

The Assynt Elm Project
Chris Puddephatt Photographer













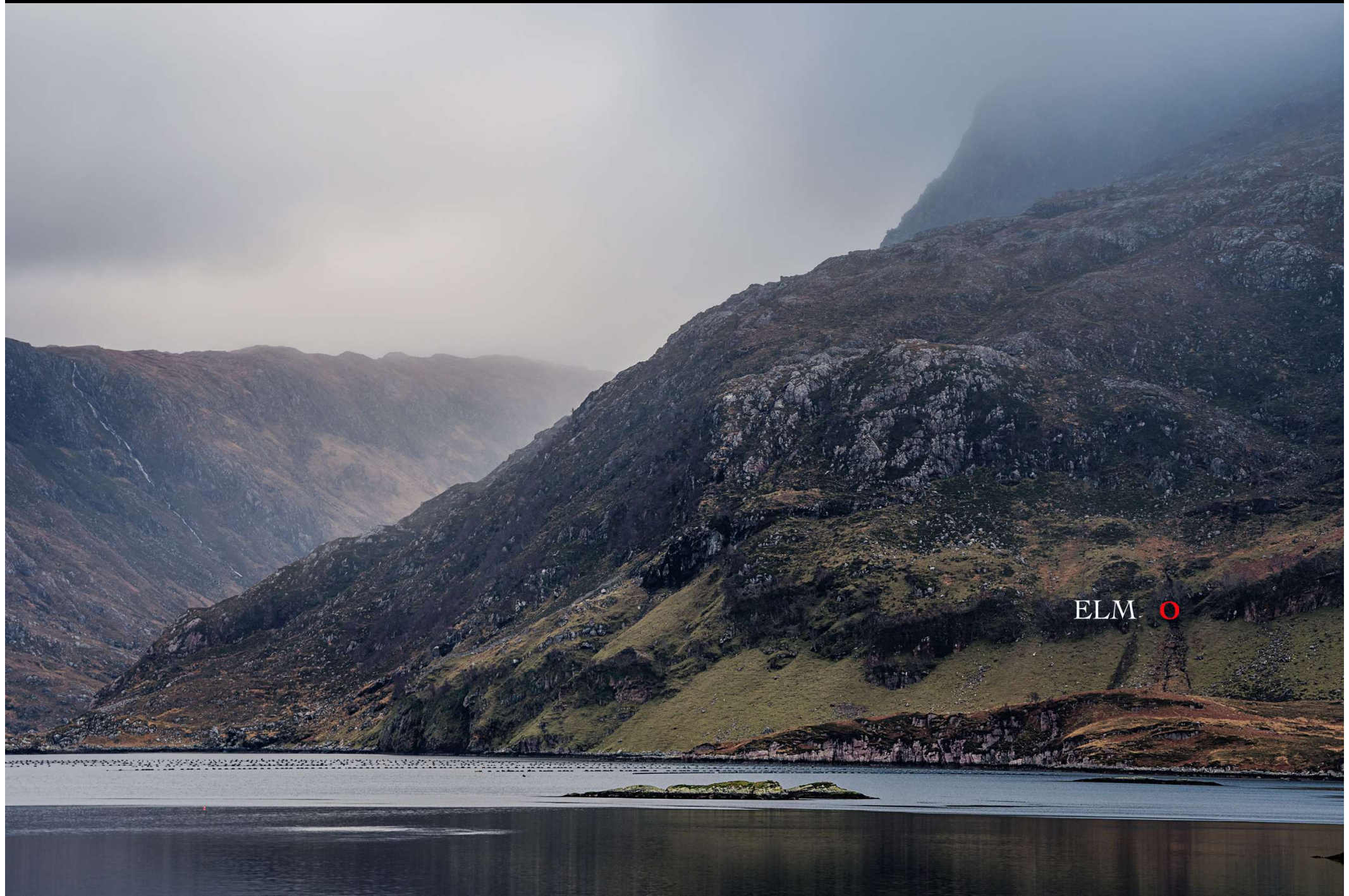






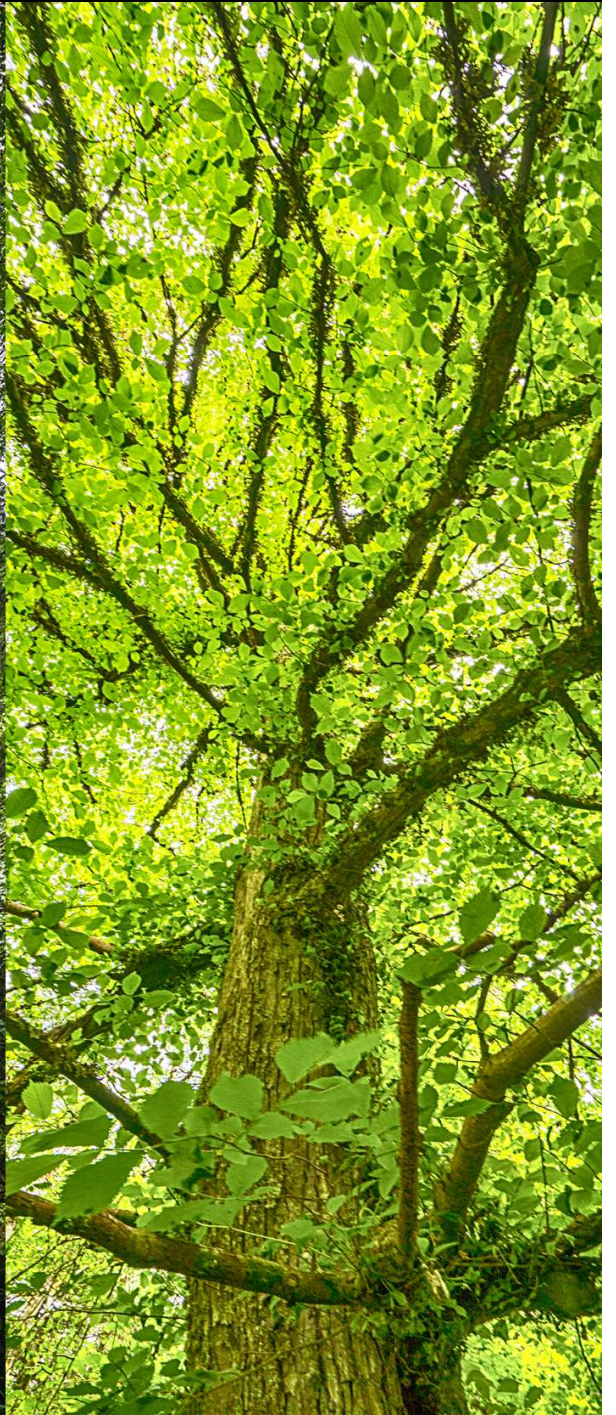


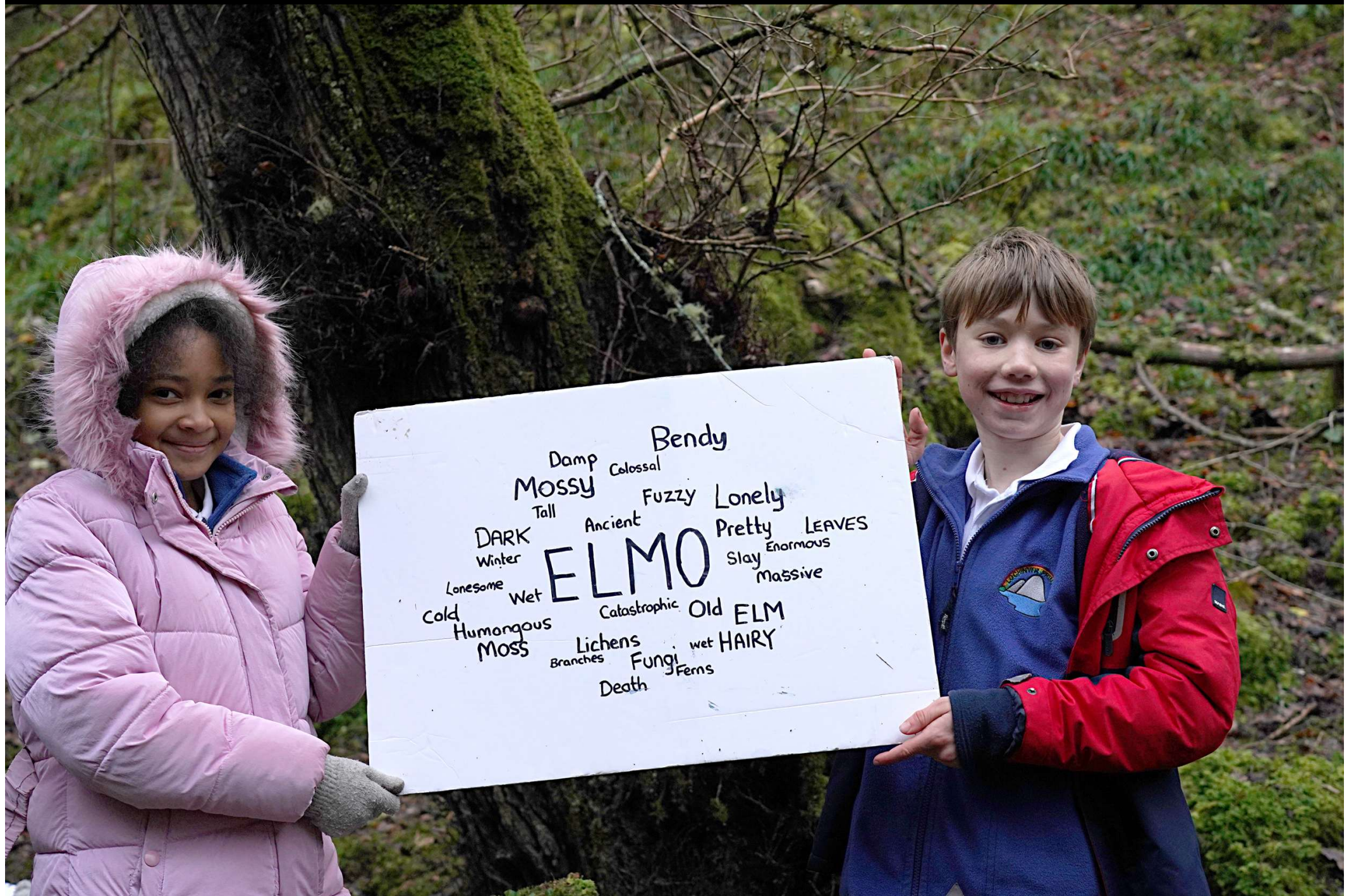




ELM ○







Damp Colossal Bendy
MOSSY Fuzzy Lonely
Tall Ancient Pretty LEAVES
DARK Winter Slay Enormous
Lonesome Wet Massive
Cold Humongous Catastrophic Old ELM
MOSS Lichens wet HAIRY
Branches Fungi Ferns
Death

















Wych Elms in Assynt

Wych elm trees

Ulmus glabra (known in Gaelic as *Ulmach*) are a beautiful, broad-leaved, long-lived part of Scotland's rainforest. Flowering early in spring, producing small, papery discs called samaras by June, with symmetrical leaves, rough bark and broad crowns, elms are easy to identify. They are hosts to many wild and wonderful species including overwintering lichens and moths, so it is vital to ensure their survival.

Unfortunately, in most of the UK and throughout the world, over recent decades very few mature elms have survived Dutch elm disease. This fungal killer kills whole trees fast and is spread by bark-boring beetles that need hot weather to fly, so as the climate warms they are moving steadily north and west. Until 2023, Assynt was free of the disease and with many elms in remote spots it remains an important refuge.

The Assynt Elm Project, led by Coling Community Woodland Trust, aims to appreciate and protect our nationally significant wych elm trees. Join us in monitoring and mapping, planting and regenerating, and above all, celebrating our wonderful elms.

To find out more, visit <https://www.colingwoodland.org.uk/elms> or use the QR code right.

This project is supported by the Scottish Forestry Community Fund, contributing to the delivery of Scotland's Forestry Strategy 2023-2027.

Supported by:

Winter

listen to elms creaking chocolate-drop buds tight closed beetle grubs snug-hollowed waiting for sap to flow

listen to elms dancing their slow fungal songs unburdened by hope rooting for tomorrow

Elm buds on a twig

Elm at Cullin Burn

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<https://culagwoods.org.uk/>

The Elm Action Map



Landward

BBC Scotland

830pm 4th June 2026



























