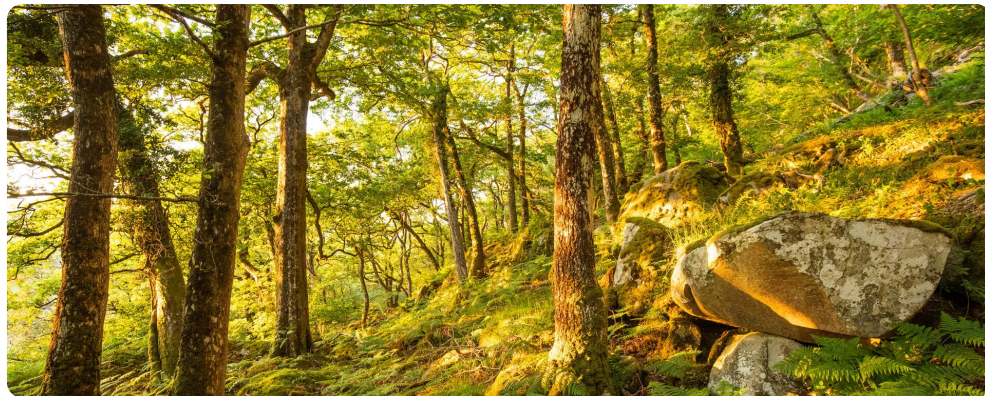


Aviva: Restoring the UK's lost rainforests

Discover Temperate Rainforests

Temperate rainforests are one of the UK's **rarest** and least understood habitats. Once widespread along the western coast, they are now confined to **less than 1% of the UK**, despite around 20% of the country having suitable conditions for their restoration. Restoring these habitats could bring major benefits for nature and climate.



Aviva's Partnership

In 2023, Aviva launched a **£38 million** temperate rainforest restoration programme, in partnership with The Wildlife Trusts, to re-establish these biodiverse ecosystems¹.



*Locations on map may not be exact

Restoration work is currently underway across 11 sites.

England

1. West Muchlarnick
2. Bowden Pillars
3. Park Gill
4. Skiddaw Forest

Isle of Man

8. Glion Darragh
9. Creg y Cowin
10. Glen Auldyn

Northern Ireland

11. Lenamore Wood

Wales

5. Trellwyn Fach
6. Coed Pentwd
7. Bryn Ifan



Case study: Skiddaw Forest

Skiddaw is the largest site we have supported through the programme to date, encompassing an iconic **3,000-acre** mountain and forest landscape. Aviva and The Cumbria Wildlife Trust have ambitious plans to restore **600 to 700 acres of lost temperate rainforest**, alongside peatland, heathland and meadow habitats³.

The restoration of these habitats at Skiddaw could support **native species** such as red squirrels and pine martens, and presents exciting opportunities to engage local communities in nature and wildlife recovery.

Community benefits

The restored rainforests are expected to remove an estimated **800,000 tonnes of CO₂** over the next century, delivering climate and flood resilience benefits for generations¹.



Locks away carbon



Supports cleaner air



Natural flood defence



Improves water quality

Temperate rainforests act as **nature's flood defence system**. They slow heavy rainfall, absorb and store vast amounts of water in moss-rich soils, and reduce the speed at which water reaches rivers.

As extreme weather becomes more common, this helps lower flood peaks downstream, easing pressure on drainage systems and **protecting homes, businesses, and communities**.

Positive economic impacts

Re-establishing rainforests across the UK delivers lasting benefits for local communities and helps them get ready for the future.



Boosts wellbeing



Grows local tourism



Supports green jobs



Access to green space



Temperate rainforest provide important habitat for native species such as the pine marten

Making a difference

A clear and joined-up policy framework can help attract the private investment needed to restore nature at scale. Policymakers can support this important work by:

- 1. Supporting the **use of nature-based solutions** within flood resilience, climate adaptation and land-use planning.
- 2. Supporting **local authority-led nature recovery projects** that bring together communities, landowners and public bodies.
- 3. Visiting **a rainforest restoration site** to see the benefits for nature, climate resilience and local communities first-hand.

Further detail on Aviva's policy positions can be found in our *Investing in Nature* report

Get in touch

Aviva and The Wildlife Trusts would be delighted to host you and your team at your local rainforest site to meet the project teams, see restoration activity on the ground and discuss flood resilience and nature recovery.

You can contact us on:
public.affairs@aviva.com



¹. <https://www.aviva.com/newsroom/news-and-research-overview/news-releases/2023/02/aviva-helps-restore-rare-native-british-rainforests/>
². <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/18b91f53faf243d9a26a3faf6a41384a>
³. <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/blog/landscape-recovery-team/skiddaw-start-exciting-and-ambitious-journey-bring-wildlife-back-lake>