



National Nature Reserve declaration event

National Nature Reserve

Wild Ennerdale is now a National Nature Reserve (NNR). The NNR is large (3,000 hectares) and is an example of a new type of NNR termed 'super-NNRs'. These are landscape-scale, multiple ownership and integrate many public benefits and public goods that the area relies upon such as clean water, flood protection, access & enjoyment and the wider carbon capture benefits which contribute to our overall net zero targets. NNRs were established to protect some of our most important habitats, species and geology, and to provide 'outdoor laboratories' for research. As such, they represent a commitment from landowner(s) to manage an area of land with nature conservation and nature recovery as the primary purpose and play a vital role in nature recovery, counting towards the government's "30x30" commitment (30% of land for nature by 2030).

This new designation reflects 20 years of partnership working and embeds the approach for the future. Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to get to this point and for continued support into the future.

Tony Juniper, Chair of Natural England said: "*National Nature Reserves are at the very centre of our ambition to create a vibrant national Nature Recovery Network comprised of bigger and better places for both wildlife and people. The Ennerdale partnership is a great example of what we have in mind and shows how working together can achieve that aim.*" For more information on NNR's visit:

[National Nature Reserve – Wild Ennerdale](#)
[Cumbria's National Nature Reserves - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Make a Difference

Wild Ennerdale was recently announced the winner of the Environmental category for the BBC Radio Cumbria 'Make a Difference Award'. This was one of eight categories whereby individuals or groups could be nominated for their work. Entrants were then shortlisted to four per category and a winner from each announced at an event held at Carlisle in September. Nationally, 9 million people interacted with the new scheme, across 39 local radio stations.

Wild Ennerdale team representatives were delighted to receive the award from Radio Cumbria and did so on behalf of everyone who supports the ongoing work in the valley.



Wild Ennerdale representatives receiving the award



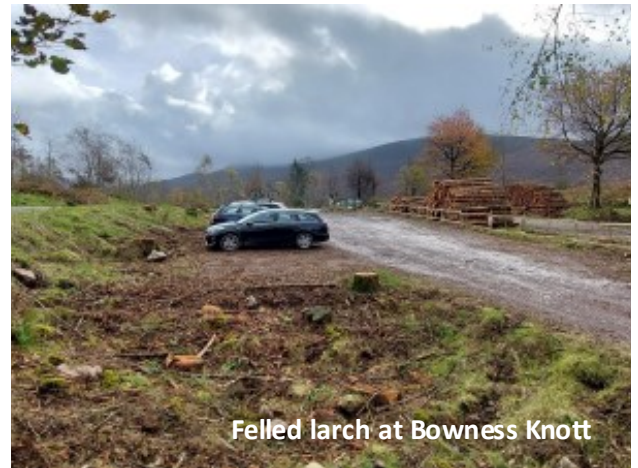
Red Grouse

Local ornithologist Pete Ullrich has recently reported back on more positive news for Red Grouse. Last month, a covey of ten Red Grouse were sighted in the Silvercove area of the valley (Southern ridge). This is the same location a male was recorded displaying back in 2020 and where droppings were recorded in '21 & '22. This is an additional territory to three found during an earlier survey this spring and firm evidence that Red Grouse are recovering in Ennerdale.

Harvesting works

In response to the disease Phytophthora Ramorum affecting Larch, felling began in August to remove diseased trees. The disease has affected a large area of forest, with the main focus for works in the zone from Bowness Knott to Gillerthwaite. Felling, stacking and extracting the timber takes logistical planning around many other operational and environmental considerations. The felling in this area will last for another couple of months and regular updates are provided via social media and the website forest page. In time, we will begin to see a more diverse structure and species rich forest regenerate, both naturally and through planting.

Thank you for patience during this time. [Forest – Wild Ennerdale](#)



Felled larch at Bowness Knott

Beaver re-introduction

To help progress plans for beaver in Ennerdale (including engagement and consultation), Forestry England have recently appointed a new member of staff whose remit will focus on the potential for this species and others across Forestry England landholdings in Ennerdale and the wider Lake District. Beaver are now present in many locations throughout England (including Cumbria) and Ennerdale would be an opportunity to expand, learn and benefit from this native water and habitat engineer. Consultation will likely happen in spring 2023, once the new member of staff is in place. There will be a chance for anyone to formally comment on the proposals, supportive or otherwise.

Networking

The Wild Ennerdale approach continues to be of interest to a wide range of groups and individuals. Most recently, staff hosted a team from the UKWWPN (Woodland & Wood Pastures Network). Wood pasture is defined as open grown trees with a species-rich ground flora and extensive grazing, usually by large herbivores (cattle or horses). The Silver Cove wood pasture was of interest in particular as it is young and structurally poor, but it is regenerating and is on an improving trajectory. Most of the wood pasture creation in the UK is occurring by planting – often in tree cages but in Silver Cove we have an example of creation by natural regeneration in a cattle grazed setting.



Wood Pasture team in Silver Cove

Wild Ennerdale is a partnership of people and organisations led by the Forestry England, National Trust, United Utilities and Natural England. The Wild Ennerdale Partners are allowing the landscape to evolve naturally with reducing human intervention and invite you to explore this unique valley and experience its special sense of wildness. wildennerdale.co.uk