



Paving the way for peatland finance

A [seminar on Natural Capital Financing for Peatland](#) held in London on 13th September 2018 explored the opportunities for financing peatland management and set out a suggested framework for securing investment.

Organised by the [IUCN UK Peatland Programme](#), the [Natural Capital Initiative](#) (NCI) and the [UK Network for Environmental Economists](#) (UKNEE), the seminar included presentations from [Duchy of Cornwall](#), [Severn Trent Water](#) and [Forest Carbon](#). The discussion highlighted the urgent need for both Government funding and private investment in peatlands, one of the UK's key natural capital assets. This relates to benefits from avoiding costs to society from damaged peatlands, such as significant greenhouse gas emissions or impacts on water, and enhancements, such as to biodiversity. Securing long term investment in peatlands for land managers to maintain healthy peatlands was also emphasised. Delivering the scale and speed of repair needed for our peatlands demands new, focussed 'challenge' type funding that recognises and supports the role of partnerships with expertise and local knowledge and helps them mobilise action. Securing private funding will need a combination of advocacy work and individuals/organisations who are 'champions', actively engaging within the appropriate sectors, to ensure business customers and staff appreciate the importance and benefits of peatlands. Developing a series of case studies and peatland restoration opportunities could help attract business interest. A strong government steer for companies to invest in natural capital, such as through land use climate change mitigation, was considered essential as was the legitimacy of government accounting of the carbon benefits of peatlands.

The seminar explored the idea of looking at combining different markets for benefits from multiple areas of peatlands to provide a coordinated natural capital funding mechanism with a suite of different funders. Such a framework could help address the difficulty that individual projects may face where there is no immediate financial return or where the benefits are less easy to quantify. Drawing together multiple public

and private finance sources and different benefits could be a way to ensure the scale and long-term benefits required. And there are several actions that need to be taken to enable the development of this type of mechanism.



[Natural Capital funding for peatlands is explored further in a new Briefing produced by the IUCN UK Peatland Programme and eftec \(Economics for the Environment Consultancy\).](#)

[First Peatland Code Validation awarded](#)

This September, the first Peatland Code registered restoration project achieved validation. The peatland restoration project, at Dryhope in Scotland, was piloted through the process by Forest Carbon, the leading Woodland Carbon Code project developer. [More](#)



[Dryhope peatland restoration work wins 'Enhancing Our Environment' Award](#)

Dryhope farm in the Yarrow Valley in the Scottish Borders, is part of Philiphaugh Estates which recently won an award (in collaboration with Tweed Forum) at the Scottish Land and Estates 'Helping it Happen' event in Edinburgh. [More](#)

[Knowledge exchange - sharing LIFE in Finland](#)

The IUCN Peatland Programme was delighted to join Pennine PeatLIFE, UK and Hydrology LIFE, Finland on the return leg of their LIFE exchange programme. Over the four days in Finland, new and unique peatland types to the UK representatives were explored. [More](#)





[Peatland Connections: Building Prosperity](#), the 8th in the IUCN UK Peatland Programme Conference Series, was held on the shore of Loch Lomond earlier this month. The conference, in partnership with [Scottish Natural Heritage](#) and [Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park](#), provided an opportunity for people from across sectors and disciplines to make new peatland connections, or strengthen existing ones, through sharing knowledge, experience and a passion for peatlands.

Through fantastic fringe events, field-trips, presentations and networking sessions conference delegates explored the importance of restored and well maintained peatlands for wildlife, the connections they have with our food and drink and their cultural, health and well-being values – as well as how we financially secure the provision of these benefits in future.

[Key messages](#) from the conference as well as the [presentations](#) that took place within it are now available.

A summary of the conference and its proceedings will be available shortly.



IUCN UK Peatland Programme - New website to be launched 2019

We are currently developing a new IUCN UK Peatland Programme website and would like to know what you think the most important functions, features and content of our website are and how we can improve

these in future.

It would be extremely useful if you could complete this [3 minute survey](#) to tell us what you think.

Partnership highlights



Full steam ahead to preserve the Peak District

It is the 125th anniversary of the completion a two-mile long railway tunnel that runs underneath Brown Knoll. Work to conserve moorland directly above the Cowburn Tunnel has taken place over the last decade, to ensure it is protected and flourishing for years to come. [More](#).

YPP peatland resources

[Yorkshire Peat Partnership](#) has updated the [resources](#) page of its website. It now includes a series of fact sheets on satellite monitoring; further technical specifications for peat restoration; an executive summary of the 2009-2017 progress report; and the 2017 works monitoring report.



Away above the chimney tops

The [Moors for the Future Partnership](#)'s summer of flying has come to a close with approximately 10.5km² of surveyed moorland under its wings. The team has been working alongside Nottingham Trent University and Yorkshire Peat Partnership to collect data from field labs across the Peak District National Park and South Pennines. These field laboratories are specially identified areas that have received conservation works, or have certain characteristics such as being dominated by molinia. Monitoring at the sites involves traditional survey methods including vegetation, water flow, water table and peat accumulation/erosion monitoring. [More](#)

Reading

[Book review: Into the Peatlands: A Journey Through The Moorland Year, by Robin A Crawford](#)

The peatlands cover 13 per cent of Scotland, and what makes them special to Crawford is that they are a slowly deepening link to our past. Each year, another millimetre of sphagnum moss decays into peat, so a metre of the brown stuff can measure out a millennium.

Jobs

Monitoring Officer, Natural England

Part time 18.5 hours per week, 3 year approx fixed term until September 2021

£24,120 pro rata

We are looking for a Monitoring Officer for the Marches Mosses BogLIFE project . [More](#)

NNR Reserve Manager and Volunteer Coordinator, Natural England

Full time, 3 year approx fixed term until September 2021

£20,500

We are looking for a NNR Reserve Manager and Volunteer coordinator for the Marches Mosses BogLIFE project. [More](#)

Events

[Scotland's Biennial Land Use and the Environment Conference XII](#)

28-29 November, Our Dynamic Earth, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh

Although Brexit is a huge challenge, it is also a huge opportunity to develop something different with regard to the effective delivery of environmental public goods in the future. This conference will seek to help inform and shape the debate about how best to reward farmers, foresters and other land managers for delivering public goods from their land management practices. In particular it will provide a forum to help develop thinking of practical implementation on the ground and what that means for policy development.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD...

- [Valuable wetlands 'disappearing three times faster than forests'](#) - Energy Live, 3rd October
- [Helping it Happen Awards celebrate the best of rural Scotland](#) - Scottish Farmer, 4th October
- [Campaigners in bog fire worry](#) - North West Evening Mail, 5th October
- [Agenda: Peat bogs vital in battle against climate change](#) - The Herald, 5th October
- [Caledonia's lost forest to be restored to glory in £23m rewilding](#) - Observer, 7th October
- [Huge airlift near Huddersfield gets next stage of vital peatland restoration underway](#) - Yorkshire Post, 8th October
- [How peat bogs could help save us from climate change](#) - The Scotsman, 8th October
- [Results of archaeological research on Exmoor set to be unveiled](#) - Devon Live, 8th October

- [9 quick and easy ways to reduce your impact on the planet in your home and garden](#) - iNews, 12th October
- [New reports will enable UK to make the most of its natural assets](#) - Food and Farming Futures, 12th October
- [The long path to bring Saddleworth Moor back to life](#) - Manchester Evening News, 14th October
- [Yokohama launches sustainable rubber procurement policy](#) - Supply Management, 15th October
- [Giving nature a helping hand: How £8m scheme is revitalising peatbogs](#) - The Herald, 16th October
- [Claire Perry: Greener world presents new opportunities for Yorkshire and energy policy](#) - Yorkshire Post, 16th October
- [How the Canadian Peat Moss Industry is Working to Restore Peatlands](#) - Greenhouse Grower, 18th October
- [How restoring peatland can help your farm](#) - Scottish Farmer, 20th October
- [Campaign to stop heather burning on moors](#) - Telegraph and Argus, 22nd October
- [Wetland International Lauds Jokowi's Peatland Protection Act](#) - Tempo.Co, 23rd October
- [Nature-depleted Scotland needs new era of rewilding says landmark book](#) - Local Gardner, 25th October
- [Championing the cause of peatland](#) - Borneo Post, 28th October
- [Climate change: 'Wetlands vital to protect cities'](#) - BBC News Online, 29th October

*This list is by no means comprehensive, nor are these stories endorsements from the Programme, but for your information only.

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Further information:

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To submit items please email Lyndon: lyndon.marquis@iucn.org.uk

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