

Ancient Woodlands



**Ancient Woodlands in the Chilterns
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
threatened by the construction of
the HS2 rail link**

Contents

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<u>Slide</u>	<u>Subject</u>
3	Where are they
4	Mantles & Farthings Wood
5	Mantles Wood
6	Farthings Wood
7,8	Sibley's Coppice
9,10	Jenkins and Havenfield Woods
11,12	Jones' Hill Wood
13,14	Grim's Ditch

Where are they ?



Lost Woodland

Jones' Hill	1 ha (50%)
Jenkin's Wood	Uncertain
Sibley's Coppice	2.4 ha (30%)
Farthings Wood	0.5 ha
Mantle's Wood	6.2ha (30%)

(from the Woodland Trust response to the ES)

Mantle's and Farthings Woods

The 6.2ha removed from Mantle's Wood is the largest loss of Ancient Woodland on Phase 1, and divides the wood in three. A permanent access road to the Portal also passes through the wood.



Mantle's Wood



**“Construction of a tunnel portal and associated site compounds within irreplaceable ancient woodland is completely unacceptable ... ”
(Woodland Trust, ES response)**



Site of the Tunnel Portal

Farthings Wood



Sibley's Coppice



Sibley's Coppice is bordered by South Heath on two sides. Footpaths through the wood are "much used by the local community". One-third will be inaccessible for up to two years.

Since this is a "permanent loss of irreplaceable habitat"[†], the effect cannot be described as temporary

[†] ES CFA10, 7.4.35

Sibley's Coppice



The area reinstated over the cut and cover (or "green") tunnel will bear little resemblance to the existing woodland, for the next hundred years or so ...

Jenkins' and Havenfield Woods



"The ES contains conflicting information on two of the remaining four woods (Jenkins Wood and Havenfield Wood), with one section stating no loss to the woodland and other section(s) indicating that there will be a direct impact."
(Woodland Trust, ES response)

Havenfield Wood, a few hundred metres from the cutting →



Jenkins' and Havenfield Woods



↑ Footpath through Jenkins' Wood, which will emerge at the South Heath Tunnel Portal

Holly in Havenfield Wood →



Jones' Hill Wood



CFA10, 7.4.41:

Anticipated significant residual ecological effects during construction are:
➤ **the permanent loss of approximately 1ha of ancient woodland from Jones' Hill wood, which is irreplaceable;**

Jones' Hill Wood



**Construction will destroy 50% of the wood;
Operation will destroy the tranquility of the remainder**

Grim's Ditch



"a change such that the value of the asset is totally altered and the setting comprehensively changed reducing the ability to understand and appreciate the resource in its historical context ... "

... a high adverse impact and a major adverse effect.

Grim's Ditch



CFA10 6.4.18: Disturbance of known and potential archaeological remains of high value will occur at Grim's Ditch scheduled monument ...

Construction works for the cutting will require the removal of an approximately 150m length of the monument and the sustainable placement site at the north-eastern end of the asset will also impinge on it.