



PARTNERIAETH TIRWEDD Y
CARNEDDAU
LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP



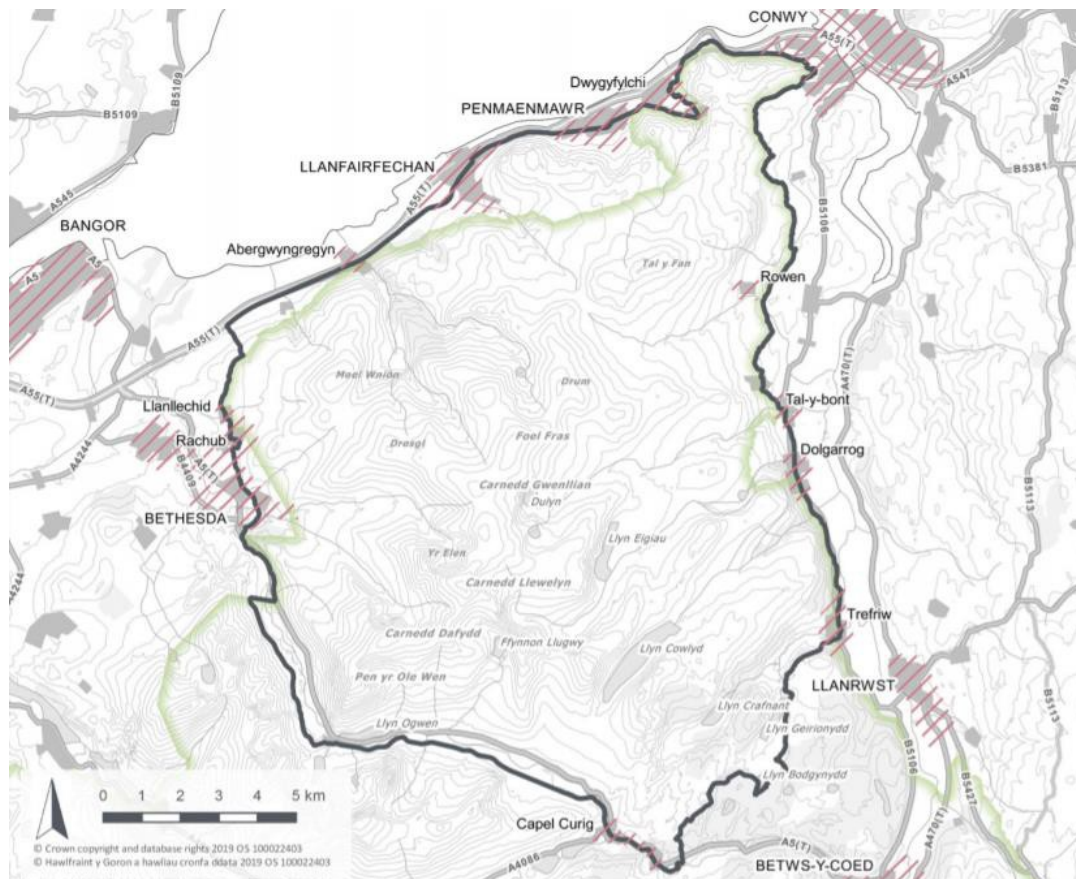
Carneddau Landscape Partnership Scheme

The Carneddau is a special and varied landscape. With the help of funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, a partnership of organisations is delivering a 5-year scheme to help people discover, record, care for and celebrate the Carneddau.

About the Area

The scheme area occupies over 220 sq km at the northern most part of Snowdonia National Park. The area is dominated by the Carneddau mountains, which include two of Wales' five 1000m peaks, **Carnedd Llewelyn** and **Carnedd Dafydd**. Its lower slopes have a varied landscape of traditional '*ffridd*' pasture, woodland, heath and lowland grassland. The environment of the Carneddau today is a product of its geology, altitudinal range, climatic conditions, as well as thousands of years of human activity.

The area takes its name from the distinctive prehistoric cairns (large piles of stone; Welsh: *carneddau*) on many of its peaks and ridges. More than a hundred have been identified in the area. Some are visible from great distances away in the valleys and lowland.



Carneddau project map © SNPA.jpg

They were burial and ceremonial monuments marking sacred places where human and supernatural worlds connected. They show how symbolically important the mountains were for the ancient communities.

The area is also home to rare and iconic species such as the chough (Welsh: *Y Fran Goesgoch*, meaning 'red-legged crow'), and the Carneddau ponies – a hardy type of semi-wild ponies, unique to the Carneddau, that roam the open mountain. One of the rarest and most threatened habitats in Wales, montane heath, is found on the summit ridges and mountain tops of the Carneddau and is highly vulnerable to damage by people and animals.



Chough with identification tags © Vivian & Gethin Jones



Carneddau ponies © SNPA (John G Roberts)

Unfortunately, changing climate, changing land use, invasive species and visitor pressures are impacting on the fragile landscapes and rich biodiversity of the '*ffridd*' and mountain. Traditional knowledge, place names and stories that connect people with the landscape are also at risk of being lost.

A positive future for the Carneddau

The Carneddau Landscape Partnership has developed a scheme that will help promote a positive future for the Carneddau by increasing understanding and enjoyment of its history, cultural traditions, and wildlife. It will conserve the area's heritage by promoting sustainable land use that protects rare habitats, species and archaeological remains, and by recording place names and memories. A £1.7 million grant from the National Heritage Lottery Fund will help deliver the scheme, worth over £4 million, over the next 5 years.

Get involved

At the heart of the scheme is a vision to help as broad an audience as possible to discover, conserve and celebrate the Carneddau, with opportunities to get involved in many different project activities, including:

- Improving access along a low-level 60km circular walking route around the Carneddau, and links to it from local towns and villages, on existing Rights of Way
- Recording and sharing memories and traditional place names

- Discovering and mapping archaeology, peatlands and landscape features using a new 3D aerial laser scan (Lidar) of the landscape
- Removing invasive gorse and bracken from key upland areas, to protect important ancient remains and the feeding grounds for chough
- Repairing important habitats including rivers and streams, peatlands, and traditional hedgerows, and creating flower-rich meadows.



Cutting gorse above Rachub © SNPA



Maen y Bardd Neolithic tomb © Aneurin Phillips

In addition to the wide range of planned activities and events, there will be small grants available to the local communities of the Carneddau to support ideas that meet the ambitions of the scheme.

There will be a dedicated community engagement officer to liaise with groups and schools to set up activity programmes.

To find out more about this exciting scheme visit our [webpage](#) or contact us at Carneddau@eryri.llyw.cymru

