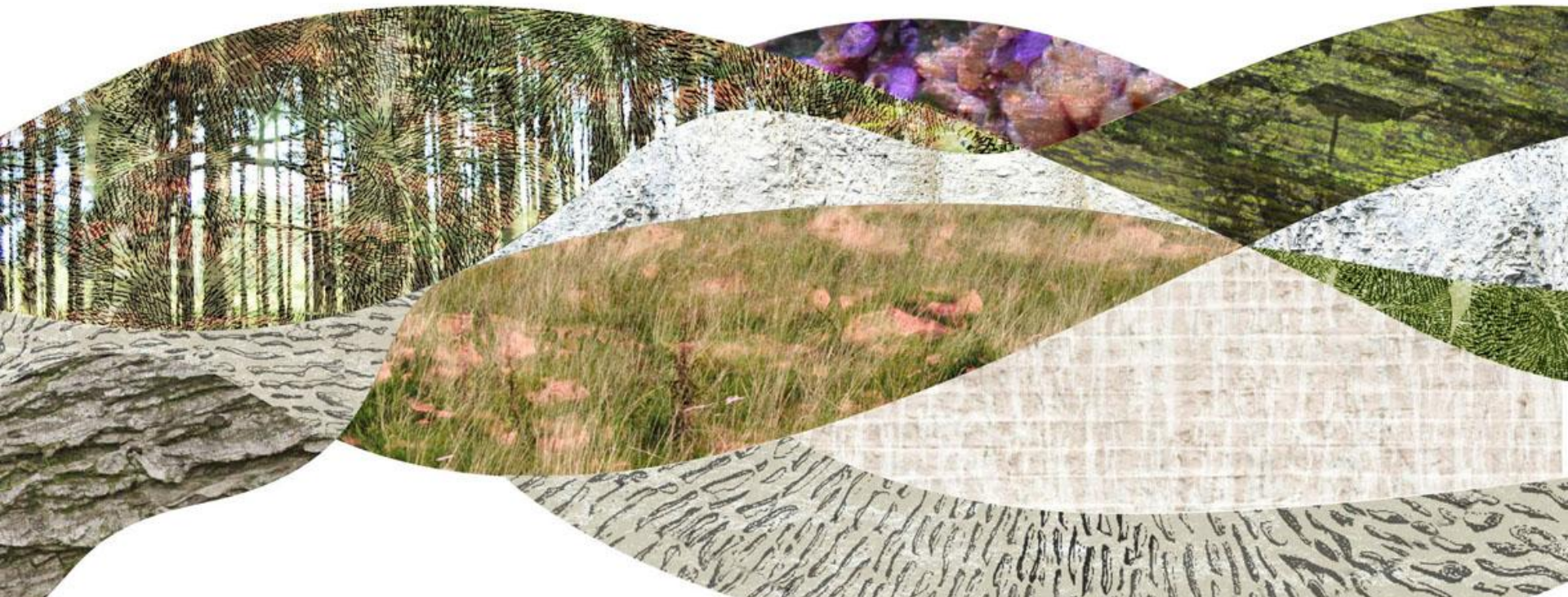


South Downs Forestry Partnership

Project Progress and key success

Forestry & Woodland Development Officer



Project Partners



- 3 year project jointly funded
- Partnership with Forestry Commission, Woodland Trust, Sussex Wildlife Trust and the South Downs National Park Authority.



Strategic reasons behind the project

- Post Forestry panel review
- Working to the strengths of the individual partners to ensure that woodland owners and businesses receive targeted advice and support.
- Ground breaking project to celebrate and improve our forest landscapes whilst making the forest sector more robust and sustainable

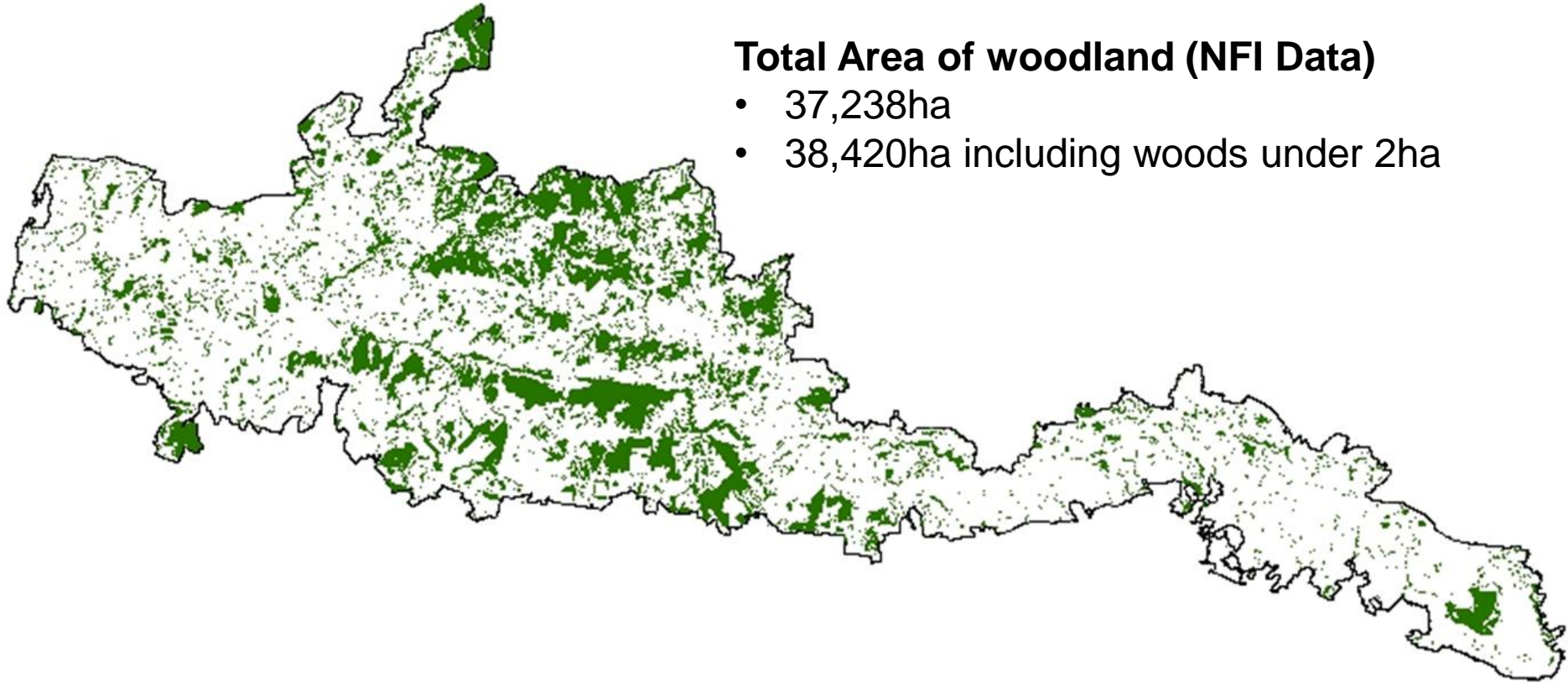


Project aims

- Establish the management and condition of the woods within the National Park (threshold of 90%)
- To map and conserve habitats with priority woodland species
- To develop a partnership approach for the continuous management of SDNP woodland. Bringing together advice, grants and funding opportunities from partner organisations. With the result of a measurable increase of grant and funding uptake (threshold 20% increase).
- To develop and understanding of the SDNP wood based industry and to stimulate growth by linking landowners with local enterprises
- Reinvigorate the “Wood Culture” of the South Downs National Park



The Woodland Resource

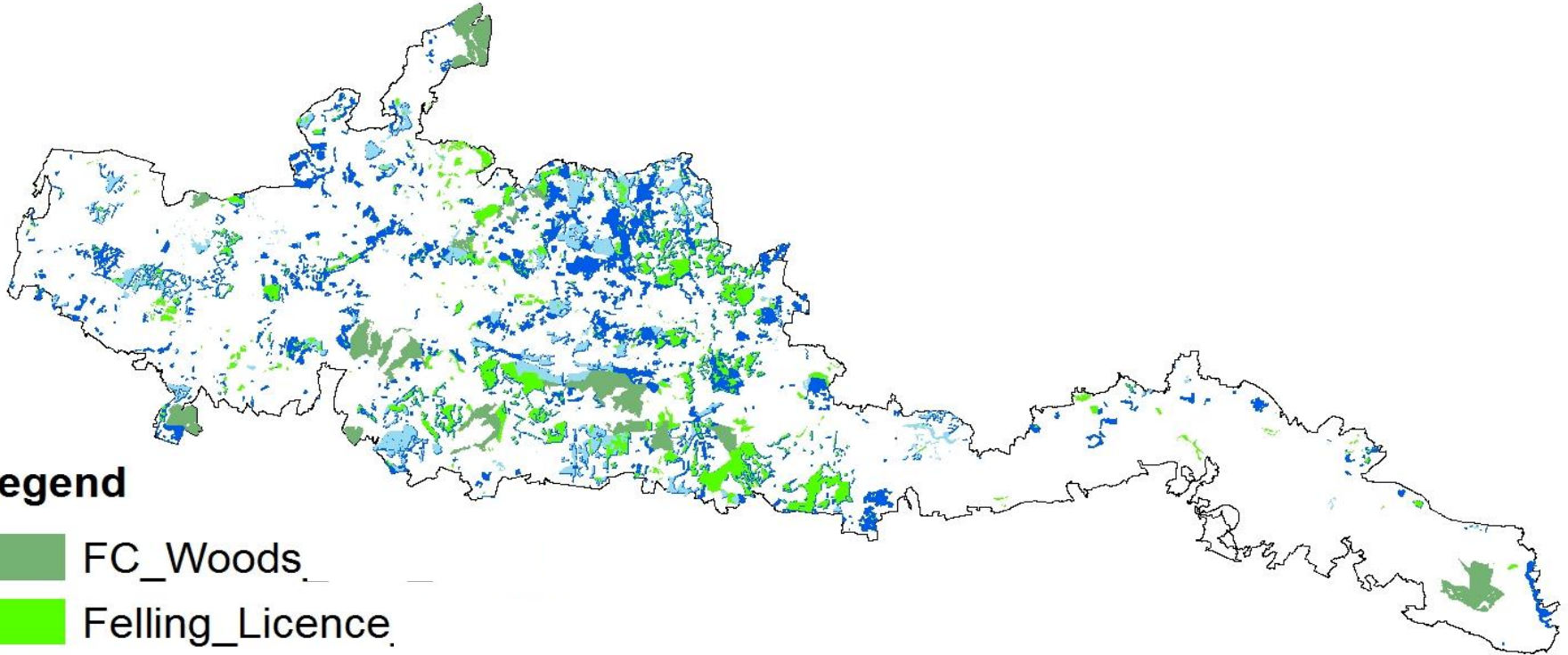


Total Area of woodland (NFI Data)




- 37,238ha
- 38,420ha including woods under 2ha



GIS Mapping – Compilation of known management

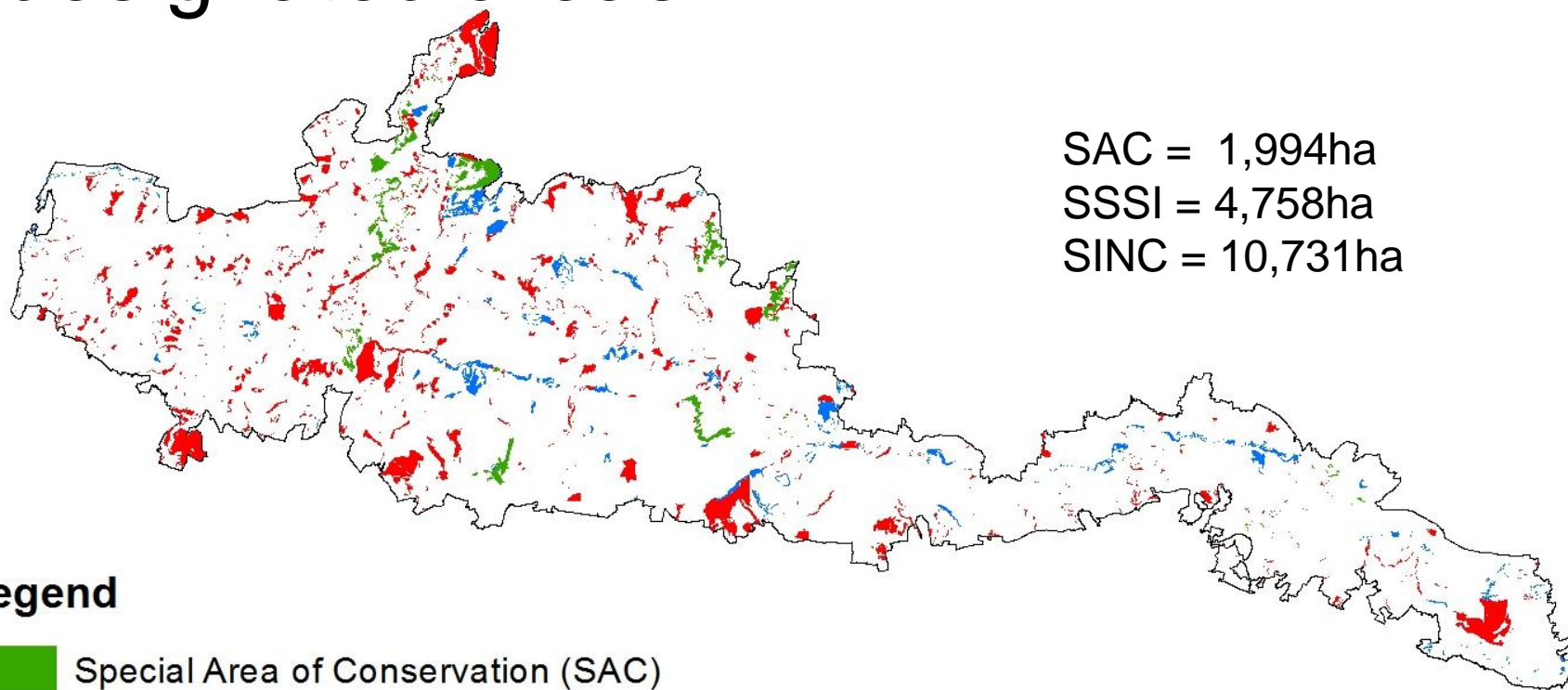


Legend

-  FC_Woods_
-  Felling_Licence.
-  EWGS_Ownership.
-  WGS_Ownership-Pre2010






GIS Mapping – Compilation of designated areas



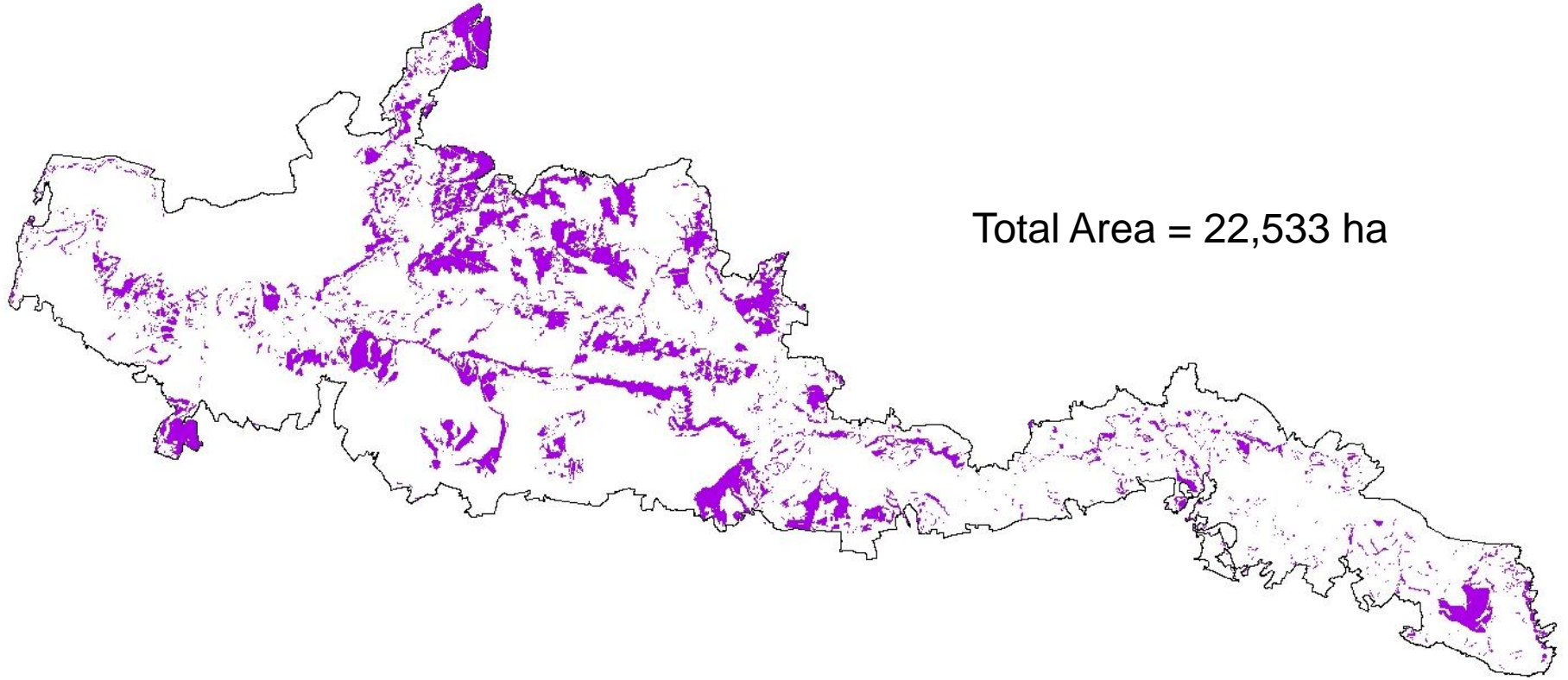
SAC = 1,994ha
SSSI = 4,758ha
SINC = 10,731ha

Legend

-  Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
-  Site of Special scientific Interest (SSSI)
-  Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)



GIS Mapping – Biodiversity Opportunity Areas



Total Area = 22,533 ha



Priority Woodlands

Total Areas not in stewardship:

PAWS = 1,865ha






BOA = 6,801ha

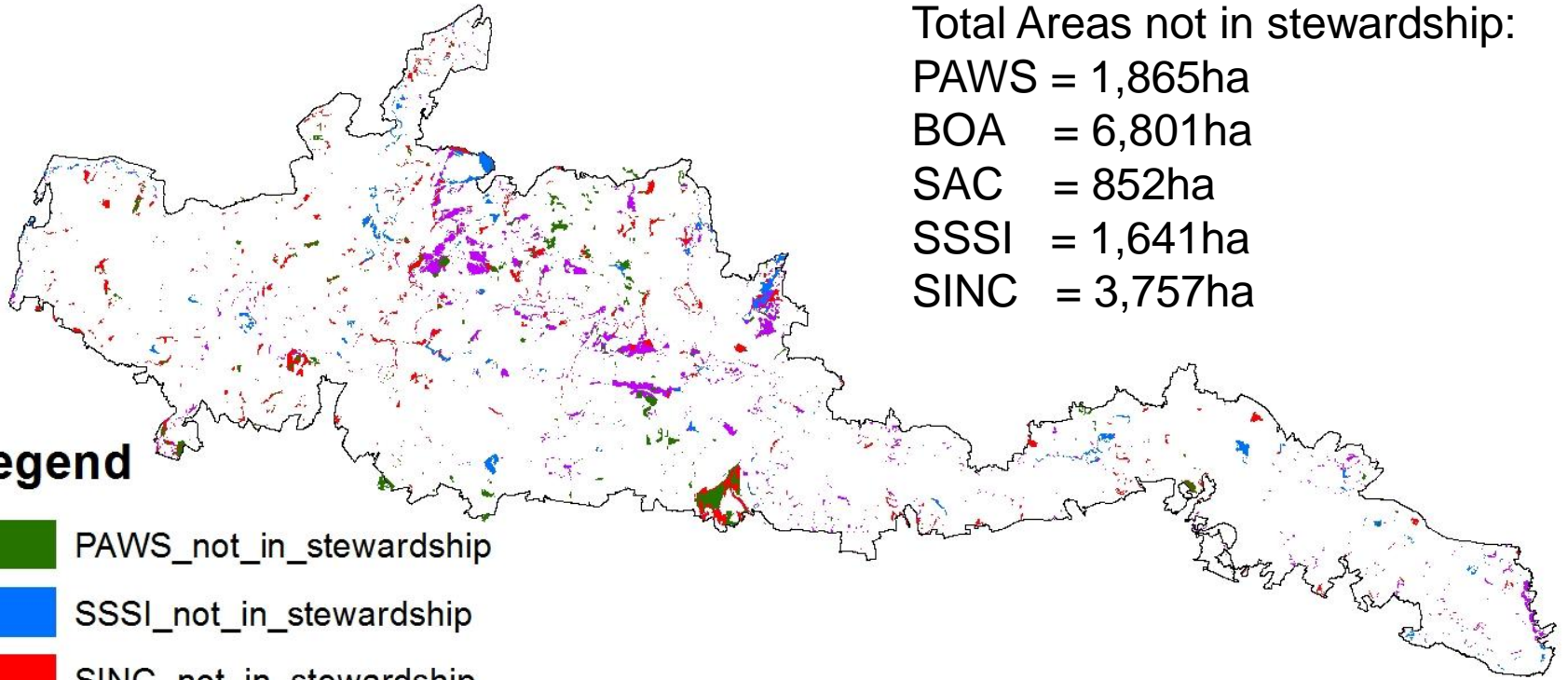
SAC = 852ha

SSSI = 1,641ha

SINC = 3,757ha

Legend

-  PAWS_not_in_stewardship
-  SSSI_not_in_stewardship
-  SINC_not_in_stewardship
-  SAC_not_in_stewardship
-  BOA not in stewardship



Key success against objectives

To date we have already exceeded most of the partnership objectives:

GIS Mapping

- Identified over 90% of woodland management status
- Flexible, detailed mapping system of the forest resource. Never before achieved on a landscape scale.
- Now recognised as best practice by other protected landscapes.



Key success continued

EWGS Grant uptake

- Increased the area under stewardship by 91%
- Increased the number of agreements by 85%

Estimated value of EWGS increase:

- **£1,793,000 increase in EWGS funding**
- **£3,905,000 overall EWGS funding in the SDNP**



Key Success Continued

Woodland Owner Engagement

- Conducted in excess of 50 woodland site visits to deliver joined up package of advice.

PAWS Restoration

- Over 400ha of PAWS now under management plan
- 12 woodland owners working to restore the conifer woodland back to broadleaf woodland.

Business Supply Chain

- Identified over 90 contractors and forest based enterprises working within the SDNP.



Key Success Continued

West's Woodfair



Key Success Continued

Business Skills Course



What can we do for you.....

If you own woodland or are a forestry based enterprise:

- Offer free impartial site visit and consultation regarding woodland management.
- Inform woodland owners and local businesses of grant opportunities and help with applications
- Link woodland owners to local contractors and timber markets
- Monitor the transition to NELMS and ensure woodland owners are informed of any changes or opportunities
- Offer free advertisement for forestry enterprises.



Questions?

