

# EXTRA EXTRA!

## READ ALL ABOUT IT

### Scaling new heights to protect nature

This is an edited version of a story from  
© BBC Newsround 05/09/2024

**A wildlife trust is aiming to create England's highest nature reserve.**

Cumbria Wildlife Trust says it hopes to restore lost wildlife in the lower slopes of Skiddaw mountain in the Lake District.

Other habitats which would be restored include a high-altitude woodland, wildflower grasslands, and peatbog, which means a very wet area filled with dying plantlife.

It is hoped that the change would help bring wildlife back to the area too.

The charity is asking for public donations to help to pay for the Skiddaw forest site, which includes the summit of Skiddaw mountain.

The work on Skiddaw forest would include:

**Tree planting** — 300,000 native trees will be planted out, all grown from seeds gathered from trees at high altitude to ensure they survive. Oak, birch, rowan, holly, willow and hazel are the main trees they would plant.

**Restore Atlantic rainforest** — The aim is to create around 667 acres of Atlantic rainforest or temperate rainforest. Rainforests of the British Isles are temperate rainforest, which



© Steve Cadman/Flickr. Republishing for schools

mean they grow in areas that have high rainfall and humidity.

**Expanding montane heath** — Montane heath is a rare low woodland which grows at high altitudes. The charity wants to restore the reduced native montane heath on the slopes of Skiddaw.

**Restoring peatbogs** — A third of the site is peatland which is organic material made of decaying plants. The peatbog at Skiddaw had been drained so it would be restored by rewetting it by blocking drains.

**Bringing back wildlife** — They are hoping to bring back native species such as water voles, black grouse, hen harriers and adder.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust says its aim is to make sure people can freely visit the site including Skiddaw's summit.

A partnership between The Wildlife Trusts and the company Aviva raised £5 million towards the £6.25 million price.

Extra support was lent from charities to make sure Cumbria Wildlife Trust did not lose the chance to buy the land, but it still needs to raise £1.25 million to pay for the mountain.

## TRUE OR FALSE?

**Not all news is based on truth. Do you think this story is based on true or false news?**

Britain has more forested area than any other country in Europe.



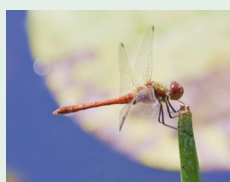
## READ MORE



Out and About Bird Spotter: A children's guide to over 100 different birds by Robyn Swift

Nosy Crow

## LEARN MORE



### Learn

Watch this report on the nature reserve [helping dragonflies thrive!](#)



# CHECK YOUR FACTS

1

**WHAT**  
will the  
donations be  
used for?

**ANSWER:**  
To create  
a nature  
reserve

**WHO**  
is backing  
the plans?

**ANSWER:**  
Sir Chris  
Bonington

**WHERE**  
is the  
mountain?

**ANSWER:**  
England

**WHEN**  
did the Cumbria  
Wildlife Trust  
begin asking for  
donations?

**ANSWER:**  
September  
2024

**WHY**  
could the plans  
boost wildlife on the  
mountain?

**ANSWER:**  
More woodland  
and fertile soil

**HOW**  
could the plans  
protect local  
communities?

**ANSWER:**  
By reducing  
flooding

