
Scottish Natural Heritage

Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba



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IUCN UK Peatland
Programme Conference 2018

Peatland
ACTION

Scottish Update



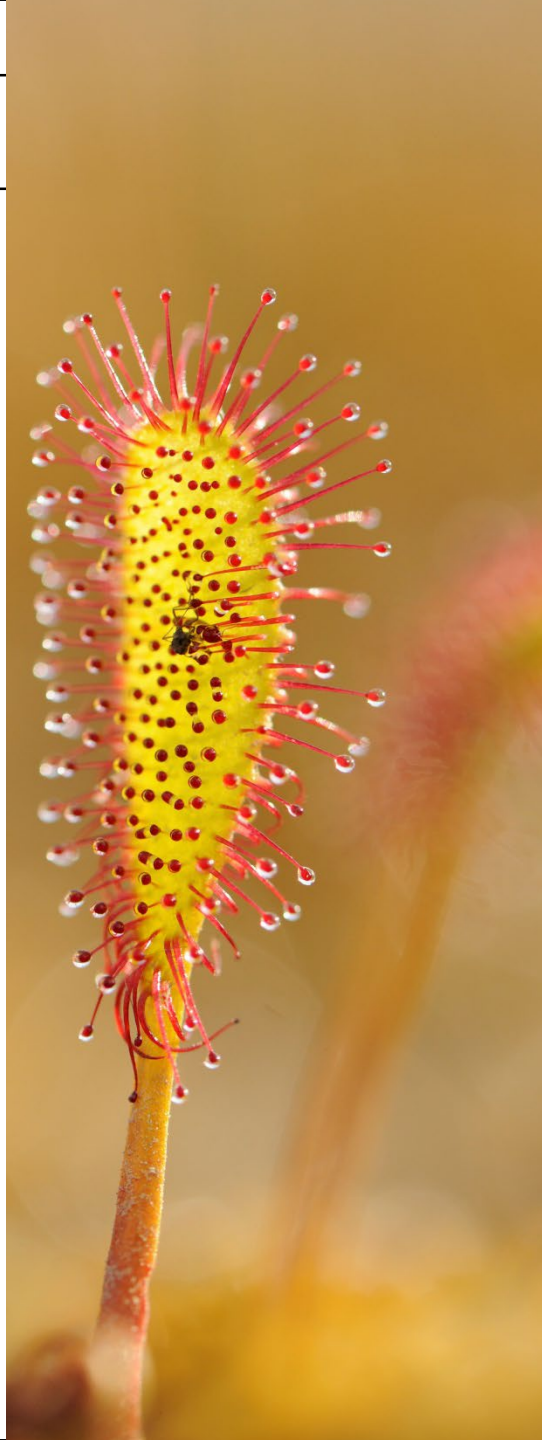
- **Land Use**
- **Planning Development Casework**
- **Habitat Condition**
- **Projects, Initiatives, Activities**



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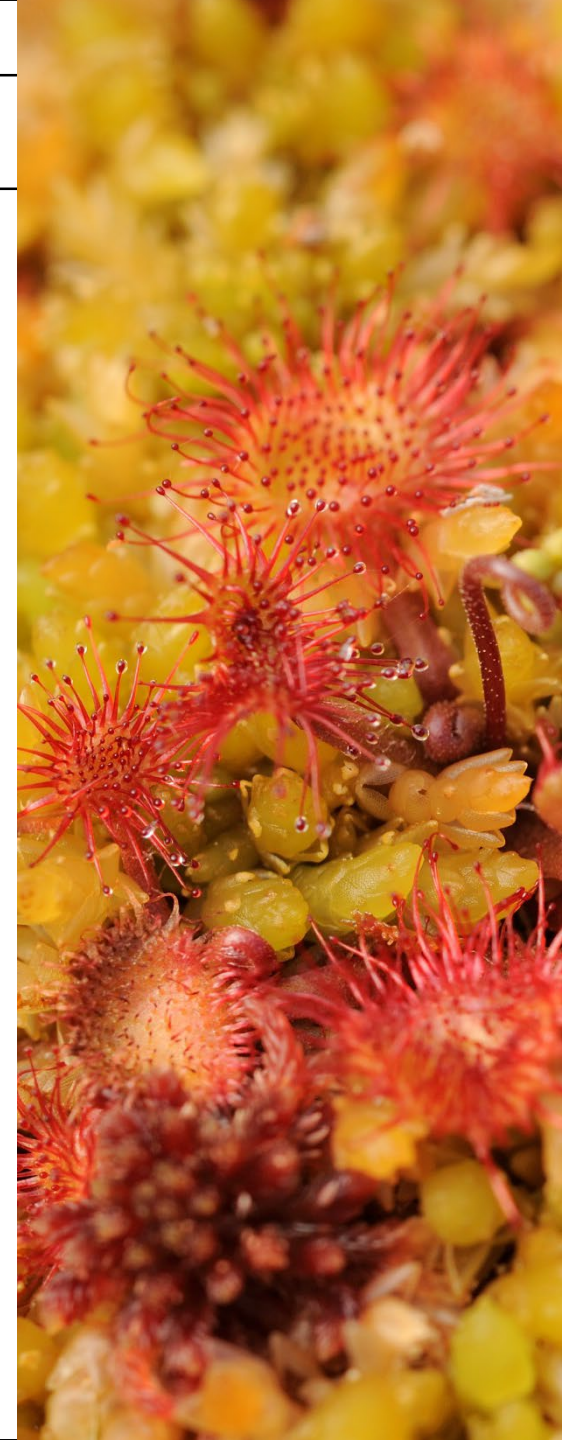
Peatland
ACTION

Restoring
Scotland's Peatlands
Ath-stèidheachadh
talamh mònach
na h-Alba



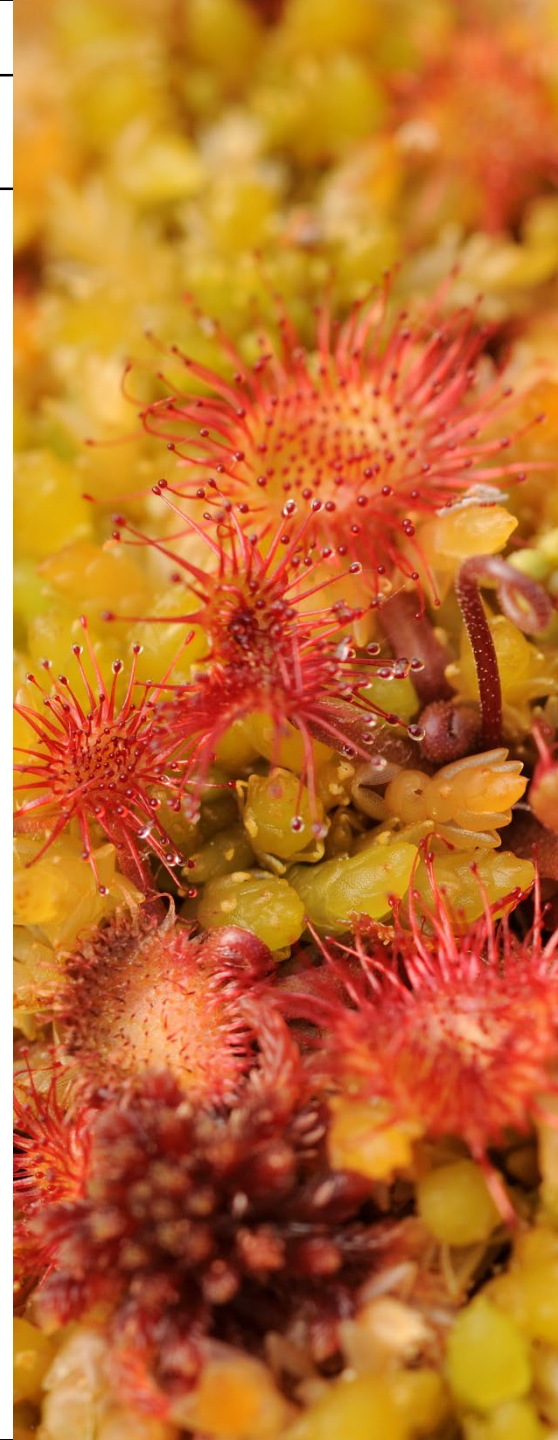
Land Use & Management

- **Muirburn**
 - **Revised Code**
 - **Published September 2017**
 - **More emphasis on peatland services**
 - **“Burning should not take place on peatland unless it is part of a habitat restoration plan approved by SNH.”**
 - **Licensing**
 - **Out of season (relates only to timing)**



Land Use & Management

- **Wildfire**
 - **Incidence**
 - **Mapping – extent and severity**
 - **Rum**
 - **East Strathnaver - Copernicus EMS (Emergency Mapping Service)**
 - **Fire Danger Rating System**
 - **Scot Gov funding to help develop**



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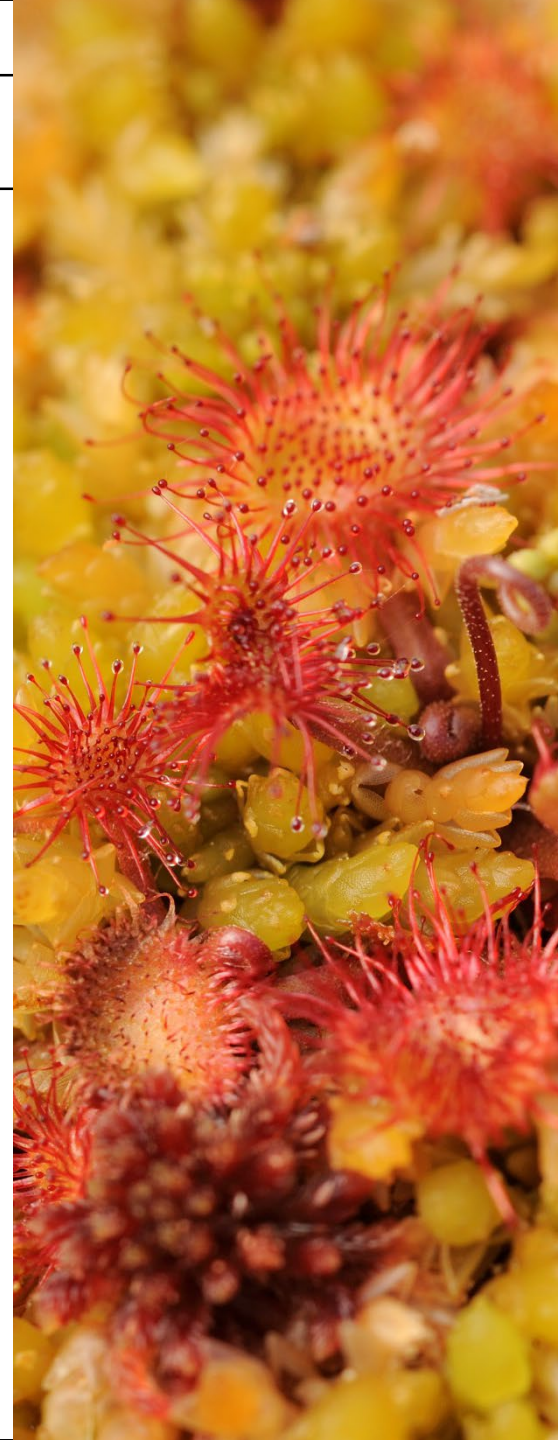
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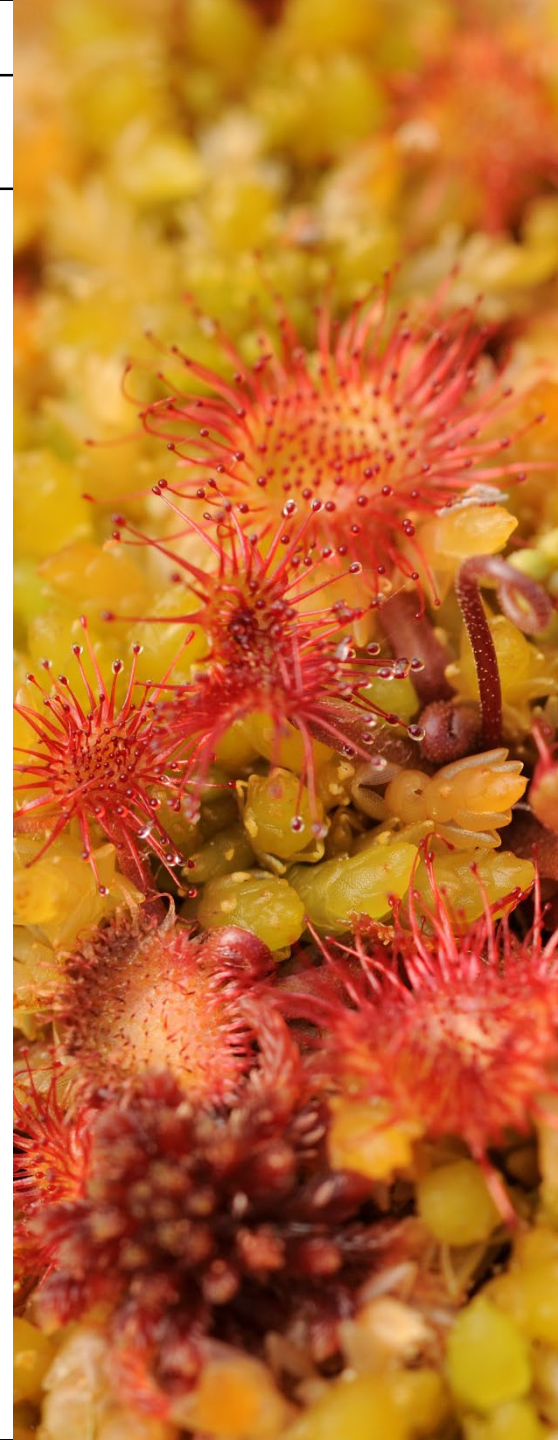


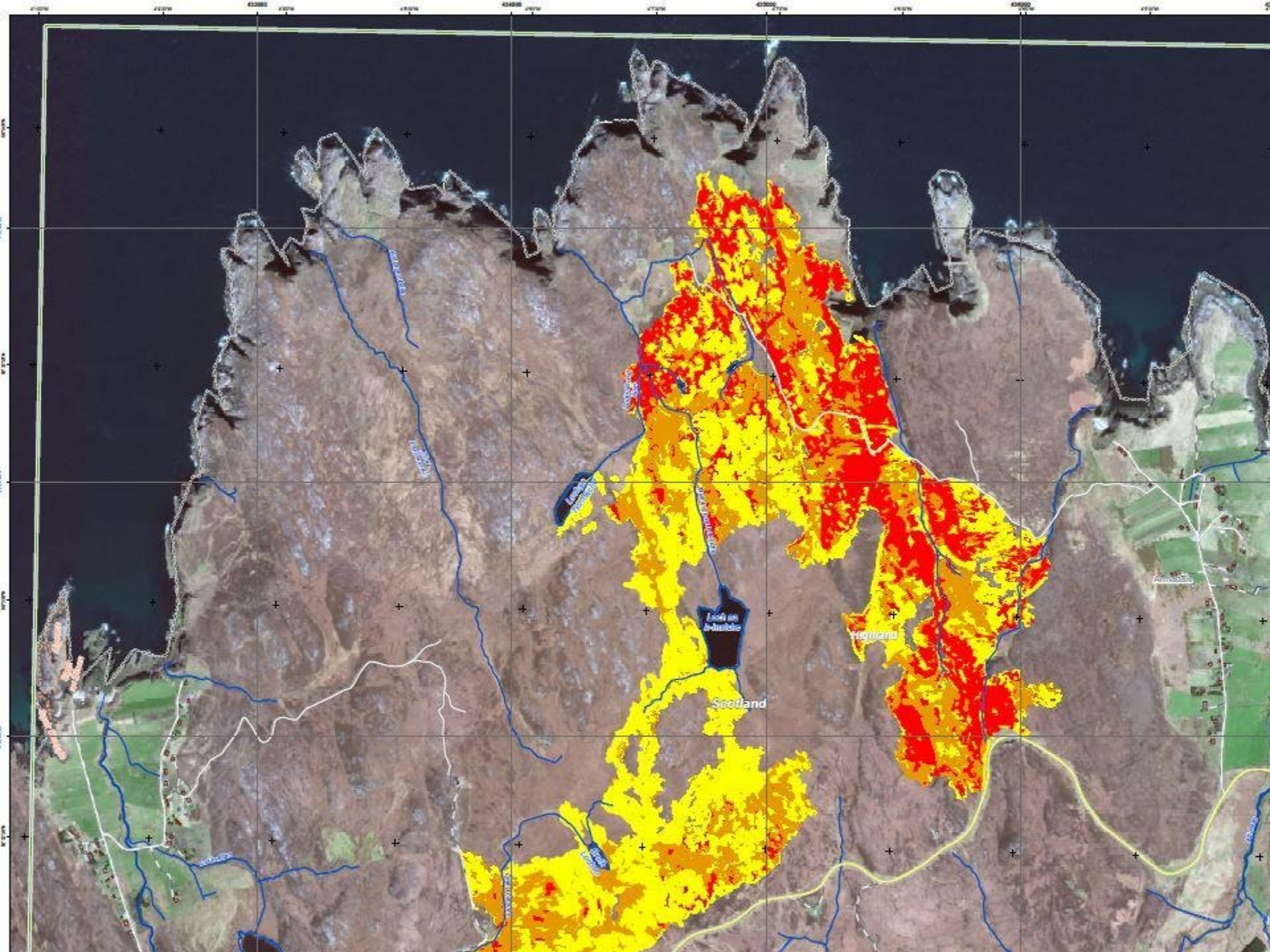
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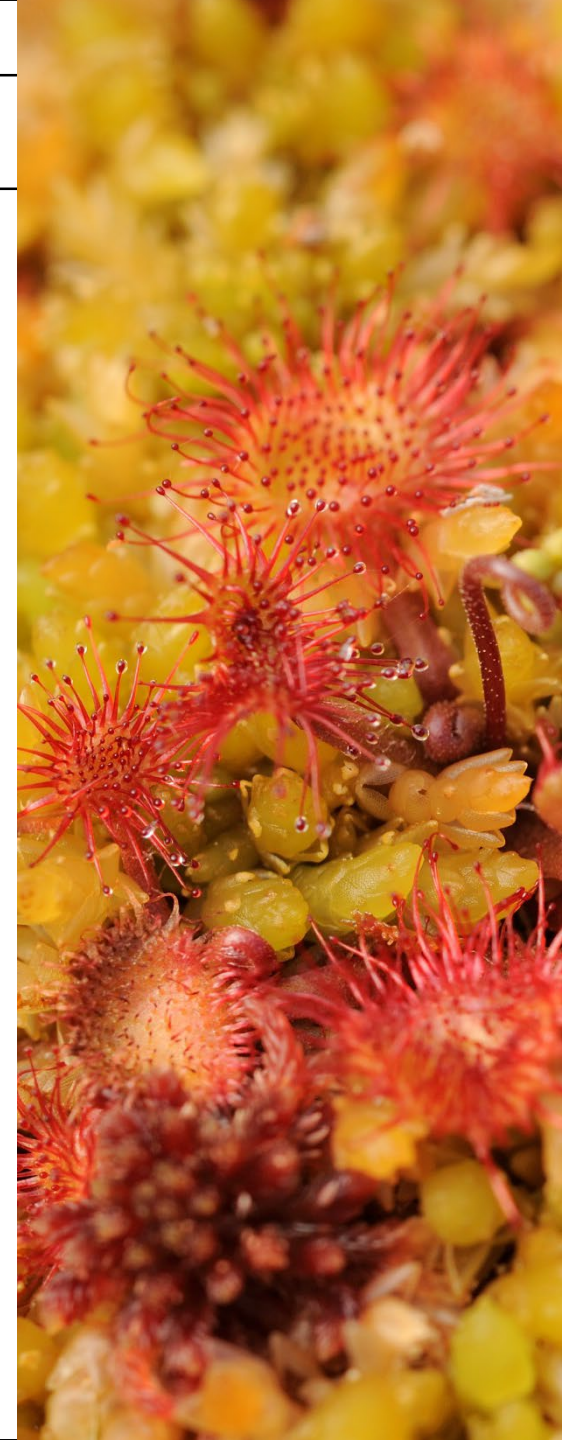






Land Use & Management

- **Forestry**
 - **Restoration**
 - **Restructuring**
 - **Expansion**
 - **Climate Change Plan**
 - **The average annual rate has been around 6,500 hectares per year.**
 - **We will increase our planting rates over time up to 15,000 hectares per year in 2024-2025.**



Planning & Development Casework

- **Wind Farms**
 - SPP – Carbon-rich soils, deep peat & priority peatland habitat – nationally important
- **Hydro**



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Planning & Development Casework

- Peat extraction – new and extensions
- Tracks



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Habitat Condition

Blanket Bog – Article 17 Reporting – Note

- Reporting influenced by guidance and thresholds
- Good things are happening



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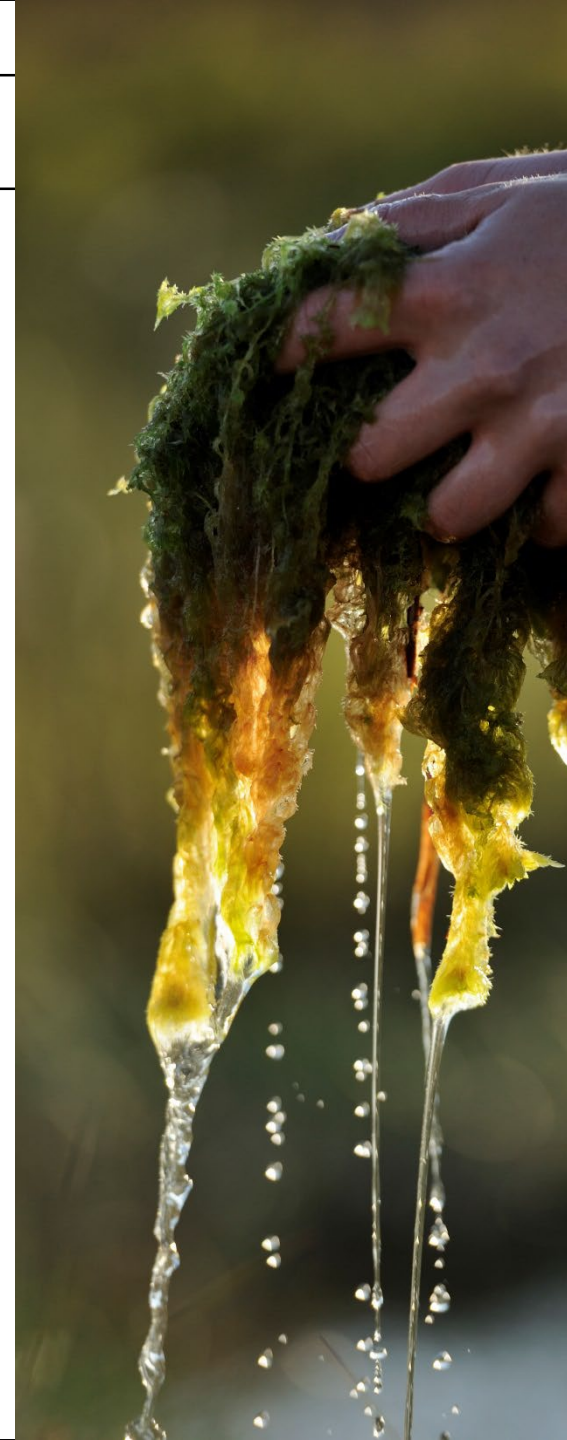


Habitat Condition

Blanket Bog – Article 17 Reporting

Draft

- Range - Favourable
- Extent - Favourable
- Structure & Function – Unfavourable
 - Nitrogen
 - Agriculture
 - Game management
 - Built development



Projects, initiatives, activities

- **EcoCo LIFE**
 - **£2.3 million project funded by the LIFE+ within the Central Scotland Green Network area**
- **East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative**



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Projects, initiatives, activities

- **Collaborative Action for the Natura Network**
 - working to save peatlands and wetlands across Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Scotland (Interreg funding)
- **Habitat Map of Scotland**
(SNH with others)



Projects, initiatives, activities

- **Flows to the Future**
 - £10m + restoration and engagement in Flow Country (HLF funding)
- **Proposed Flow Country Work Heritage Site**



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Projects, initiatives, activities

- **Peatland Action**
 - 2012 – 18: 15,000 ha
 - 2018 – 19: 7,500 ha (?)
- **National Peatland Plan**
- **National Peatland Group**
 - Reduce Horticultural peat use
- **Research & Monitoring Group**
- **National Monitoring Framework**



Projects, initiatives, activities

- **Research!**



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Thank you



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peatlands