



Cornwall's nationally protected landscape



Cornwall
Area of Outstanding
Natural Beauty

*Woodland
and Forestry*



Woodland and Forestry

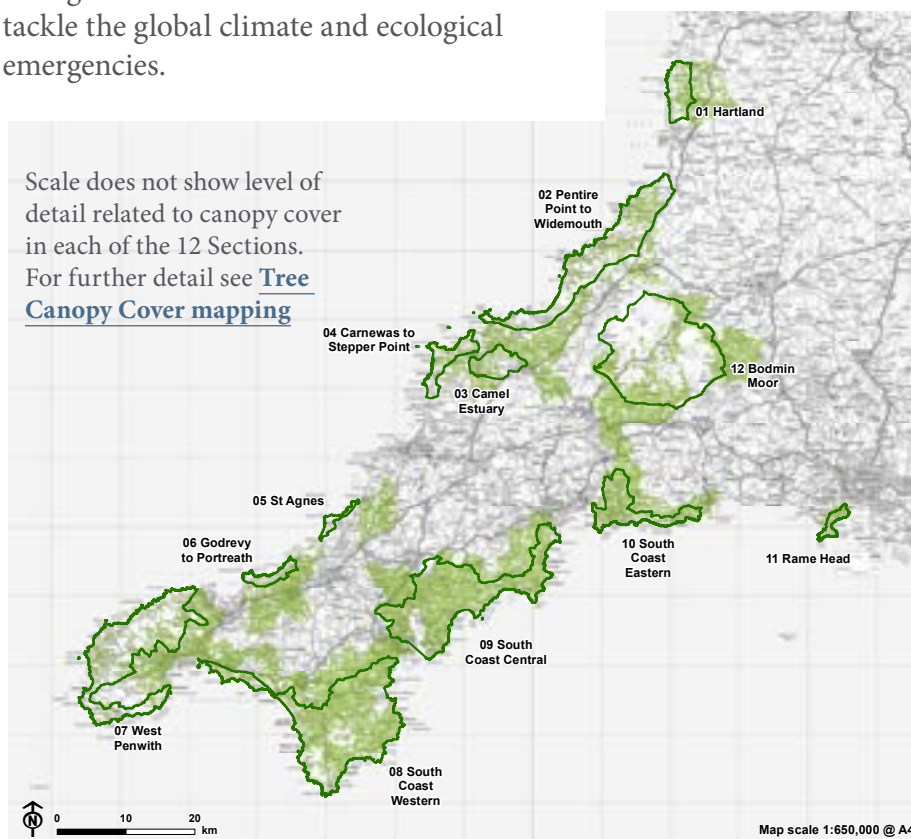
The Importance of Trees in the Landscape

Cornwall's trees and woodlands provide us with many social, economic and environmental functions. Their form and presence, and in some cases, their absence, are important elements of the varied landscapes of the Cornwall AONB. They provide a valuable contribution to sustainable rural employment, carbon sequestration, clean water and protection against the impacts of flooding. Recognising the ecosystem services provided by woodlands, supporting their growth and investing in their conservation and management, will help protect the distinctive landscapes of the AONB and strengthen Cornwall's resilience as we tackle the global climate and ecological emergencies.

Woodland Distribution in the AONB

Woodland distribution today across Cornwall reflects the predominantly agricultural landscape. The largest areas of canopy cover are found in isolated pockets of ancient woodland, tucked away on steep valley sides along the south coast, and wind-blown trees along ancient field boundaries on exposed coastal strips to the North.

The State of the AONB report shows there is a total of 7778ha of woodland/forestry in Cornwall AONB, with broadleaved woodland being the predominant woodland type.



Cornwall State of the AONB
Monitoring: Phase 3 (2021)
Cornwall AONB



Figure 5.3: Tree Canopy Cover

□ Cornwall AONB
■ Canopy cover

Mapping produced by the Forest for Cornwall shows that 6.8% of the AONB consists of tree canopy cover, with the largest coverage concentrated in Section 09 South Coast Central (2,258.76ha).

Tree canopy cover within the AONB sections (2021)





Tree canopy cover within the AONB (2021)

AONB Section	Area of canopy (ha)	% of total tree canopy	% of total AONB area
01 Hartland	118.80	1.8%	4.6%
02 Pentire Point	149.43	2.3%	1.3%
03 Camel Estuary	89.66	1.4%	3.6%
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	27.32	0.4%	1.2%
05 St Agnes	0	0.0%	0.0%
06 Godrevy to Portreath	114.55	1.8%	9.8%
07 West Penwith	273.97	4.2%	2.0%
08 South Coast Western	1,804.21	27.6%	9.4%
09 South Coast Central	2,258.76	34.6%	14.1%
10 South Coast Eastern	651.58	10.0%	14.1%
11 Rame Head	143.71	2.2%	18.4%
12 Bodmin Moor	903.36	13.8%	4.3%
Total	6,535.34	100.0%	6.8%





Tree Planting in Cornwall AONB

It is anticipated that over this Management Plan period, and beyond, the AONB will see a significant increase in the amount of tree and woodland planting. This is already taking place, instigated by Cornwall Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan, the Forest for Cornwall Programme and other grant schemes. Cornwall AONB welcomes the expansion of existing, and the creation of new, woodland where they contribute to the special qualities of the AONB local sections and where they are designed to ensure additional tree and woodland cover conserves and enhances the local landscape character. All planting should follow the Right Tree in the Right Place principle.

Cornwall AONB will contribute to relevant tree and woodland strategies and tree planting initiatives on a case-by-case basis.

It is expected that all tree planting initiatives will be compliant with the



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UK Forest Standard requirements and guidelines, and complete Forestry Environmental Impact Assessments where required.

Cornwall AONB existing woodland cover (illustrative)





Cornwall AONB “potential” future woodland cover (illustrative)



- 1 Respect open ridges and skylines
- 2 Respect open setting of cultural heritage assets
- 3 Reinforce and extend estuarine woodlands
- 4 Ensure legibility of historic field patterns
- 5 Use locally characteristic tree planting to integrate development
- 6 Retain characteristic exposed moorland and coastal areas
- 7 Reinforce pattern of Cornish hedges and tree clumps
- 8 Extend riparian woodland
- 9 Agroforestry
- 10 Perpetuation and management of characteristic estate woodland
- 11 Dynamic woodland/moorland edge
- 12 Restoration/expansion of ancient woodland
- 13 Orchards
- 14 New copses
- 15 Hedgerow trees
- 16 Connections between woodland

Woodland Resilience

Land use change and planning pressures are decreasing the size and quality of our trees and woodland. With an emerging force accelerated through climate change, the remaining woodland stock is under increasing pressure from pests and diseases that threaten our native woodland species, such as ash dieback, bleeding canker (impacting on horse chestnut), oak processionary moth and phytophthora pathogens affecting species including oak, alder and beech. These pests and diseases are expected to increase as the climate warms; therefore, action must be taken to ensure our woodlands are more resilient, diverse and the biosecurity of any planted stock is carefully considered.



1
Vision

2
A Strategy for
Cornwall AONB

3
Forces for
Change

4
Aims, Policies
and Objectives

5
Monitoring

6
Cornwall AONB:
12 Local Sections

7
Partners and
Stakeholders



Thank you for supporting and advocating for Cornwall AONB



**Cornwall
Wildlife Trust**



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[Back to
Contents |
Foreword](#)

277

Cornwall AONB Management Plan | 2022 - 2027