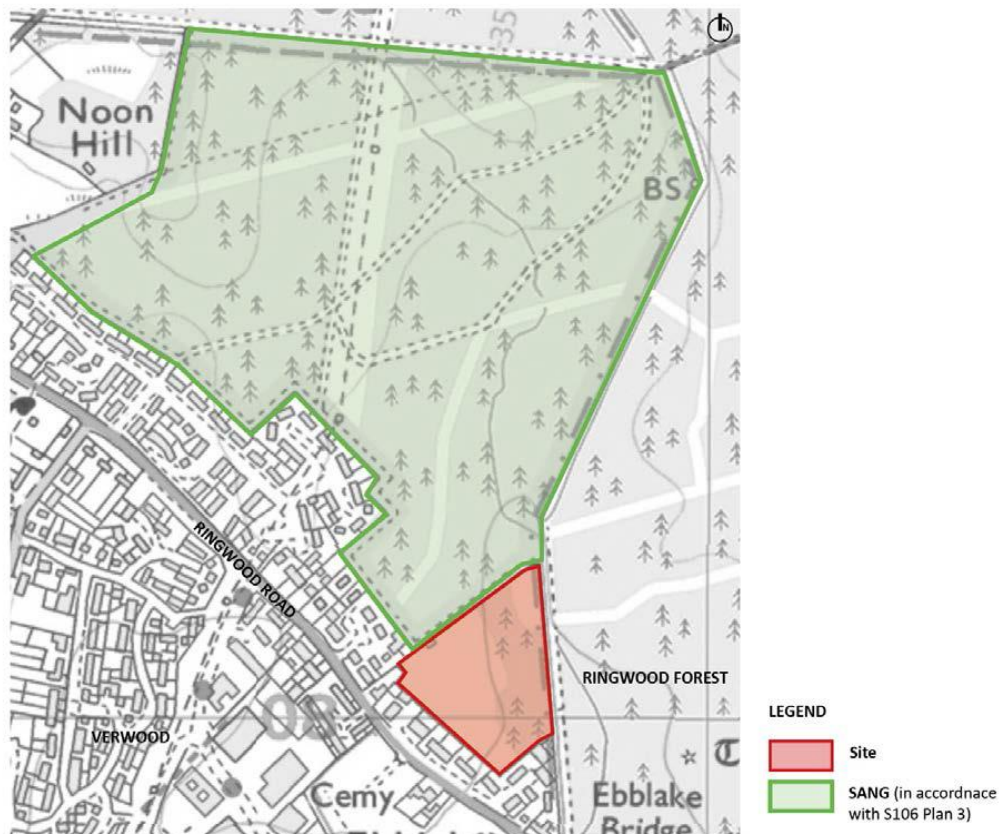


Forestry England Access Forum Update 2nd December 2019

Verwood Sang

Myself and my team have recently finished the SANG site at Verwood, Ringwood Forest. The works have included the upgrading of informal trails and the creation of new sections of footpaths and the installation of recreational infrastructure. The provision of the SANG in this instance, is due to the introduction of a new residential development and the proximity to the Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area (SPA). The purpose of the SANG is to mitigate any potential adverse effects on the SPA resulting from the increase in population resulting from the development.



North Weirs

We have recently upgraded a footpath over a wet area of lawn between North Weirs and Burley Road. This was a challenging section of path to do as the lawn had become increasingly wetter over the years. Sorry, no after picture but here's some before. The works included vegetation clearance and building up the footpath, culvert works and bringing the bridge back to a good standard.



Cycle Routes of on wartime infrastructure

We have a few sections of our cycle network on wartime airfield infrastructure. There has been an issue in a few places where this is breaking up and has become a H&S issue for users. This entire infrastructure is of significant heritage value to the New Forest landscape and its history and so repairing or removing this is not so straight forward. I have had some productive site meetings with the NPA's Archaeological Officer and FONFA (Friends of New Forest Airfields) on how can reach an agreeable solution for all. All of this wartime infrastructure has been graded in terms of significance of importance, relating to its original function, its features and location. Preservation is important but there is a balance between this and H&S. The way forward is to stop any further degradation, this is mainly happening from tree roots breaking up the concrete, so the felling of some trees is required, over capping the existing surface with gravel to allow a better surface and keep intact the original concrete surface and to remove the very worst sections or lower significant sections and replace this with gravel.



Lastly our seasonal Winter car park closures are now in place. The purpose of this programme is to reduce unnecessary capacity during the quieter winter months and utilise our limited resources for maintenance more effectively. Some closed car parks may be repaired during this period, but it is anticipated that most of our resources will be directed to maintaining those popular car parks that remain open. Below is the list of car parks to be closed from 4th November 2019 to 30th March 2020

Car Park Closures 2019/20	Nearest Open Car Park
Lords Oak	Bramshaw Wood
Shepherds Gutter	Longcross
Ocknell Pond	Cadman's Pool
Spring Bushes	Broomy Walk
Hazel Hill	Minstead Road
Brockishill Green	Minstead Road
Shave Wood	Football Green
Lucy Hill	Oakley
Barrow Moor	Knightwood Oak
Woosons	Knightwood Oak
Osmond's Bushes	Goatspen
Longslade View	Londslade Bottom
Longslade Heath	Horseshoe Bottom
Ober Corner	Beachern Wood
Whitley Wood	Clay Hill Heath
Whitemoor	James Hill
Parc Pale	Bolton's Bench
Standing Hat	Tilery Road
Northgate	King's Hat
Culverley	Pig Bush
Yew Tree Bottom	Wilverley Inclosure
Vereley Hill	Vereley