

# Clear-fell building, ecological statement Date -16/06/23 Prepared by Cath Bashforth, Yorkshire Forest District Ecologist

#### **Background**

The site is in Dalby Forest, which is part of a network of Forestry England (FE) land in the east of the North York Moors National Park.

#### **Natural Heritage**

#### **Habitat**

The site is within a mature forest crop planted in 1923 of beech and Scots pine with some spruce along the edges, approximately 20m from the forest road. The road verge has limited ecological diversity, comprising grasses and brambles. (Pic 1)



Preparation of the site will require the removal of 8-9 Sitka spruce crop trees and 2-3 smaller broadleaves (less than 15cm dbh). There is limited ground flora currently in the location of the clear-fell building. (Pic 2)





### No protected species or habitats, veteran trees or trees of significant interest have been identified in the area of proposed works.

No birds nests or trees with potential bat roost features were identified in the area of proposed works.

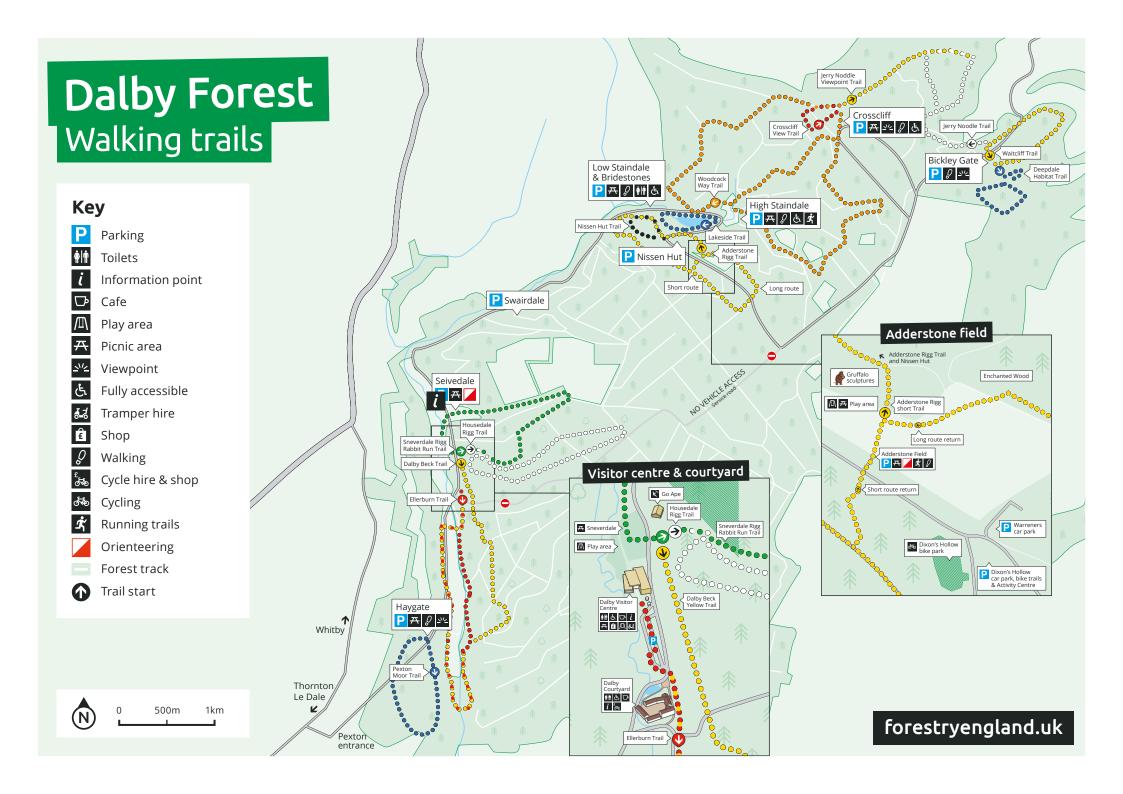
The habitat is sub optimum for reptiles and we have no records of reptiles in the area.

The nearest active Schedule 1 bird nest site is 600m to the northwest of the proposed location, the construction of the building will have no impact (exclusion zones 400m).

#### Mitigation/ biodiversity enhancement

The clearance of the Sitka spruce from the area will create a glade within the crop which will allow more diverse vegetation to develop in the ground layer than is currently present on site under the crop.

The design of the clear-fell building incorporates bat roost features which will enhance the opportunities for bats in the area.







# Walking trails at

# Dalby Forest

## Dalby Visitor Centre

### Dalby Beck Yellow Trail

6km (3.7 miles)

A trail with a steep hill leading to the best views over Low Dalby Valley. Extend your walk to enjoy the Ellerburn pond.

#### Sneverdale Rigg Rabbit Run ●●● 3.3km (2 miles)

A pleasant walk with a chance to see deer at the viewpoint. Walk past a 'rabbit type', an important part of Dalby's history when rabbits were farmed for fur. Some steep slopes.

### Housedale Rigg Trail OOO 4.63km (2.9 miles)

A tramper trail delving into the trees with stunning views at the top of Housedale. An initial steep slope leads to undulating terrain with spectacular scenery.

#### **Haygate**

### Pexton Moor Blue Trail

2.6km (1.6 miles)

Outstanding views of the Dalby Dales and Ellerburn along a range of woodland habitats.

#### **Low Dalby**

#### **Ellerburn Trail**

4.5km (2.8 miles) Shortcut : 2.8km (1.7 miles) Accessible trail

Suitable for tramper hire This beautiful trail follows Dalby Beck past the first trees planted here in 1921. An accessible trail along a flat surface, ideal for tramper users.

#### **High Staindale**

# Lakeside Trail ••• 0.6km (0.4 miles) Accessible trail

This trail circles Staindale Lake along boardwalks and well-surfaced paths.

# High Staindale or Crosscliff

#### Woodcock Way

7km (4.5 miles) Shortcut: 4.8km (3 miles)

A circular trail taking in Staindale, Yondhead Rigg and Crosscliff, with views across the North York Moors. A mix of forest roads, uneven paths and hills. Developed by the Friends of Dalby Forest.

#### Nissen Hut car park

#### Nissen Hut Trail ●●● 1km (0.6 miles) Fully accessible

Follow the waymarkers to reach our Nissen Hut sculpture by Rachel Whiteread DBE, which commemorates the Forestry Commission Centenary in 2019.

#### Crosscliff

#### **Crosscliff View Trail**

0.8km (0.5 miles) Accessible trail

An easy access trail with views over the moorland.

### Jerry Noddle Viewpoint

#### 3.8km (2.4 miles) Accessible trail

Follow the forest road to Jerry Noddle for spectacular views over Upper Langdale Valley. Return on same forest road.

#### **Adderstone Field**

## Adderstone Rigg Trail ••• 4km (2.6 miles)

Shortcut: 2.7km (1.7 miles)

The naturally sculpted Adder Stone is an eye-catching feature along the Adderstone Rigg Trail. The trail follows forest paths and roads, offering extensive views over the forest.

#### **Bickley Gate**

### Jerry Noddle Trail OOO 4.5km (2.8 miles)

Along this circular trail, you'll be find spectacular views at Jerry Noddle over the Upper Langdale Valley. Mostly forest roads with sections off-road.

# Waitcliff Trail ••• 2km (1.25 miles) Accessible trail

A gentle stroll around the edge of the plateau high above the hamlets of Bickley and Deepdale. There are wonderful viewpoints round the trail, which follow a quiet and level forest road and gravel surfaced paths.

### Deepdale Habitat Trail ●●●

#### 2.1km (1.3 miles)

This is a fairly strenuous trail with plenty to see along the way, including a forest nature reserve. This walk has many hilly sections.

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#### **Emergency info**

Visitor centre location:
Dalby Forest Visitor Centre,
Low Dalby YO18 7LT
T: 01751 460295

In case of an emergency, call 999 or 112

Hospital with A&E unit: Scarborough Hospital T: 01723 368111

#### The forest code

- Protect and respect wildlife, plants and trees.
- · Guard against all risks of fire.
- · Keep dogs under control.
- Take your litter home.
- Make no unnecessary noise.
- Take only memories away.
- The forest is for everyone.
   Please be aware of other visitors.

# Join today

As a member you'll be supporting Dalby Forest and get free onsite parking, forest updates and discounts

forestryengland.uk/ membership



## **Forest Eye**

### Sculpture/Installation Maintenance Information

Artist Name	Sand in your Eyes
Name of art	Forest Eye
installation	
Location	Housedale Rigg
Dates	8 February 2022 - launch event
Description	In January/February 2022, on a clear fell area (as per map) the Forest Eye was created by Sand in Your Eyes, in partnership with the Environment Agency and Forestry England in response to COP26 held in Glasgow.  8 February was 100 days after COP26 and a reason to show how serious Forestry England takes sustainability issues.  The Eye represents the next generation looking onto our actions to make sure they consider the next generations in their decision making.
Actions between December 2022 and March 2023	<ul> <li>Forest Eye is planted with Alder, Maple and Beech in the shape of an Eye.</li> <li>During Winter 22/23 top up planting was carried out to complete the shape as well as beat up with nectar and berry species (Rowan, blackthorn, hawthorn, cherry, hazel) using sustainable tubes - Simon Butcher/Darrell Trousdale</li> <li>The shape of the Eye will be plotted and added to Forester Web - Simon Butcher</li> </ul>
Annual Actions	<ul> <li>Between August and March 2023, 1 or 2 cuts of the non-planted areas with the tractor - Steven Hodgson</li> <li>Where the non-planted areas are too small for the tractor, a volunteer task can be arranged to hand cut grass and rake - Hannah Linaker/Layla Khoo</li> <li>Dependent on what vegetation grown in the non-planted areas, there may be a need to take green hay from the verges above the Forest Eye to introduce seed, which can be distributed across the area, by volunteers - Hannah Linaker, Friends of Dalby, Rob Herdman, Layla Khoo</li> <li>Monthly visual inspection of the site, check the trees, tubes - Hannah Linaker, Layla Khoo, SASH/FoDF/Other groups</li> </ul>

