**Supplementary materials**

Table S1 – Coefficients of models showing relationship between canopy cover and seedling and sapling density for sites across the New Forest and Denny wood

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Model name** | **Parameter** | **Estimate** | **SE** | **P value** |
| New Forest seedlings | Intercept | 0.77 | 0.40 | 0.06 |
| Slope | 0.41 | 0.06 | <0.01 |
| New Forest saplings | Intercept | -2.19 | 0.66 | <0.01 |
| Slope | -0.61 | 0.32 | 0.07 |
| Denny seedlings | Intercept | -0.08 | 0.16 | 0.63 |
| Slope | 0.56 | 0.09 | <0.01 |
| Denny saplings | Intercept | -2.82 | 0.89 | <0.01 |
| Slope | -2.09 | 1.05 | 0.05 |