

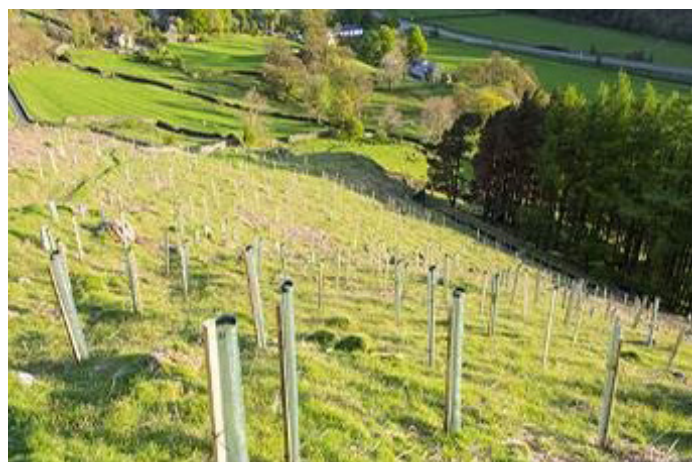
Woodland Creation & Management

Well-sited and well-managed woodland can contribute to the delivery of a host of outcomes both on the floodplain and riparian areas.

- There is potential to use woodland measures to help intercept soil and nutrient losses and reduce localised flood risk through increased infiltration.
- Native woodland provides important wildlife habitat, increased canopy shade, shelter and habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna; boosting levels of biodiversity.
- Trees also provide shade and shelter for livestock and prevent damage to crops and soil erosion.

Other benefits include:

- Boosting Carbon sequestration and air quality via natural cycling.
- Woodlands will significantly slow overland flow of water and reduce riverbank erosion within that area.
- Opportunities vary in scale from planting in hedges, marginal/corner buffer strips to Agro-forestry.



Woodland Creation & Management

	Guidance
Where	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use tree species appropriate for the soil and climatic conditions that support the planting objectives, discuss with advisors for further details • Select planting stock that complies with the Forest Reproductive Material Regulations 2002 (where applicable) and is appropriate in size and stock type to site and prevailing conditions • Strategic areas may be identified to optimise multiple benefits to water quality and supply, biodiversity, Carbon etc. without losing highly productive land
What	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pack sizes vary in size and species • May be implemented alongside fencing and buffer strips for larger areas • Tree guards and stakes should be used to ensure best possible establishment
How	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a suitable planting position by scarifying in lines or preparing a bare patch of land with a spade to reduce weed cover • Use a planting method that helps survival, with roots fully inserted in the ground with the root collar at ground level - the tree must be firmed in without damaging the stem • Protect young trees by attaching a 0.6m spiral guard secured with a cane (agree with an adviser based on site details) • Plant trees when dormant and attach the spiral guard immediately • Maintain spirals until the trees are big enough to no longer need protection

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When	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop livestock and other grazing animals from damaging the trees - use protective fencing or individual guards as needed (if using tree shelters, these will replace spiral guards) • Remove the spiral and cane when no longer needed and dispose of or recycle them in line with waste disposal regulations • Trees must be protected from competing weeds for 3 years, or until they are big enough not to be threatened by competition from weeds. This can be done by using suitable mulch, an or weeding by hand • Follow relevant laws and codes of practice if spraying • Planting density approx..1600 trees/ha
When	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting season in general is over the autumn months

Management for Water Quality

There is growing interest in the potential to use woodland measures to help reduce flood risk. The Forestry Commission (FC) has been directly involved in several trials and demonstration projects. These projects have shown that looking after existing native woodlands and plantations, and targeting certain areas for tree planting, will significantly slow overland flow of water and reduce riverbank erosion within that area. This could contribute to future options for farm income via the new and developing Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMs).

Strategic Woodland Creation / Management and your farm business

Tree planting can vary from planting in hedges, buffer strips, corner planting to Agro-Forestry, a land use system in which tree or shrubs are grown around or among crops or grassland, integrating the benefits of trees with agricultural production and helping to control surface run-off during heavy rain. The trees can be used as a diversification business, to supply fibre production for chipping or as a potential Carbon offsetting bank.

Consents and Licences

National Parks consent and SSSI consent is required from Natural England, and possibly local planning permission (dependant on the size of the woodland).

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