

Project Profile

A21, Pembury, Kent

Project:	Woodland Enhancement
Client:	Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering
Value:	£350,000
Designers:	WSP/Parsons Brinkerhoff
Duration:	5 years

Introduction

Tilhill Forestry was awarded the woodland enhancement contract to improve 26 hectares of ancient woodland associated with the A21 Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Scheme in Kent that was implemented by Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering.

Working in accordance with our NHSS18 accreditation the five year contract commenced in early September 2017.

Works will continue until contract completion in February 2023.

Description of work

Initial works involved the cutting and removal of significant amounts of rhododendron followed by thinning works to remove non-desirable coniferous species. Ride creation and woodland edge improvement works were also incorporated. Areas of broadleaves were coppiced throughout the duration of the contract and new planting works were implemented over the 2017/18 planting season.

Ongoing Management of the woodland areas includes:

- Control of non-desirable species.
- Management of rides and open space.
- Coppicing.
- Browsing control.
- Maintenance of the areas of new planting.

The presence of a number of European Protected Species including dormice, great crested newts and bats as well as the designation of the habitat itself required the works to be managed and implemented in an extremely considerate and sensitive manner.

