



Vibrant spring green Oak leaves
Photo credit: Wild Ennerdale



Photo credit: Jack Deane



Photo credit: Neil Thirkell

High Fell Boundary Works

The National Trust ranger team has been busy on the southern boundary high fells, covering a 3.5km stretch of ridgeline. The task involves maintaining the existing wall (rebuild gaps) and installing a new top wire to prevent sheep encroachment from the Common into The Side (designated Site of Special Scientific Interest). It's a big job and work is ongoing.

Ennerdale Easter Trail

The Gather and Wild Ennerdale have partnered to offer an Easter Trail during the school holidays. The trail follows the 'Ennerdale Views' route (shown orange on map) with various family friendly activities to do along the way. Start/Finish is from The Gather and a chocolate treat can be collected from there afterwards. The Gather is open 9am—4pm daily (10am—4pm Sundays) . **Enjoy!**



Riverlands

Work is being scheduled for this summer by the National Trust Riverlands team. The project will mainly focus on the lower River Liza with interventions along the canalised sections around Irish Bridge to re-naturalise this area. This in turn will lead to a more naturally connected wetter zone between the Liza and the lake and in the Char Dub area. Over time, this will improve habitat diversity, water connectivity and create more wetland habitat for wildlife.



Photo credit: Scotland Big Picture

Loft Beck

The National Trust West Lakes 'Fix the Fells' team plan to continue work at Loft Beck in the upper valley as part of improvement works for the Coast to Coast becoming a National Trail (funded by Natural England). The stone revetment is to repair a section of path that had been washed into Loft Beck, and stone pitching is required to improve a section of path above Loft Beck that is experiencing significant erosion, making the path difficult to walk on. The team have a few other sections to improve and will be up there over coming months. Once completed, the route should be in a sustainable condition that will be able to cope with the visitor impacts.



Loft Beck path revetment repairs
Photo credit: Liam Prior

Volunteer Work

Thank you to our volunteer team for continued support. Main areas of work for early spring '25: Native tree planting in upper valley, fencing (installing new & removing old), wildflower planting at Bleach Green, drain clearance along lakeshore, regular litter picking. A lovely annual 'thank you' meal was enjoyed by all at The Shepherd's Arms in Feb.

Natural England (NE) has funded the purchase of some new equipment/tools for the volunteer team (through the 'wider benefits' funding of the Coast-to-Coast upgrade) for their weekly work parties. We are grateful to NE and also Lake District National Park Authority for their support.



Photo credit: John Rickard

We would like to acknowledge the long-standing efforts by Muir Lachlan as volunteer co-ordinator for the **Ennerdale Community Red Squirrel Group**. Muir has worked for many years to organise the monitoring, reporting and management of both Red & Grey Squirrels in a bid to support Red Squirrel populations and reduce the impacts of Grey's. Muir has also represented Ennerdale at meetings and events with the Northern Red Squirrels Group. This work will now be handed over to other local community members in the parish.

Thank you Muir for all your commitment and hard work.



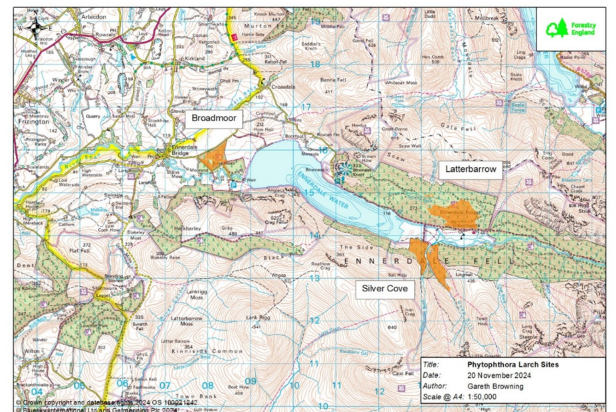
Photo credit : Forestry England

Forestry England Update

Contractors working for Forestry England have begun work felling larch in response to continuing Phytophthora larch disease in the valley. Tree felling and extraction works started in Silver Cove in February and are likely to continue into late spring. All the larch trees within the red shaded areas on the map will be felled as they are diseased. Some rights of way will be diverted (with signage on site).

A new temporary turning point and extension of the existing facility in Broadmoor has been created. There is no confirmed date for when harvesting will start here but it is likely to be in the late spring/early summer.

Over winter, Forestry England contractors and Wild Ennerdale volunteers have planted around 45,000 native trees across the valley. Forestry England is planning to start work on replacing the fence line along the valleys southern ridge between Pillar and Silver Cove over summer 2025. This will involve helicopter flights to airlift the new fencing material up to the ridge and fly in toilets and shelter for contractors. Once the new fence is completed, the old metal fence materials will be flown back down to be recycled.



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

