam pollarding	A164	9
31 Knighton Wood	Waymark Trail and pond areas	Thin trees and scrub to widen the Rowan Trail by 10-20m.	A55	9
	Pulham Rocks	Open up around the Pulham rocks to allow better visibility of these features.	A89	9
32 Lords Bushes	Wood pasture restoration and maintenance	Veteran tree management. Wood pasture restoration through tree thinning, creation of new pollards, management of glades.	A23	9

		Reintroduce grazing – water troughs and livestock handling corral.	A23, P103-4, L13	
33 Highams Park and the Sale	Highams Park Lake and surround	Create a new 2.5m wide surfaced path following the existing unsurfaced path to link with The Highams Park (London Borough Waltham Forest)	A56	10
	Wood pasture restoration	Restore wood pasture by thinning trees, creating new pollards, haloing around veteran trees and creating glades. Manage scrub for habitat management and connectivity into (The Highams Park (LB Waltham Forest)	A4, A5 A161,163	10
	Napier Arms grassland and ponds	Enlarge the acid grassland by removing trees and scrub. Reduce shade around the ponds to encourage aquatic plants and wildlife, by removing trees. Reduce aquatic vegetation in ponds to create open water to benefit wider species.	A92-93, A76 A76 A145,A148, A156,A157	10
35 Gilberts Slade & Canada Plain	Gilberts Slade & Canada Plain	Wood pasture maintenance through cutting ground flora across the site.	A86, A87	11
	Bulrush Pond	Restoring some open water by vegetation removal	A154	11
36 Leyton Flats	Leyton Flats	Wood pasture restoration in the northern part through tree and holly thinning to promote visitor movements and clearance of trees across the former Lido site. Acid grassland management to maintain and hopefully increase species diversity. This may involve fencing off some areas to allow recovery of grassland from historic visitor degradation and small scrapes of the vegetation to promote heather and acid grassland species recovery. Management of gorse through a coppicing rotation for both habitat and fire risk management benefits. New visitor interpretation and signs. New path around Hollow Ponds. Management of Hollow Ponds, Dog Pond and Eagle Pond for control of non-native invasive plants and improving aquatic edge habitat.	A59 A94 A57 A60 P12-16 A71 Eastern finger of A59, A102, A123	12

		Ditch management to promote connectivity with water bodies.	L2-4	
37 Exchange Lands	Exchange Lands	Grassland management for wildlife benefit.	A95-97 A99- A100	13
38 Wanstead Flats	SSSI Grassland	Acid grassland management including promotion of heather and tree and scrub removal. Management of broom for wildfire risk management and to prevent its domination over acid grassland.	A27	14
	Lime Avenue trees and area	This falls within the Registered Park and Garden area of Wanstead Park. This would be a restoration of this historic lime avenue by clearing small trees and scrub and non-lime trees and planting new lime trees to recreate a double-row avenue. To the north in Bush Wood open up glades to increase mosaic habitat.	A32 A29-31	14
	Non-SSSI grassland	Acid grassland management for wildlife benefit involving rotational mowing and small tree and scrub removal. In the area used by skylarks increase the fenced area with a longer-term fence and possibly reintroduce grazing that is compatible with skylark activity.	A28, A33 A28	14
Gifford Wood	Meadow	Continue management of the grassland for plant diversity and associated insect, mammal, bird and bat interest.	A158	
Forest-wide	Visitor access	Various types of new infrastructure to aid visitor orientation and manage movement. Interpretation and notice boards, fingerposts, waymarker small disks, bins, bollards to prevent inappropriate parking.	See map key – see row below **	Some maps give details

Some details are given in the maps. More work is needed to itemise all the visitor access infrastructure across the Forest areas for the CS application – so they are not all currently shown.

** See key for

“Add/replace pedestrian gates”

“Access improvements”

“Pegasus crossing”

“Signage”

“Install finger post”

“Install information board”

“Route markers”

“Install bridge”

“Replace bund with bollards”

Wanstead Park

Compartment Number and Name	Site	Proposal	Number on map	Map No.
37 Wanstead Park	Amphitheatre	Clear trees across this historic feature and keep as an open feature to improve legibility of this feature for visitors	A63, A64	13
	Ornamental Lake islands	Clear trees and scrub from the edges of these islands to improve the landscape legibility of the original lake design	A62, A104, A109, A113, A114, A118	13
	Grassland Plain	Clear young trees to restore acid grassland. Continue grazing across parts of the Park	A67 A172	13
	Great Mount	Clear trees and install a new path across the mound. This would reveal the context of this feature in the historic landscape. The Mount allows good views over the Heronry Pond.	A68	13
	Tree planting	Restore part of the original Union Jack avenues through tree planting	P17	13
	Railings	Restore some historically appropriate railings on the boundary of the park	Not shown on map	
	Visitor access	New signage and interpretation linked to the landscape improvement undertaken e.g. at the Amphitheatre and Great Mount Level path (A74), new wearing course (A72) and new surfaced 2.5m wide path (A73)	Not shown on map A72-74	13
	Grotto	Seek funding towards the restoration of the Grotto after the consolidation phase	Not shown on map	
	Parkland maintenance	Maintain some parts of the park through the management of ground flora	A67	13

Buffer Lands

Site	Location	Proposal	Number on map	Map No.
Copped Hall		See Committee report SEF – 18-22		1
Warlies Park	South-East of site	Create new car park	A61	3
Warlies Park & Woodredon	Site-wide	Installation of features and works to improve visitor access: Removal of unsuitable gates, fences, stiles and other access features New gates and other visitor access structures New interpretation boards and visitor orientation signage Habitat work to open up existing permissive routes Creation of new permissive routes	All points and lines on map – see key	3 15