

Forestry in proximity to water

Ancient trees

Ancient trees are trees with high nature value of one kind or the other, that considerably differ from the rest of the stand. They can be trees that are old with a wide girth and differ in character or be for the site an unusual tree. Several bush species can have similar distinctions. Overgrowth and harvesting have resulted in a shortage of both.

Trees with high nature value and bushes gives protection, food and habitats for insects, birds and other animals. They can also hold an aesthetic value and contribute to positive experiences. Trees with high nature value can also say something about previous land use. To preserve and sometimes recreate trees with high nature value and bushes with natural values is therefore an important part of the natural preservation work performed at every forestry measure.



Ancient pines in the production forest are left and react positively to a bit of space.

Photo: Michael Ekstrand.

Large diameter trees are important to for example the black woodpecker.

Photo: Kenneth Johansson.

Old trees

Old pines are often recognised by their coarse bark, armour plate bark as well as gnarly and/or thick limbs. Wide and/or significantly flattened tree crowns are other signs. Old spruce that have a crusty bark as well as hanging, often dry, twisted branches. Slow growing, sometimes undersized trees with a suppressed look can be of very high age and can also be counted as trees with high natural value. Age is important but does not always signify why a tree should be regarded as an ancient tree.

Large diameter tree

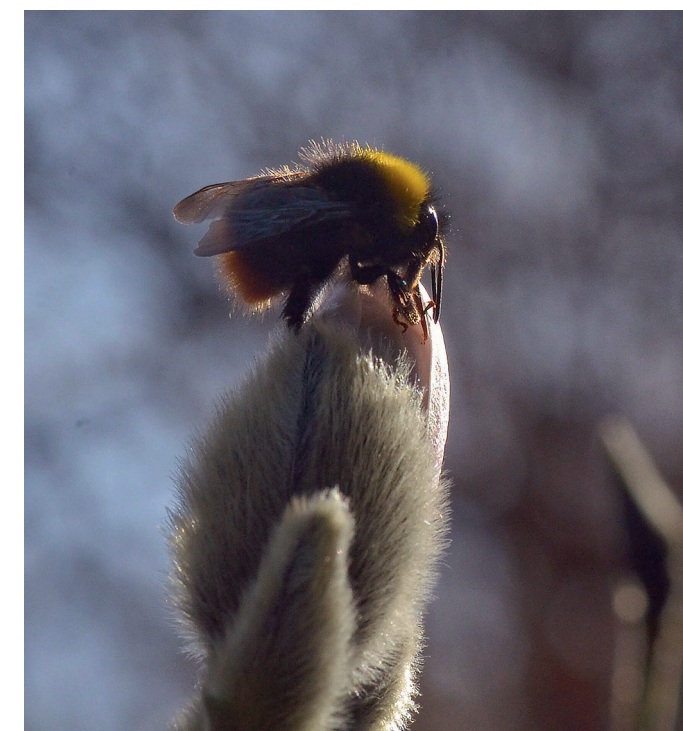
The tree's diameter is important but not always crucial for if a tree should be regarded as an ancient tree. Often it is the combination with other characteristics that increases the nature value.

Rare tree and bush species

Examples of rare tree species in production stands are rowan (mountain ash), pussy willow, bird cherry, and plinth growing alder. Rare bush species such as Buckthorn, Guelder Rose, Mabs, Mezereum and Honeysuckle are important to take into consideration when thinning pre-commercially in riparian zones and treelines.

Special characters

Examples of special characters are trees with nesting holes, hollows, nests, fire damaged trees, distinctively old trees, older broken off trees and trees with shelf fungi. Large diameter, so called 'pasture spruce'/'skirt spruce' are counted as such as well as trees with cultural markings, such as pollarded trees and old warden trees. Trees that deviate genetically, for example 'ormgran' (snake spruce) and created leafed birch are also trees with high nature value.



“ Trees with high nature value can say something about previous land use.

Pussy willow and other willow species flower early in spring and are important to newly awoken insects on the hunt for nectar and pollen.

Photo: Mostphotos.



Trees with an old more or less healed injury from a forest fire. Certain lichen can live on burned wood only.

Photo: Kristian Svedberg.

Between the path and Skidån you can see a few examples of nature value spruce marked with a white band around the trunk. The oldest one is more than 200 years old.