

1 Woodlands

Yorkshire and the Humber has 6.7% of the ancient and natural woodland in England and Wales (based on the old counties: North Yorkshire 2%, West Yorkshire 1.7%, South Yorkshire 2.8% and Humberside 0.2%). Of these 67% of North Yorkshire's ancient woods, and 53% of those in each of the other old counties in the region, remain in natural condition. The remainder have been replanted with crop trees¹. The data for woodlands are patchy. For instance in West Yorkshire there is information on ancient woodlands but only NVC information for 16% of these sites, so within this audit only minimum figures are provided for this area and these fall far short of the true coverage. Such specific data are lacking for much of central North Yorkshire and Humberside. There has been a 50% loss of ancient semi-natural woodland in West Yorkshire (1799 ha) since the Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 1st series (1883-1935), 5% of it cleared and 45% affected by plantation on ancient sites². East Yorkshire, North and North-east Lincolnshire together only hold a total of 600 ha of ancient woodland, the only dense concentration being near Manby. Many areas of ancient woodland have been replaced with plantations.

References

- 1 Marren, P. (1992). *The wild woods. A regional guide to Britain's ancient woodland*. NCC.
- 2 Carter, A. (1988). *West Yorkshire Inventory of ancient woodlands (provisional)*. NCC.