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*“Restoring nature is going to be crucial as we build back greener from this pandemic, and in what is a huge year for the environment we will use our COP26 and G7 presidencies to take a leading role on the world stage” — **Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, George Eustice** ([Wild LIVE: Tackling the twin threats of the nature and climate crisis](#))*

The protection, sustainable management and restoration of peatland ecosystems can effectively address societal challenges including climate change mitigation and adaptation whilst simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits – making them vital [Nature-based solutions](#).

With just 6 months until the 26th [UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties](#) (COP26) takes place in Scotland it is crucial that these valuable landscapes are included in the conversation.

To showcase peatlands at this landmark international event the [UNEP Global Peatlands Initiative](#) team is working together with the IUCN UK Peatland Programme and others, on a [Peatlands Pavilion](#) proposal for the [UNFCCC COP26](#). There is an opportunity for organisations to contribute to and participate in proposing and shaping the first ever dedicated Peatland Pavilion. [Continue reading...](#)

Explore a virtual Peatland Pavilion for COP26



England launches Peat Action Plan

The IUCN UK Peatland Programme (IUCN UK PP) welcomes the long-awaited publication of the [England Peat Action Plan](#) (EPAP). We are pleased to see the Plan outline a suite of policy and management interventions for England's peatlands released alongside complementary [woodland plans](#) in a bid to halt the decline of nature and wildlife.

The EPAP has been developed to align with the broad principles of the IUCN UK PP's [UK Peatland Strategy](#) (2018): the connectedness of UK, National and regional strategic planning for peatlands set out in these documents is in itself a world leading approach, helping countries who are developing a strategic approach as required by [IUCN](#), [UN](#) and [Ramsar resolutions](#). This is a global challenge and the UK as a top ten peatland nation has to show leadership. [Read more...](#)



Be Fire Aware

The news of the recent fire incidents on peatlands across the UK is deeply concerning in terms of the impact on people, wildlife and the environment. As the weather improves, the country slowly returns to a new kind of normality, and we are able to visit and enjoy these vital landscapes, we must remain vigilant and be fire aware. Call 999 to report a suspected wildfire.



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Our news

Bog Day 2021

[Bog Day](#) is celebrated around the world every year on the 4th Sunday of July. This year we will be celebrating the brilliance of bogs on **Sunday 25th July 2021**.

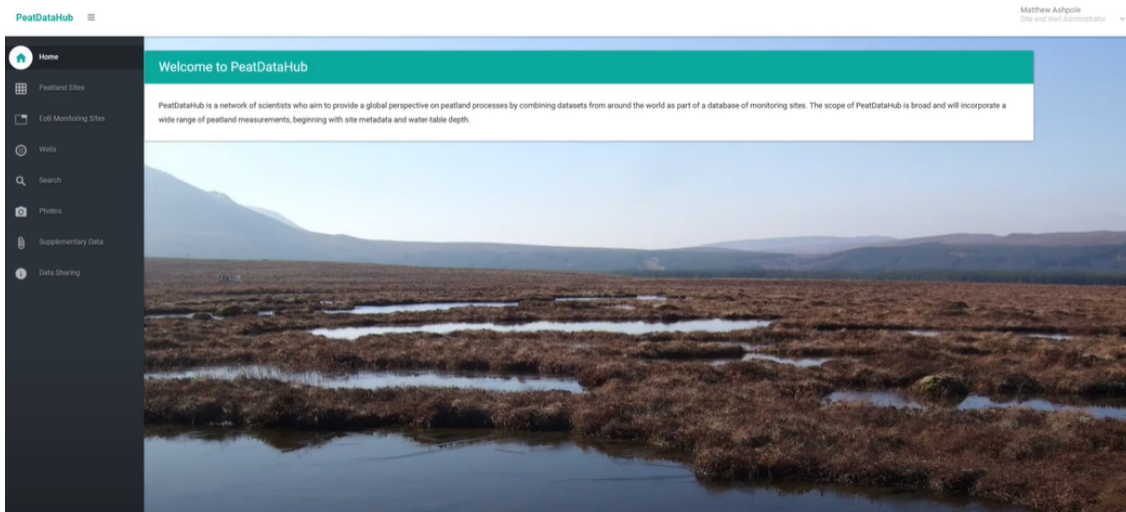
This annual event, in celebration of bogs, fens, swamps and marshes is an opportunity to raise awareness of peatlands – the benefits they provide, the threats they face and the ways we can help protect them.

In the lead up to Bog Day we are asking you to finish the sentence "*Peatlands are...*" and to share your clip on Twitter with [#BogDay](#) [@IUCNpeat](#).



Launch of the PeatDataHub

[PeatDataHub](#) is a network of scientists who aim to provide a global perspective on peatland processes by combining datasets from around the world as part of a database of monitoring sites. The scope of PeatDataHub is broad and will incorporate a wide range of peatland measurements, beginning with site metadata and water-table depth. [Read more...](#)



Contribute to the Projects Map and take part in our new spotlight feature

The [Projects Map](#) is an active community resource highlighting peatland restoration, management, research, communications and citizen science projects across the UK and internationally.

Our new [Spotlight Series](#) offers an opportunity for contributed projects to showcase their work and achievements to the peatland community. You can read the first interviews below:

- [Welsh Peatlands Project \(Sustainable Management Scheme\)](#)
- [Binnian Lough and Binnian Lamagan Col \(Healthy Heathland Project\)](#)

If you are interested in contributing your project to the Projects Map please [visit our website](#) or if you have already submitted your project to the map and are interested in taking part in our Spotlight Series please contact blue.kirkhope@iucn.org.uk



IHS Markit to launch Global Carbon Credit Meta-Registry including the Peatland Code

The [IHS Markit](#) (NYSE: INFO), a world leader in critical information, analytics and solutions, announced its intention to launch the first global meta-registry aimed at providing transparency and efficient tracking, accounting and trade lifecycle management of carbon credits.



The IHS Markit Meta-Registry is expected to launch in early 2021 with initial member programs including Global Carbon Council, Gold Standard, UK Woodland Carbon Code, [UK Peatland Code](#) and Verra. [Read more...](#)

Eyes on the Bog monitoring at the Water Works project

Over the last couple of weeks, a new set of monitoring equipment has been installed at the [Water Works](#) project site in East Anglia, by our Eyes on the Bog Champion, Jack Clough of the [University of East London](#).

The site is the newest edition to the [Eyes on the Bog \(EoB\)](#) monitoring network. The EoB method is designed to provide a low tech, scientifically robust and repeatable approach to long-term peatland monitoring. Jack takes us through the process of setting up the EoB site. [Read more...](#)



Partner Highlights

Wales' first carbon-funded peatland restoration project is complete!

A peatland restoration project at Bwlch y Groes on the edge of the [Snowdonia National Park](#) is the first of its kind in Wales to be completed with the benefit of carbon funding, following validation under the [Peatland Code](#).

Thanks to funding by the [Welsh Peatlands Sustainable Management Scheme](#), a project led by the Snowdonia National Park Authority, and in conjunction with the Roberts family who have farmed at Pennant Farm, Llanymawddwy for several generations, the 66 hectare peatland restoration project has been successfully completed. [Read more...](#)



Moors for the Future deliver biggest conservation season yet in a challenging year

Against a backdrop of ever-changing circumstances and a challenging year for nature, [Moors for the Future Partnership](#) is pleased to say that the conservation work this year has not only been completed successfully, but has been the largest conservation season to date for the Partnership. [Read more...](#)



Yorkshire Peat Partnership: A music video on Fleet Moss

Jenny Sharman and Lyndon Marquis, of [Yorkshire Peat Partnership](#), spent a hard but happy April day on Fleet Moss filming a music video with celebrated cellist, singer and songwriter [Sarah Smout](#). Sarah releases her new single 'Atlas' in collaboration with the [Yorkshire Wildlife Trust](#) as part of her new project, Wild Music, on 4 June. [Read more...](#)



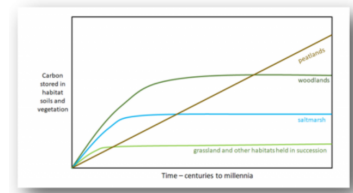
Study monitors single-species sphagnum plug growth on blanket bog

The study by [Moors for the Future Partnership](#) was carried out to discover the most effective methods of planting various species of sphagnum. Based on the findings, the Partnership can tailor delivery of conservation works to bring maximum benefit to the uplands. Single-species sphagnum plugs that were initially planted for aerial imagery capture and image classification by Moors for the Future Partnership, also provided an opportunity to monitor the growth of the individual species by tailoring the planting design. [Read more...](#)



Natural England Carbon Storage and Sequestration by Habitat 2021 report

A new [Natural England](#) Research Report on '[Carbon Storage and Sequestration by Habitat](#)' reviews the scientific evidence base relating to carbon storage and sequestration by semi-natural habitats, in relation to their condition and/or management. The report includes a chapter on peatlands with an up to date summary of the available greenhouse gas information. [Read more...](#)



Achieving Net Zero carbon emissions: a review of the evidence behind carbon offsetting

A new report by [Environment Agency](#) and [Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Research and Development Programme](#) has reviewed the evidence behind carbon offsetting looking at a wide range of different offsetting approaches which could be used in the UK. [Read more...](#)



British Ecological Society: Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Change in the UK Report

This month the [British Ecological Society](#) (BES) published their landmark report offering the first comprehensive assessment of the potential of nature-based solutions in the UK.

A priority NbS identified in the report is the restoration of the UK's peatlands. Incorporating contributions from over 100 experts, the comprehensive evaluation of the available evidence details the strengths, limitations and trade-offs of NbS in different habitats across the UK. [Read more...](#)



Other News

Langholm Moor community buyout deal completed

[The Langholm Initiative](#) has come to an agreement with Buccleuch Estates to buy 5,200 acres of the Langholm Moor as a community purchase, with plans to turn the area into a

vast nature reserve and to restore its damaged peatlands. [Read more...](#)



Marches Mosses BogLIFE Project and Australian Wetlands Collaboration puts Arts Council England Funding to Work

The changing environments of two of the world's internationally recognised wetlands are under the microscope in an exciting collaboration between artists, land managers and environmental specialists in the UK and Australia.



The project, called 'Mosses and Marshes' has newly been awarded a grant from Arts Council England. It questions how we think about – and value – natural environments through works centred on the raised peat bogs of the Fenn's Bettisfield and Whixall Mosses NNR on the border between England and Wales and the iconic Macquarie Marshes in New South Wales, Australia. [Read more...](#)

Resources

New short animation explores the extraordinary story of peat and carbon

This [short animation](#) looks at the extraordinary quantities of carbon locked up on millennial timescales within peatland ecosystems. This animation has been created as part of the 'IUCN UK Peatland Programme Training Materials' package created by Richard Lindsay, [University of East London](#).



[View this animation and explore more of our resources](#)

Mapping the contribution of Phototrophic microbes to the global

carbon cycle of Peatlands

A group of peatland scientists is building a database of the diversity, abundance, biomass, and productivity of phototrophic microbes in northern peatlands.



[Learn more and contribute to the project](#)

Natural England Lowland Peat Bogs animation

This animation highlights the importance of peat bogs in their role as natural carbon capture factories. Learn how lowland peat bogs are formed, their importance for wildlife, human impacts and restoration, and [Natural England's](#) Nature Reserves.



[Watch the animation](#)

Peatland Training Programme

[Part 1 of a Peatland Training Programme](#) is now available as a means of establishing a logical learning curve, introducing key peatland concepts, then moving on to the implications of these for peatland policy, and finally offering more in-depth information about certain topics.

The resource "... *has clarified so many points regarding definitions, classification and general concepts regarding peatlands ... I cannot stress how helpful it has been, and has most definitely proven to me I'm interested in pursuing a career in peatland conservation.*" **MSc student, University of Plymouth**



Greifswald Mire Centre: RRR2021 conference now documented

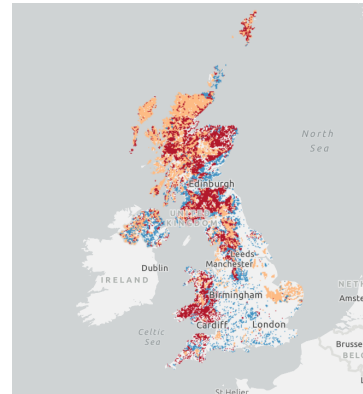
[Renewable Resources from Wet and Rewetted Peatlands \(RRR2021\)](#) took place from 9th - 11th March 2021, bringing together 300 scientists and practitioners from 25 countries across the world.



The key messages from the conference, presentations and posters are now [documented and available online](#).

RSPB Woodland Creation Opportunity Mapping

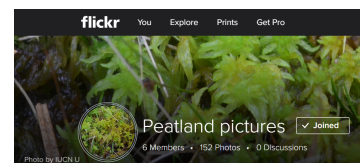
A new woodland creation opportunity mapping published by RSPB looks at the potential for meeting Climate Change Committee woodland creation targets whilst maximising the opportunities for climate change and nature, and minimising the risks. The map "also avoids deep peat soils, where woodland creation damages the habitat and releases carbon from the soil."



[Explore the story map](#)

Peatland community resource to share images

To help celebrate, communicate and educate about the importance of peatlands IUCN UK Peatland Programme have set up a Flickr group called 'Peatland Pictures' for the peatland community to share images.



[Learn more and submit your photos](#)

Events

Visit the [IUCN UK Peatland Programme website](#) for upcoming events.

The Water Forum: Peatlands Management for Water Quality

21st May 2021

A discussion on: Managing peatlands to improve water quality, climate change mitigation and biodiversity. [Register](#).

Biodiversity Day 2021

22nd May 2021

We're part of the solution #ForNature. [Get involved](#).

RE-PEAT presents: Peat-Fest 2021*29th - 30th May*

Dive deep into the peat during RE-PEAT's 24 hour digital Peat-Fest featuring exhibited work, in-depth discussions and lots more. [Purchase tickets](#).

World Peatlands Day*2nd June 2021*

World Peatlands Day was launched in 2019 and is celebrated on the 2nd of June each year.

iCASP: Confluence 2021*8th June 2021*

The theme of this year's virtual iCASP Confluence is 'Working together to improve resilience across the Yorkshire and Humber region'. [Register for free](#).

Global Peatlands Initiative: Influencing Policy*11th June 2021*

Prof Reed & Ms Dianna Kopansky will share their experiences and give you unique insights and skills to get research evidence into policy. [Register for free](#)

ESEH: Exploring intergenerational peatlands and the loss of normal*22nd July 2021*

Join RE-PEAT for a session exploring all things peatlands with the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) on Thursday 22nd July. [Learn more](#).

Bog Day 2021*25th July 2021*

This year's [Bog Day](#) will take place on Sunday 25th July 2021, celebrating the brilliance of bogs.

SAGES: Bog Tales*25th July 2021*

Science communications training and performance opportunity for peatlands scientists. More info coming soon.

IUCN World Conservation Congress, Marseille, France*3rd - 11th September 2021*

[Conference](#) comprised of forum, exhibition & Members' Assembly takes place every 4 years this year focussing on contribution to [post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#). Now being delivered as a "hybrid" event, allowing both physical and remote attendance.

IUCN UK Peatland Programme Conference 2021*Save the Date - w/c 13th September 2021***COP 15 - [2020 UN Biodiversity Conference](#), Kunming, China**

5th - 10th October 2021

COP26 – [26th United Nations Climate Change Conference](#), Glasgow SEC

1st - 12th November 2021

Ecology Across Borders 2021

12th - 15th December 2021

Join the British Ecological Society (BES) and the French Society for Ecology and Evolution (SFE²) for their Ecology Across Borders 2021 annual meeting in Liverpool. [Learn more](#).

Vacancies & Opportunities

Please contact info@iucn.org.uk if you have a research, funding, volunteer or employment opportunity that you would like to share with the UK peatland community.

Head of Landscapes, Rewilding Europe

[Job description and application form](#)

Closing date: Friday 21st May 12 noon

PhD opportunity, Modelling eco-hydrological feedbacks and resilience in blanket bogs undergoing restoration in the context of climate change, The Flow Country

[Description and application form](#)

Closing date: Open until position is filled

Just Transition Community Engagement Officer, Irish Rural Link & Community Wetlands Forum [More information and application form](#)

Closing date: Friday 21st May

Area Ranger, Marsden Moor (National Trust)

[More information and application form](#)

Closing date: Sunday 23rd May

PhD opportunity, Response of testate amoebae to peatland drain blocking: implications for biomonitoring of peatland restoration efforts

[About the Project and application form](#)

Closing date: Monday 31st May

Ramsar Wetland Conservation Awards 2021

[More information and nomination process](#)

Closing date: Monday 31st May

Volunteer opportunity, RE-PEAT

[More information](#)

Closing date: N/A

Grants officer, Natural England (Peatland Grant Scheme)

[Job description and application form](#)

Closing date: Friday 11th June

Peatlands Officer, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

[Job description and application form](#)

Closing date: Monday 14th June

Nature of Scotland Awards, RSPB Scotland & NatureScot

[More information and application form](#)

Closing date: Monday 14th June

Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme, Natural England

[More information and application form](#)

Closing date: Friday 25th June

Peatland Restoration Fund, NatureScot

[More information and application form](#)

Closing date: Thursday 30th September

Research Publications

Gaffney, P.J.P., Hancock, M. H., Taggart, M. A., Andersen, R. (2021) Catchment water quality in the year preceding and immediately following restoration of a drained afforested blanket bog. *Biogeochemistry* **153** 243- 262 <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10533-021-00782-y>

Reeza, A.A., Hussin, A., Ahmed, O.H. (2021) Comparison of the effectiveness of three extractants in extracting potassium, calcium and magnesium from tropical peat soils. *Mires and Peat* **27** 06 <http://mires-and-peat.net/pages/volumes/map27/map2706.php>

Krüger, J.P., Dotterweich, M., Seifert-Schäfer, A., Hoffmann, S., Kopf, C., Kneisel, C., Dotzler, S., Nink, S., Stoffels, J., Schüller, G. (2020) Carbon stocks and their spatial distribution in drained and rewetted peatland forests in a low mountain range area, Germany. *Mires and Peat* **27** 07 <http://mires-and-peat.net/pages/volumes/map27/map2707.php>

Moore, T.A., Moroeng, O.M., Shen, J., Esterle, J.S., Pausch, R.C. (2021) Using carbon isotopes and organic composition to decipher climate and tectonics in the Early Cretaceous: An example from the Hailar Basin, Inner Mongolia, China. *Cretaceous Research* **118** <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S019566712030361X?via%3Dihub>

Treat, C.C., Jones, M.C., Brosius, L., Grosse, G., Anthony, K.W. (2021) The role of wetland expansion and successional processes in methane emissions from northern wetlands during the Holocene. *Quaternary Science Reviews*

257 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277379121000718>

Jovani-Sancho, J.A., Cummins, T., Byrne, K.A. (2021) Soil carbon balance of afforested peatlands in the maritime temperate climatic zone. *Global Change*

Biology <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcb.15654>

Williamson, J.L., Tye, A., Evans, C. (2021) Landscape controls on riverine export of dissolved organic carbon from Great Britain.

Biogeochemistry <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10533-021-00762-2>

Young, D.M., Baird, A.J., Gallego-Sala, A.V., Loisel, J. (2021) A cautionary tale about using the apparent carbon accumulation rate (aCAR) obtained from peat cores. *Scientific Report* 11 9547

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-88766-8>

Evans, C.D., Peacock, M., Morrison, J.R. (2021) Overriding water table control on managed

peatland greenhouse gas emissions. *Nature* <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03523-1>

Please note: this list is by no means comprehensive, nor are these stories endorsements from the Programme, but for your information only.

The next edition of the Newsletter is due out in August 2021. To submit articles please email: info@iucn.org.uk

Privacy policy:

We have recently updated our Privacy Policy, in line with recent changes to data protection. Within the policy, we outline why we capture your personal data, what we use it for, and how we keep it safe, to keep you informed and in control. For further information, please visit our website: www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/privacy or telephone us on: 01904 659570.

For information about reports and initiatives referred to in this newsletter please visit: www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org. You are receiving this newsletter as you signed-up. If you would no longer like to receive these emails, please reply to this email letting us know to unsubscribe you

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