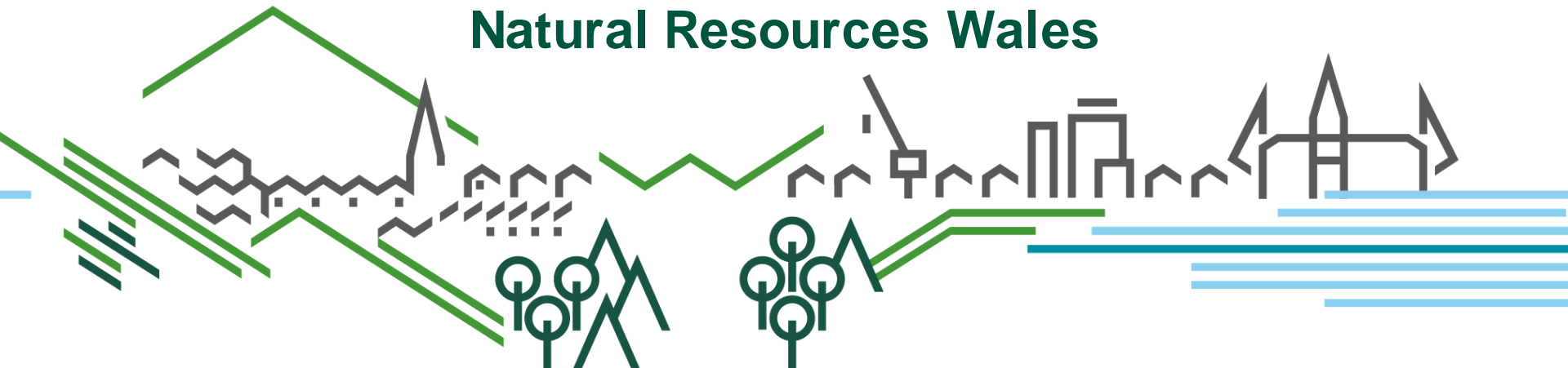


Marrying Peat and Trees Targets

**Rachel Chamberlain FICFor
Land Stewardship Manager
Natural Resources Wales**



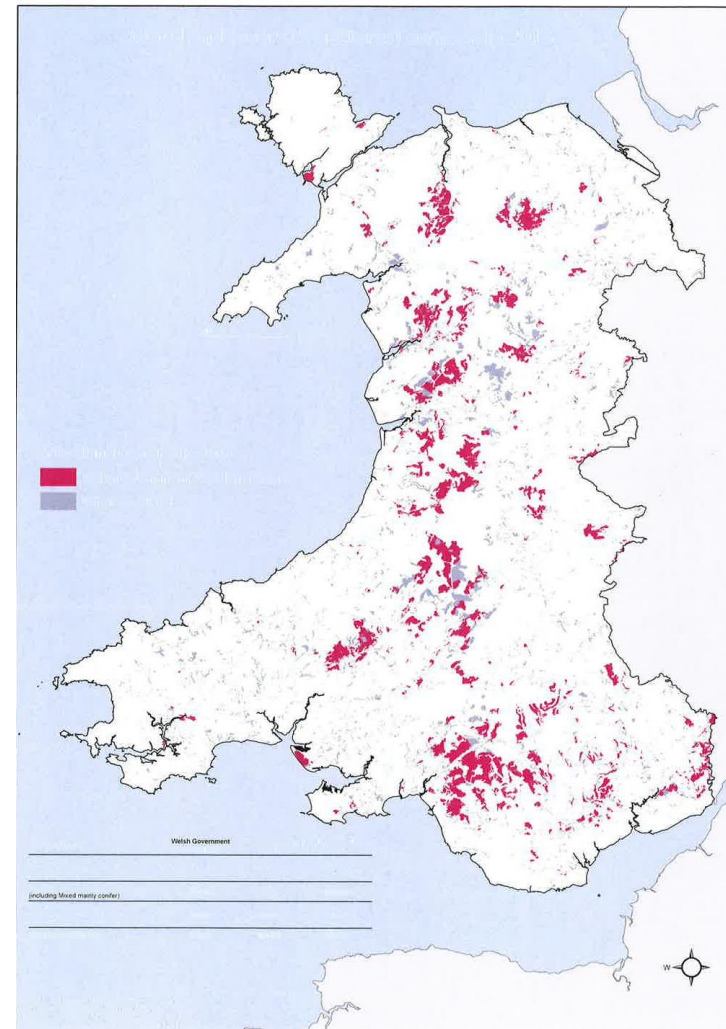
Woodland cover in Wales

Only 15% of the land area, EU average is 38%

Little change over the past 30 years

80% of timber used is imported

GVA > £450mil. 12,000 jobs

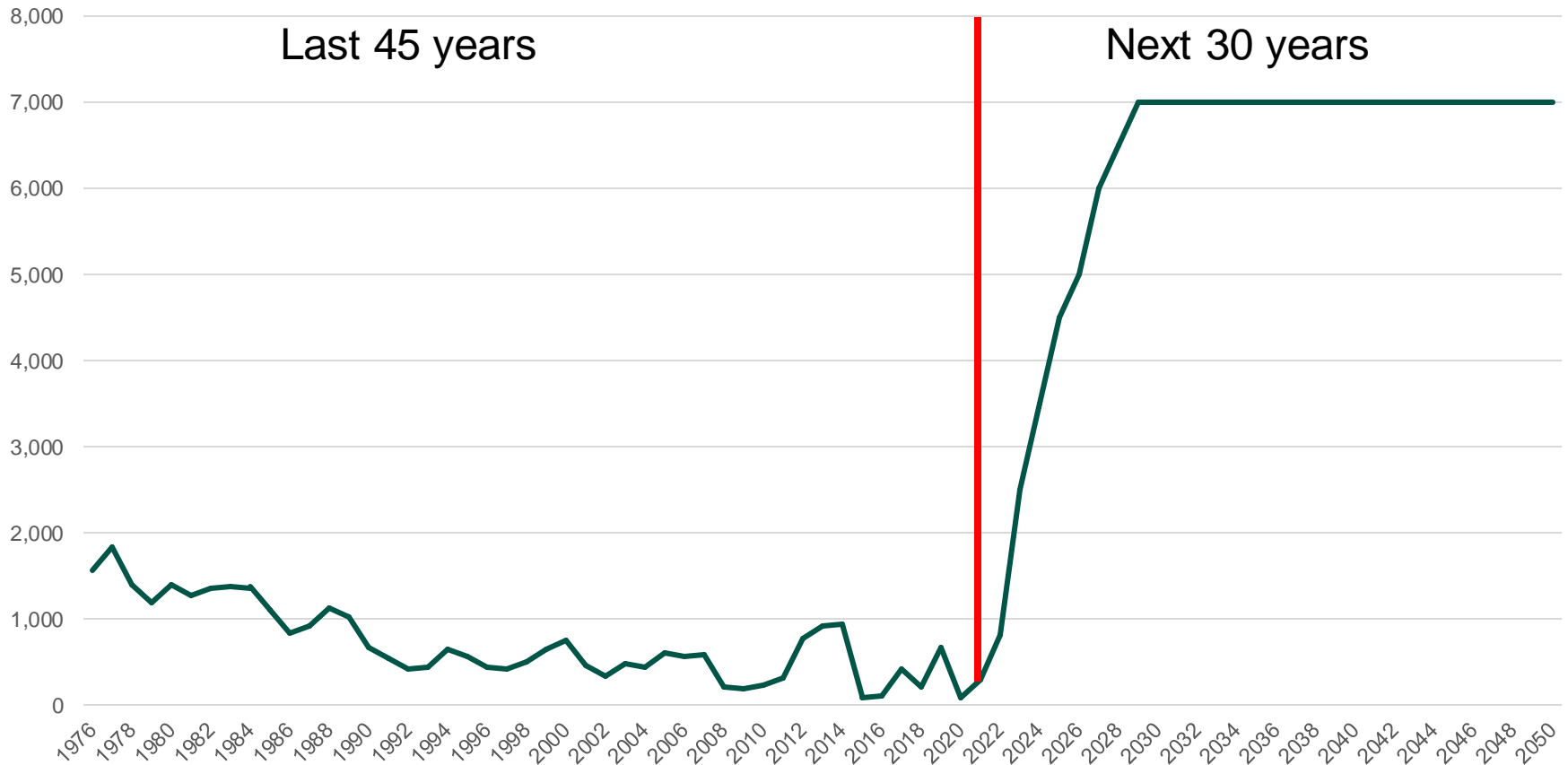


Woodland for Wales Strategy



Welsh Government has committed to creating 43,000 hectares of new woodland by 2030 and a total of 180,000 hectares by 2050

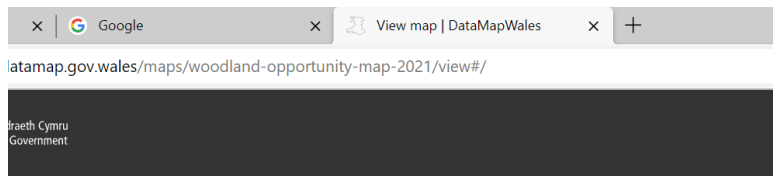
Area of new woodland each year (ha)



Where to Plant?

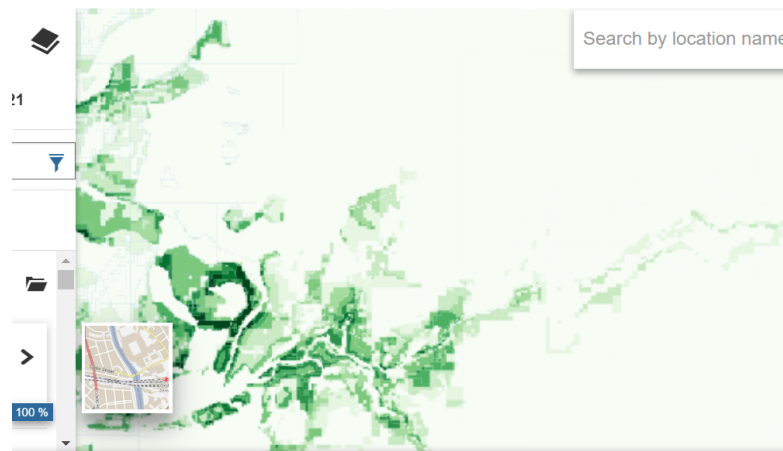
UK Forestry Standard – 4th edition

Avoid establishing new forests on soils with peat exceeding 50 cm in depth and on sites that would compromise the hydrology of adjacent bog or wetland habitats.

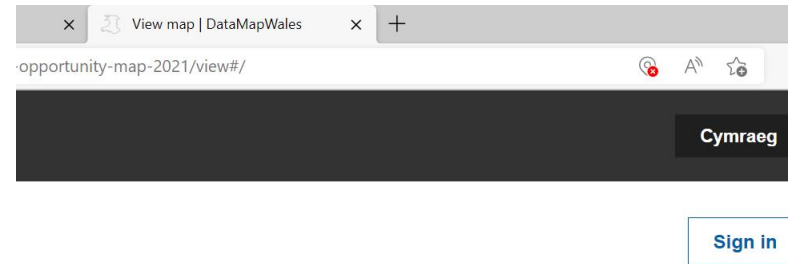


ataMapWales

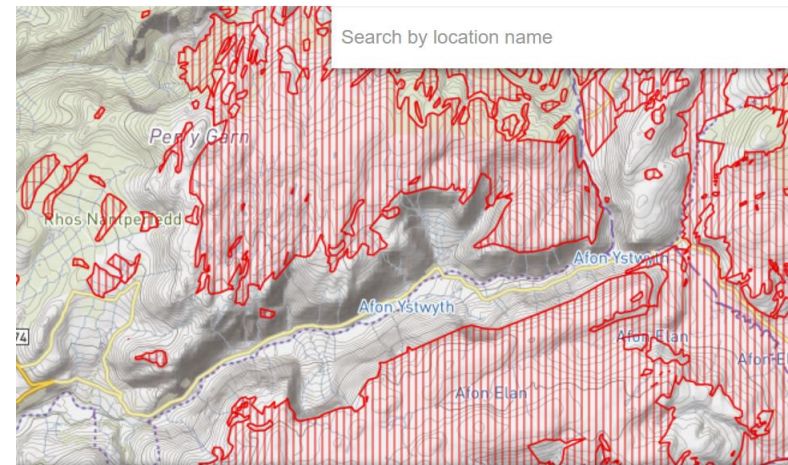
[ata catalogue](#) > [Woodland Opportunity Map 2021](#) > [View map](#)



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[Opportunity Map 2021](#) > [View map](#)



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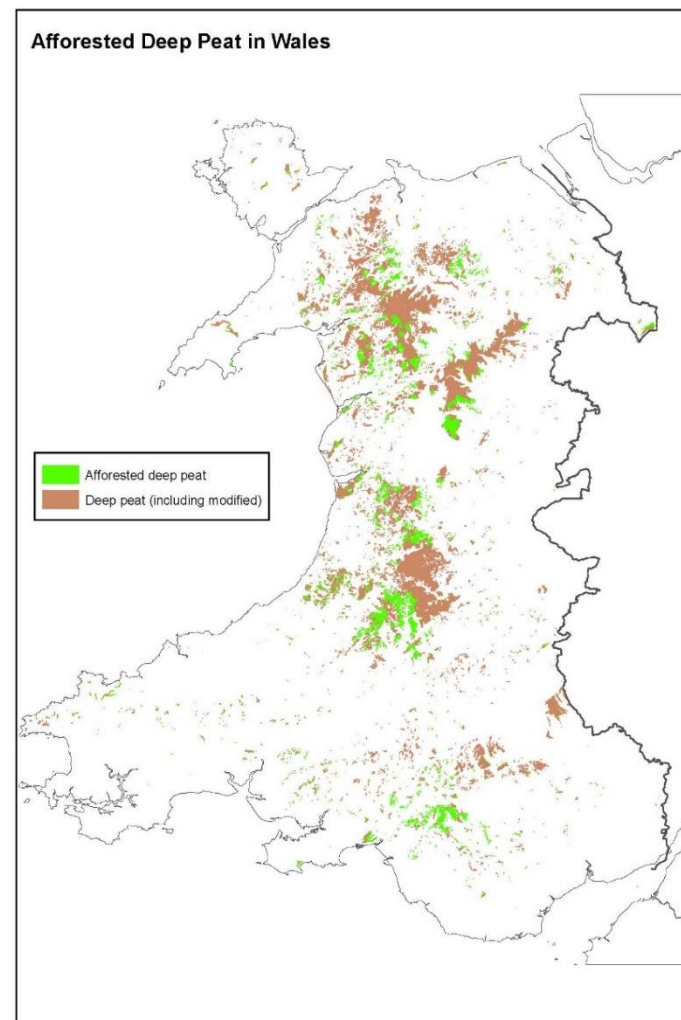
Afforested Deep Peat in Wales

Forest Research assessment 2012

Total afforested deep peat 18,092 ha.

Welsh Government Woodland Estate
11,038 ha.

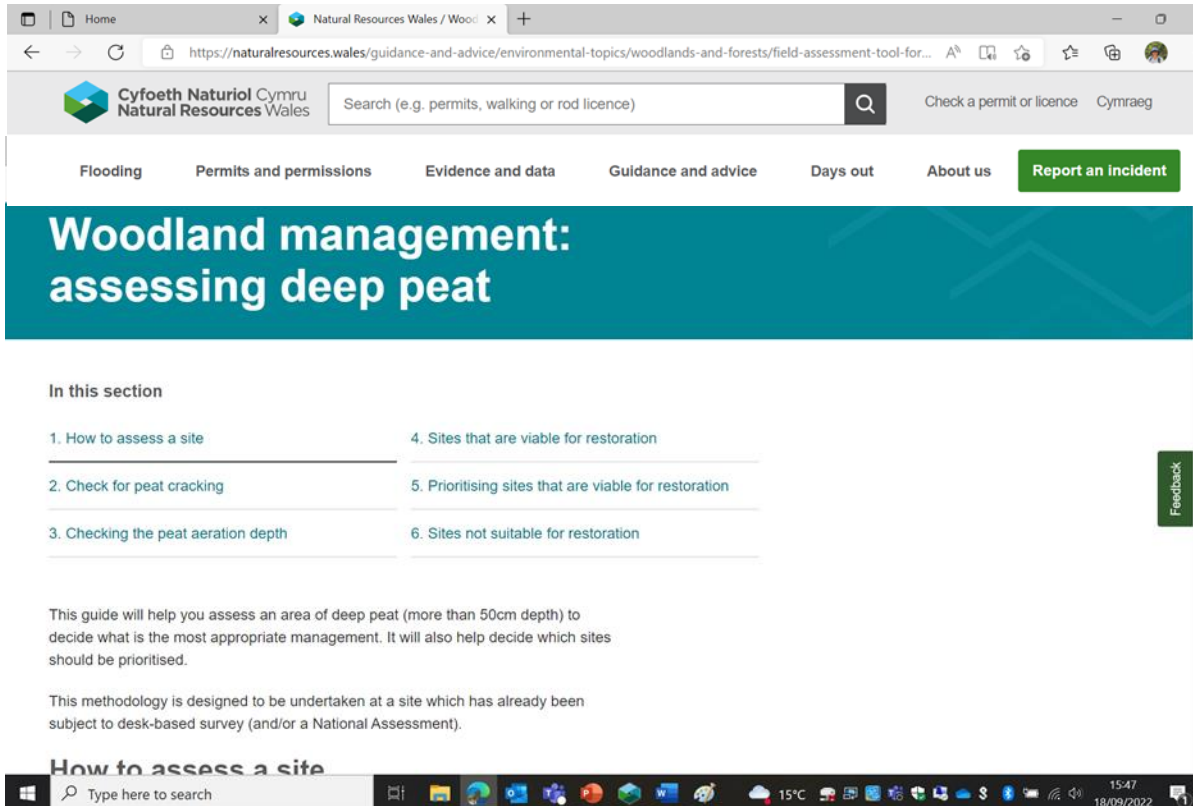
Private individuals and businesses
4,845 ha



Restock or Restore?

UK Forestry Standard

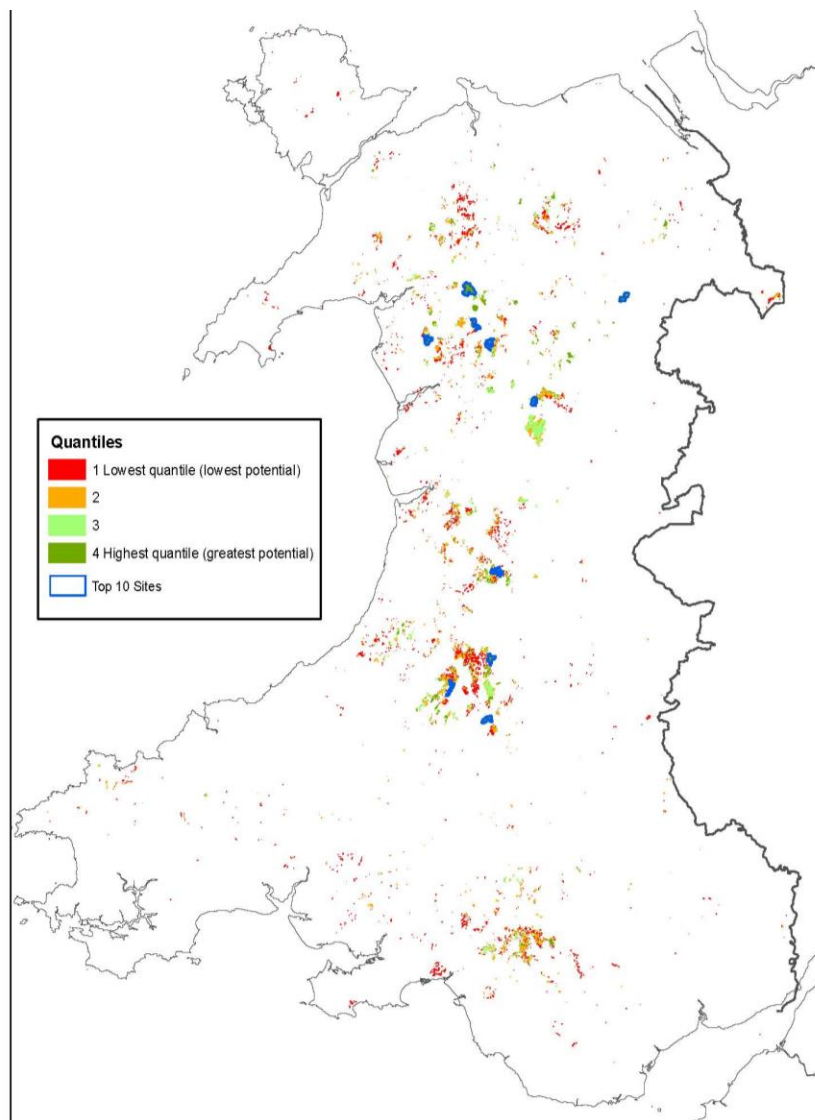
Consider the balance of benefits for carbon and other ecosystem services before making the decision to restock on soils with peat exceeding 50 cm in depth.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/woodlands-and-forests/field-assessment-tool-for...>. The page header includes the Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru Natural Resources Wales logo, a search bar, and navigation links for Flooding, Permits and permissions, Evidence and data, Guidance and advice, Days out, About us, and a Report an incident button. The main heading is "Woodland management: assessing deep peat". Below this, there is a section titled "In this section" with a list of six numbered items: 1. How to assess a site, 2. Check for peat cracking, 3. Checking the peat aeration depth, 4. Sites that are viable for restoration, 5. Prioritising sites that are viable for restoration, and 6. Sites not suitable for restoration. A "Feedback" button is visible on the right side of the page. The bottom of the screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with the search bar, system tray, and date/time (15:47, 18/09/2022).



Top Ten Sites

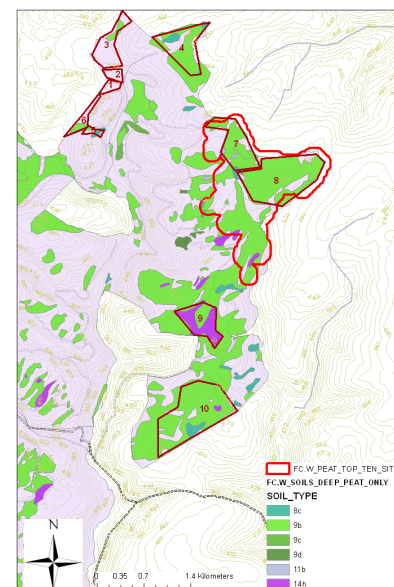


Presumption against permanent removal of woodland

Highest potential for restorability

9 on WGWE

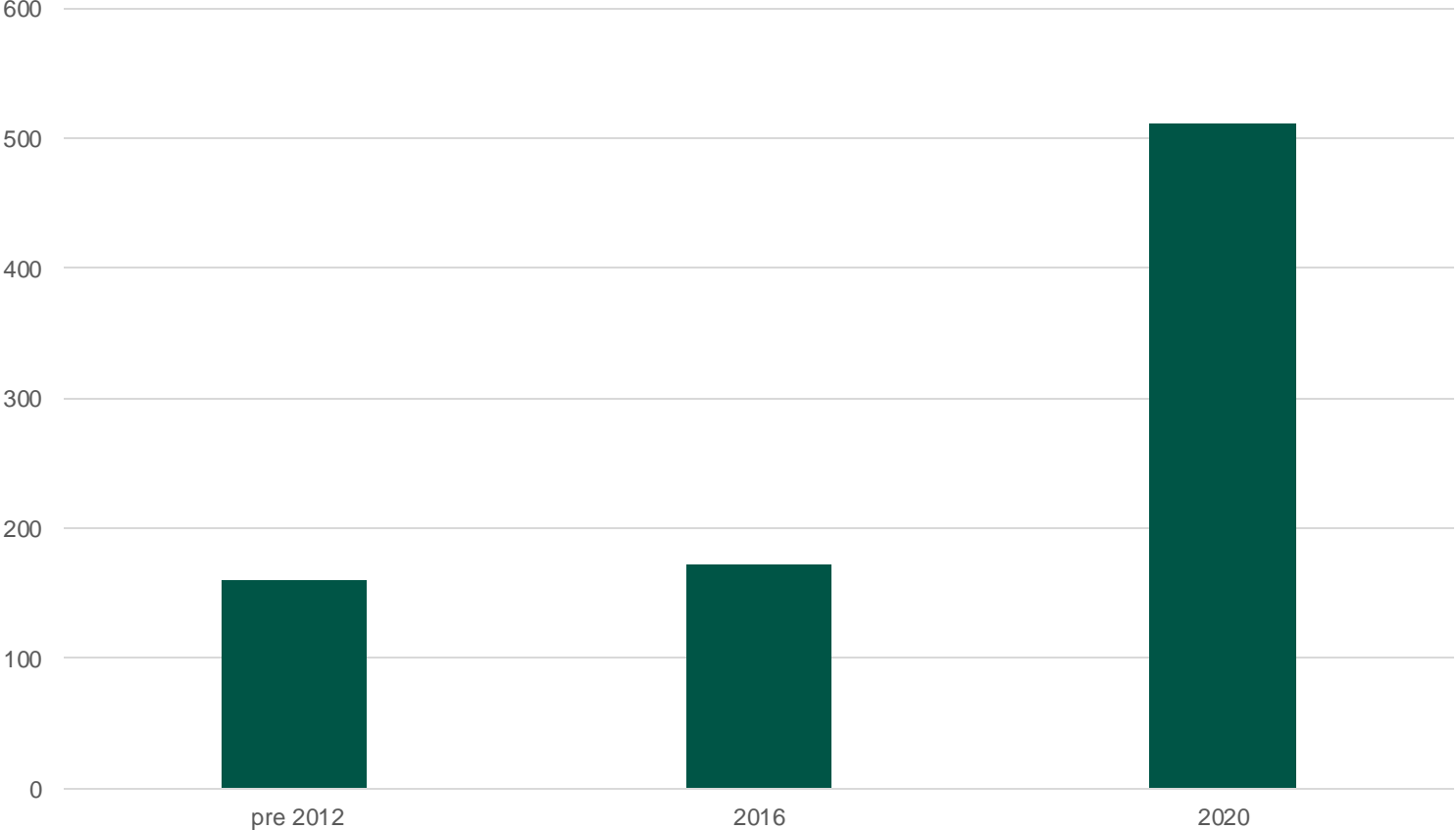
1 private



What happened on WGWE?



Cumulative area restored (ha)



Why was it low?

What about windblow?

Its not what the forest plan says

What about compensatory planting?

Why are we loosing good quality timber crops?

Wrong area shown as Peat

What does restoration mean?

Trees store carbon too

Who pays?

No funding!

The trees are ready for felling yet

Opportunity

Principles of Sustainable Management of Natural Resources



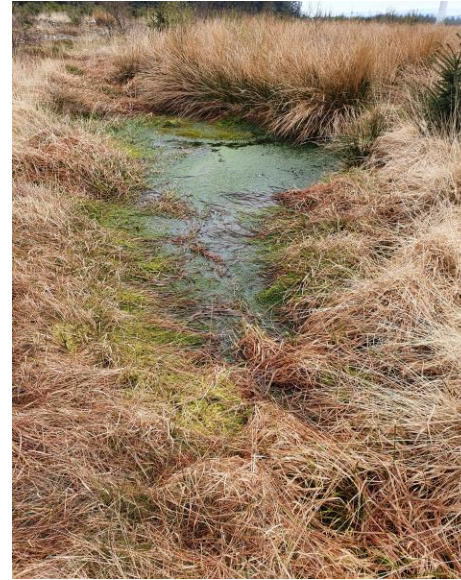
The Revised Approach 1



The Revised Approach 2



Results



 **Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

