

#Species Survival Fund – Rainforest Restoration Project

2024-2026



The #Species Survival Fund Rainforest Restoration Project is being led by the Woodland Trust in partnership with Plantlife and other organisations. This project is funded by the Government's Species Survival Fund. The fund was developed by Defra and its Arm's-Length Bodies. It is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency



















#Species Survival Fund – Rainforest Restoration Project

The impact of biological records on Cumbrian rainforest conservation

 **Plantlife** The global voice for wild plants and fungi



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Important Plant Areas (IPAs)

Selection criteria

Criterion A - The site holds significant populations of one or more species which are of global or European conservation concern.

Criterion B - The site has an exceptionally rich flora in a European context in relation to its biogeographical zone.

Criterion C - The site is an outstanding example of a habitat type of global or European plant conservation and botanical importance.



Core Area



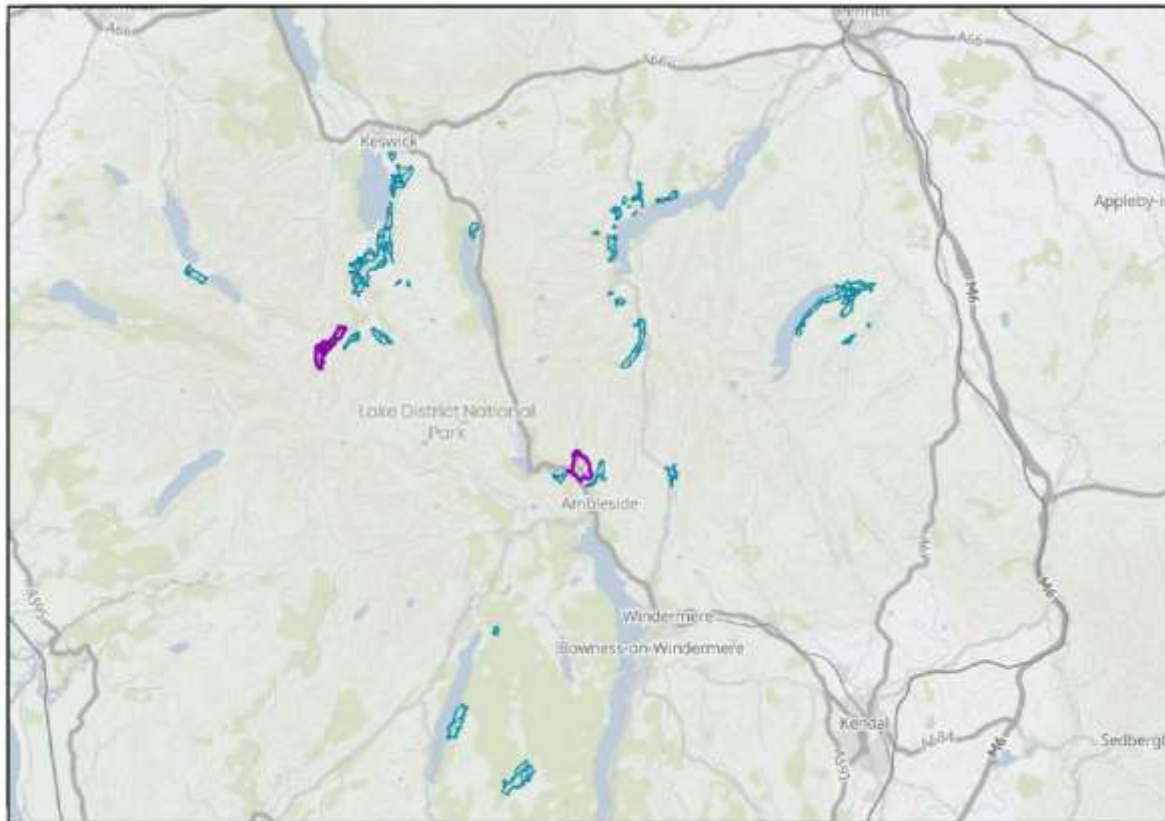
Zone of Opportunity (ZoO)

IPA Review – Criterion B methodology

2023/2024

- Rainforest indicator records used to generate 1km target squares
- 1km squares clipped to NFI woodland polygons
- ≥ 35 indicator species = Core
- ≤ 34 indicator species = ZoO

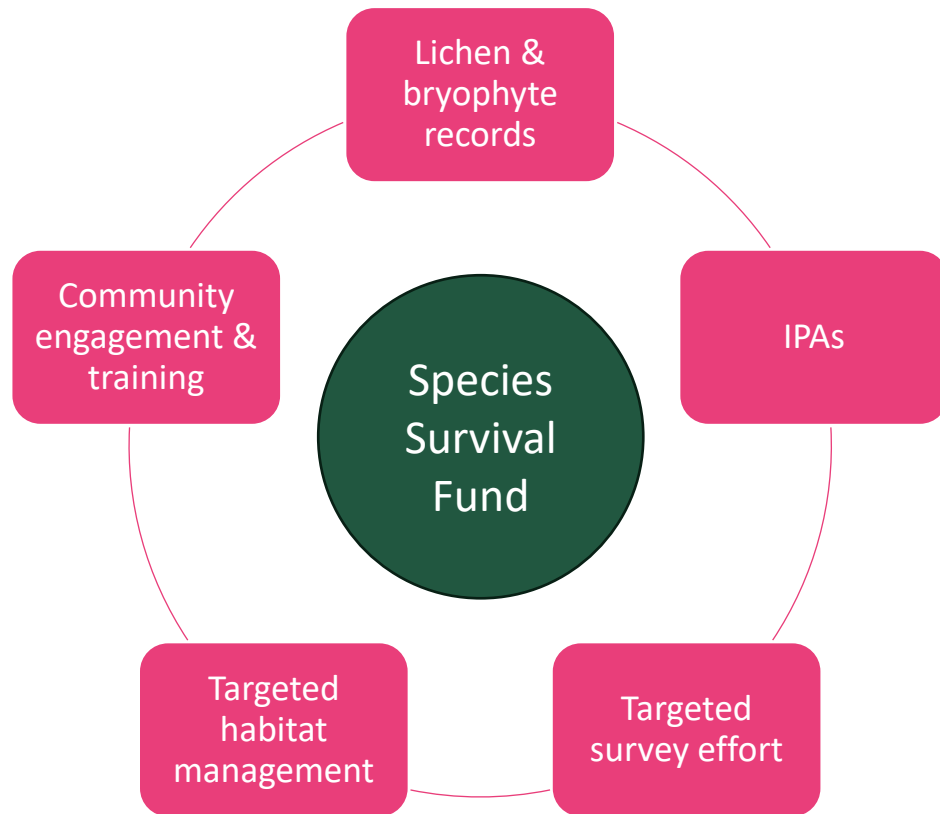
Criterion B Lichen Species Richness - Core & ZoO



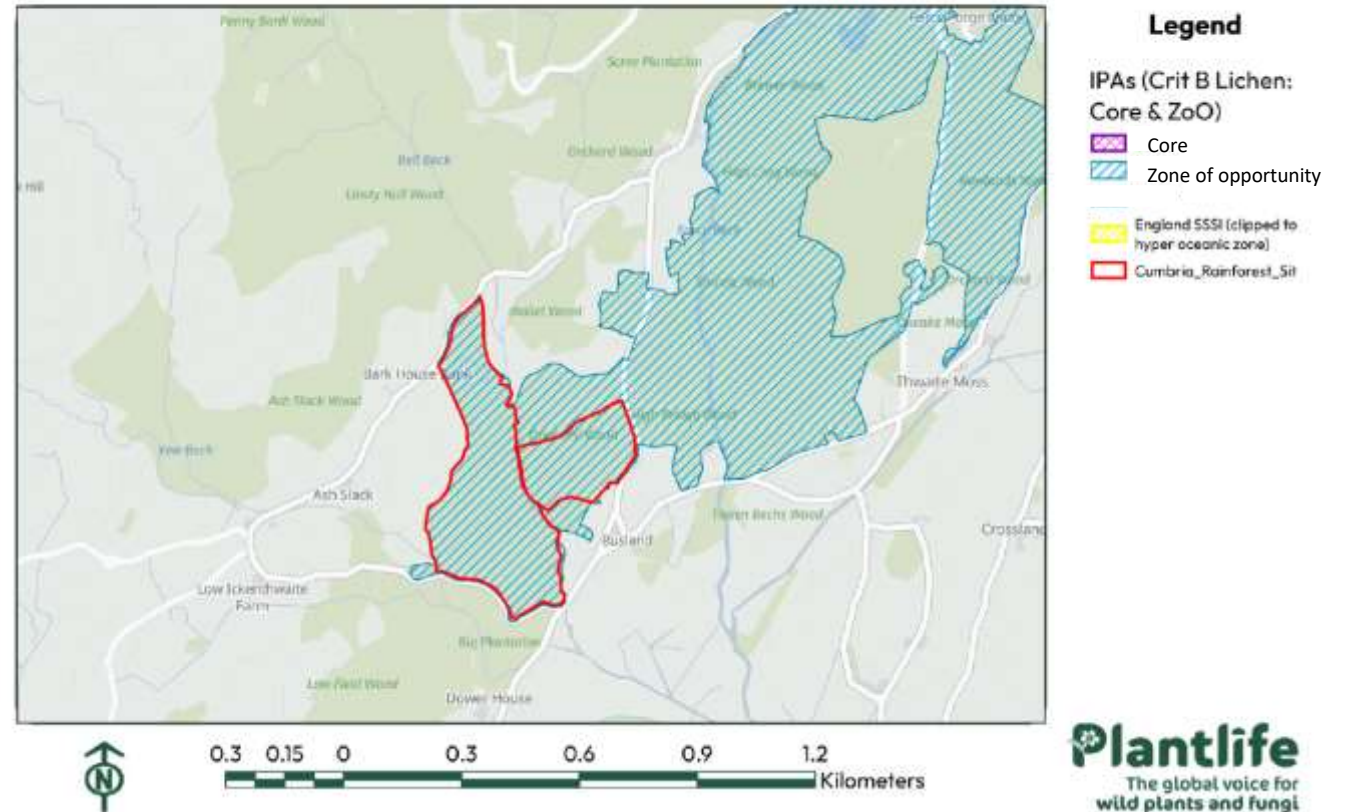
7 3.5 0 7 14 21 28 Kilometers

Maximising the impact of biological records

2024-2026



Rusland Valley Woods: IPA & SSF Project Boundaries



Rusland Valley Woods

Works programme

- Lichen and bryophyte surveys
- Selective felling & halo-thinning of future veterans
- Lichen translocation from diseased ash
- Rapid Rainforest Assessment training for volunteers and local landowners

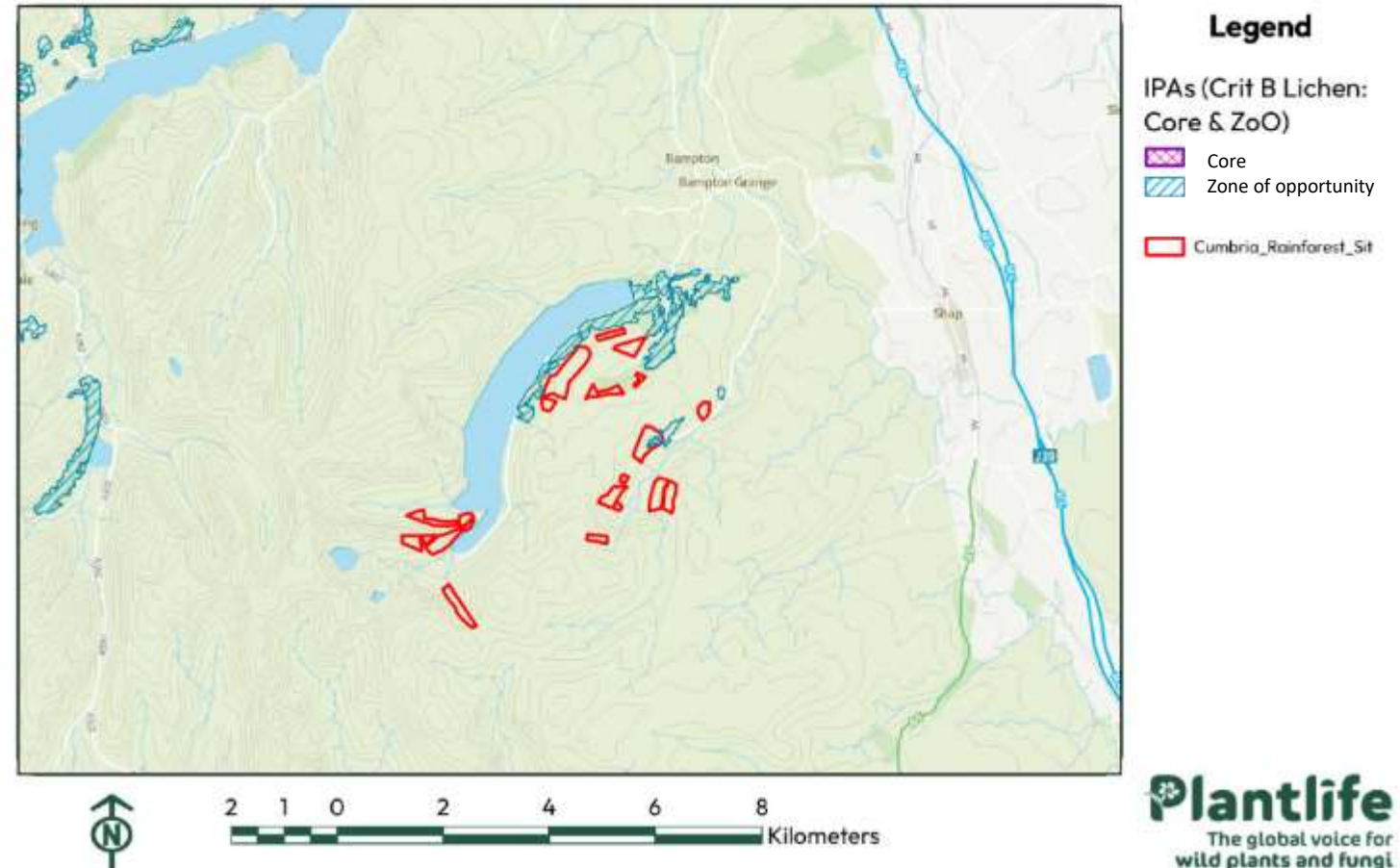


Maximising the impact of biological records

Naddle Forest & Mardale Common

- Existing lichen and bryophyte interest in Naddle Forest SSSI – captured by LOST and CLBG
- High density planting in small enclosures to expand existing woodland
- Rapid Rainforest Assessment training for RSPB/ Cumbria Connect volunteers and staff

Naddle Forest & Mardale Common



The future in records

Where to next?

- Targeted survey effort to inform future management e.g. Borrowdale NNR
- Rainforest landscape theory to capture more areas and features of botanical significance

Borrowdale Crit B Lichen Richness - Core & ZoO

