

Peatland ACTION

On the road to restoring Scotland's peatlands for our future

Benefits of healthy peatlands



Carbon store



Livestock grazing



Clear fresh drinking water



Grouse / game



Store water and help to maintain steady flow rates



Healthy fisheries



Biodiversity / unique habitat



Natural defence against wild fire







Current funding on Shetland Hills

Region 2 = LFASS + BPS + greening = 40.76 euros per ha (about £34.60)

Region 3 = LFASS + BPS + greening = 13.18 euros per ha (£11) but, if have 80% of region 3 land also eligible for SUSS (Scottish upland sheep support) 70.67 euros per ewe hog which works out approx. £15 per ha, 1 ewe hog for every 4 ha

BUT Take off "financial discipline"......

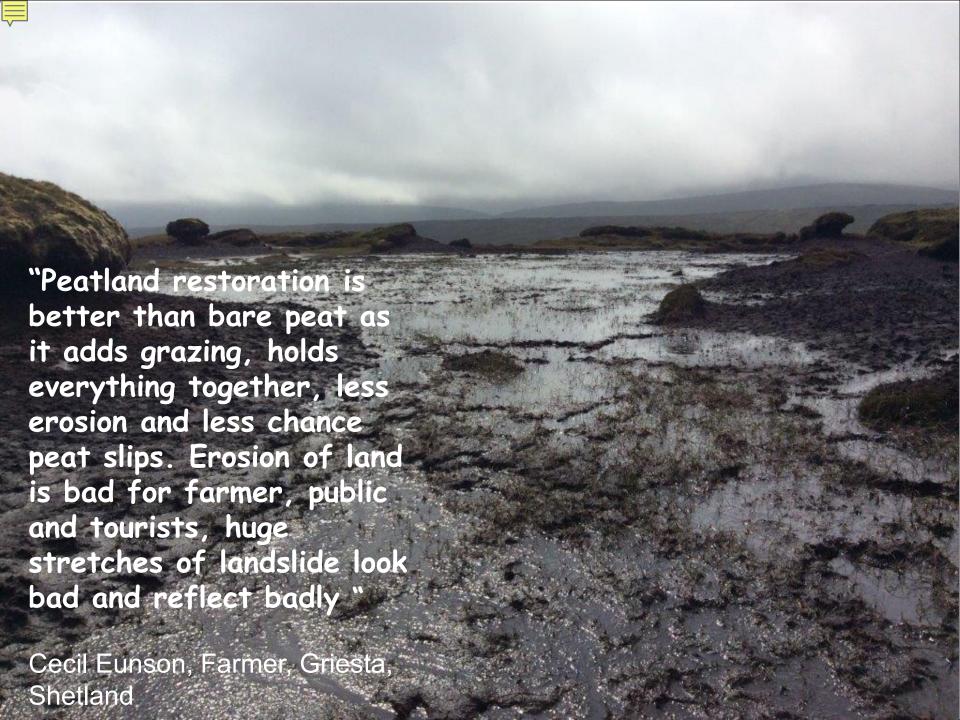
AND NB LFASS figures are for last year, this year it is reduced to 80% and next year 50%, maybe down to 20% as Scotland failed to get a ANC scheme in place.

Agri-environment (SRDP AEC moorland management) about £3 per hectare, + possible stock disposal £24.83 per ha, or away winter sheep £25.83 per ha, must come off the unit. Each sheep away wintered or disposed of benefits 0.8 ha

Peatland restoration- no management £13 per peat dam (£300 min), pp dams £62 for up to 1m, £151 for 1-2m, £385 for over 2m

https://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/grants









"10 years commitment is scary for a Crofter planning point of view, a show president does 4 years and that's long enough!"

Martin Burgess, Farmer, Quendale, Shetland



Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba



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















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





"I have just thought about what a good job we have done for the environment. Wild places make me feel relaxed and happy and amazed at what amazing views they are"

Secondary 3 pupil, Baltasound Junior High School, Unst, Shetland





Scottish Natural Heritage

Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

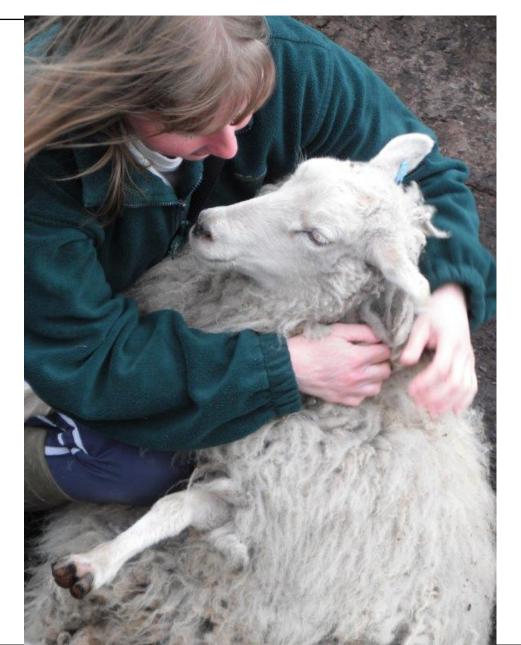
"I didn't appreciate how may hectares of Sphagnum was happily doing its stuff (capturing carbon) on land I had for years been managing as productive hill grazing. The benefits of peatland needs more marketing." Richard Briggs, Crofter, Nesting, Shetland



"I have been brought up to see 'squads' of crofters going to the hill fences and drain ditches.... our peat hill in a different bare areas of peat".- Hazel Cunningsburgh, Shetland









Scottish Natural Heritage

Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

"Could peatland restoration be tied into other measures for building resilience to climate change, eg "comfort slat mats or other cattle shed improvements?"

Hilary Burgess, Vet, Shetland Animal Health Trust



http://www.comfortslatmat.com/





"As a teacher I was not aware of the importance of our peat bogs. I have taught about the importance of the rainforest for years but next year I am planning to include a topic about peat bogs"

Donna Willis, Primary 5 teacher, Scalloway Primary School, Shetland







Peatlands for People:

Community Engagement and Education





Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba



The Project

- PFP began in September 2017 as part of Bog Squad Project
- Delivered 33 Events from September 2017 – March 2018
- Project continuing until March 2019 with 50 event target







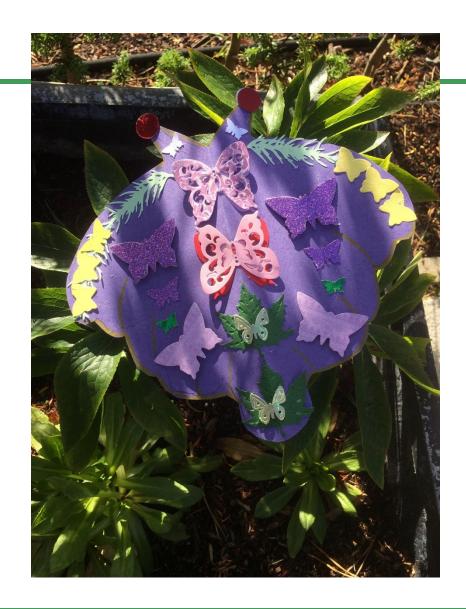






Aims:

- Engage community groups and members of the public and provide opportunities for them to learn about peatlands and their importance
- Working in partnership with other organizations to promote work of Bog Squad and Peatland Action
- Design activities aimed at raising awareness of peatlands and their butterflies and moths



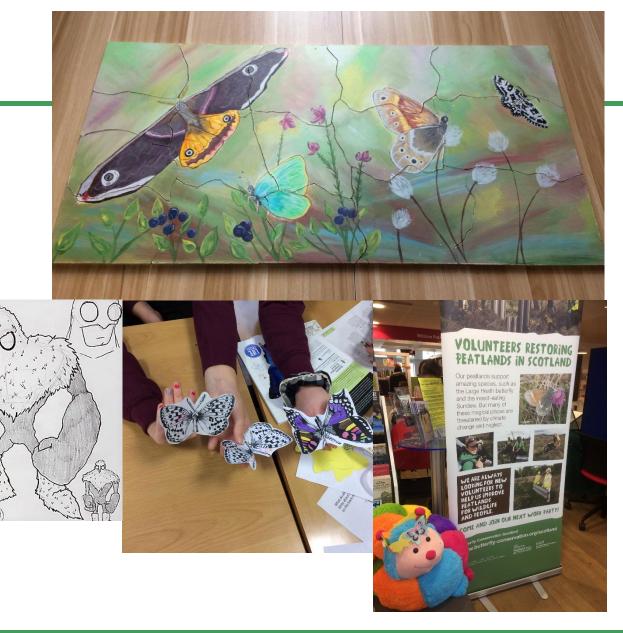






What we do

- Schools
- Youth groups
- Art Centre
- Libraries
- Talks
- Arts/crafts workshops
- Family days
- Conferences











Education



Butterfly Conservation launch new boardwalk at Braehead Moss

Date: 20 Mar 2018

A brand new boardwalk facility at Braehead Moss nature reserve in South Lanarkshire was officially opened on 10th March 2018 by local constituency MSP Aileen Campbell. The boardwalk has been created as part of Butterfly Conservation Scotland's Lanarkshire's Large Heaths and Mosses — Restoring Precious Peatlands project.



The new boardwalk will provide better access for the local community giving them a chance to enjoy and connect with the moss which lies right on the doorstep of many residents. The local primary school is also situated on the edge of the moss and the new boardwalk will enable expanded outdoor learning activities.

Butterfly Conservation have also been carrying out peatland wildlife education sessions with the local school in Braehead village with

pupils learning about the different types of specialist animals and plants that will be visible from the new boardwalk. The pupils made some beautiful drawings inspired by peatlands which were used to decorate the village hall on the official opening day of the boardwalk.



88 1









Community Engagement













Community Engagement













Community Engagement











Zine Workshop - Edinburgh



















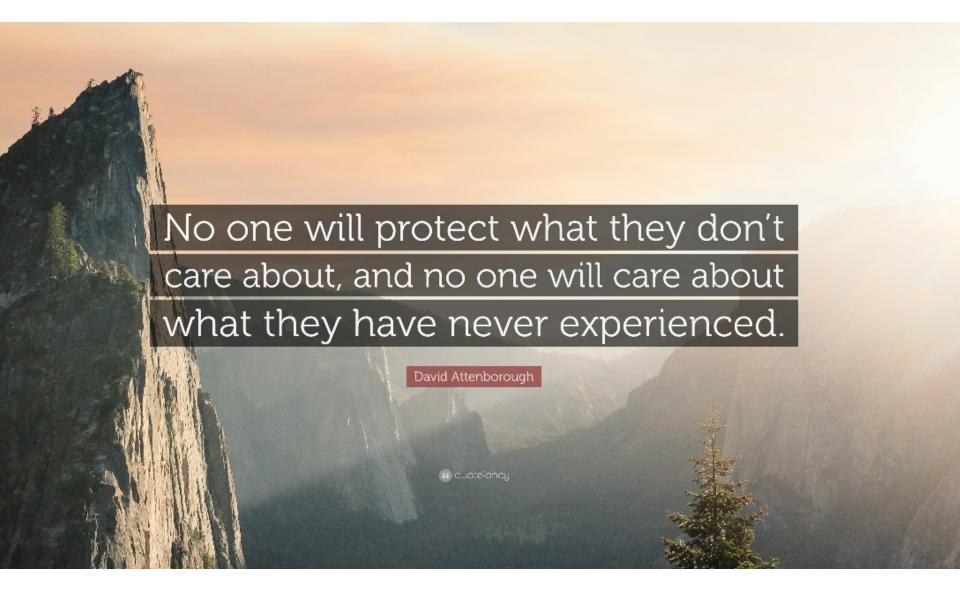


















Thank you!

THE BOG SQUAD

is supported by





Rebecca Crawford: Peatlands for People Project Officer

Email: rcrawford@butterfly-conservation.org

Direct line: 01786 459811







The Friends of Langlands Moss LNR, East Kilbride





Aerial View of Langlands Moss Local Nature Reserve. East Kilbride



Who are the Friends of Langlands Moss LNR?

- We are local people who live in the East Kilbride area.
- In 2006, we formed a fully constituted group because we were concerned about the decline of the area and the impact of ever encroaching industrial development on the Moss.
- At that time we did not understand the importance of the Moss or the role of peatlands as carbon sinks.
- Since then we have worked with SLC CAG to protect and improve the hydrology of Langlands Moss LNR.

What have we done to improve Langlands Moss LNR?

- As the bog was drying out, our first priority was to improve its hydrology.
- We applied to the Big Lottery Fund and Scottish Natural Heritage for funds to buy damming material.



Installing Dams



- Between 2007 and 2013
- 30 dams were installed.

 All installations have been done by FOLM or other voluntary groups under the supervision of FOLM and assisted by SLC CAG.

Has it made a Difference?

- Since the dams have been installed there has been a marked improvement in the hydrology or water table of the Moss.
- We finished the main ditch in the Autumn of 2013.



Damming since 2014

- Since 2014 we have had regular assistance from Butterfly Conservation's Bog Squad.
- Over the past few years many dams have been installed and many ditches closed off!



Working!





The access paths to the Moss were all very muddy and over grown.



 Attracting and keeping volunteers was made difficult because the access paths were in such poor condition.

Paths improvement



 Funds were obtained from South Lanarkshire **Rural Trust Leader Programme. The** improvement work on the access paths was done by Offenders supervised by the South **Lanarkshire Community Payback Services** Scheme.

Boardwalk

 Some of the very fierce winters several years ago plus more visitors coming to the Moss either in groups or individually made us realise that we needed to replace the current boardwalk which was deteriorating into a dangerous condition.



New Boardwalk

- The new boardwalk cost just under £100K and ws made from recycled plastic milk bottles.
- Funding was obtained from SLC Renewable Energy Programme, Viridor Landfill and Heritage Lottery Fund.
- It was installed between November 2012 and January 2013.



Boardwalk Opening

- The boardwalk was officially opened by our patron and local boy, Professor lain Stewart MBE – the TV geologist on 19th March 2013 in a blizzard.
- Despite the weather we had a very good afternoon.



The New Boardwalk



- The improved boardwalk increased the footfall from approximately 5K to 27.5K
- It raised the profile of peatlands and we held a number of family events there – some more popular than others

Community Payback

- Over the years, we have had a lot of assistance from the Community Payback Service.
- One of their initiatives had been to install several picnic areas in the former car park.



Disaster!

- In May 2016, person or persons unknown started a fire close to the boardwalk causing us to lose about a third of it.
- Despite this set back, we raised £24K through events and grants in a year.



Again!!!!



- The week before work was to begin on the boardwalk repair, the rest of the boardwalk was melted.
- We believe it was done deliberately using gas canisters and it was one of the biggest fires ever seen in East Kilbride.

Where now?



- A great number of people in East Kilbride were shocked by this latest fire.
- We got lots of help to clear up and it has really increased the interest in the area.

This Year - 2018

- Sainsbury`s PLC have funded a new woodland walk.
- Beechwood Cattery, EK have funded new signage.
- A major feasibility study has been carried in the area.
- The LNR is to be extended in the new SLC Local Plan



New Helpers! Young Farmers and B.B.





Why have a Friends Group?

- Friends Group can access funds which are not available to local authorities.
- It is a way of like minded people working together for a common goal.
- It improves local neighbourhoods and encourages pride and ownership in your own area. We work with local schools, Scout groups, B.B. groups and many others.
- It can appeal to all ages.
- It encourages people to socialise and exercise in a healthy environment.

Membership

- Our age group is from 17 to 70 plus.
- We have had people with different expertise in the group:- administration, damming, knowledge of wildflower propagation, amphibians, butterflies and birds.
- This enables us to have the area surveyed regularly and has improved the biodiversity records for our area.
- It also means the group is able to learn from each other and each member feels valued for their contribution. Praise is very important!

Restrictions of Friends Group

- Commitment
- Availability and flexibility in the leadership
- Awareness of strengths and weaknesses in the group.
- Retaining young people and sometimes not so young people!
- Involving everyone productively
- Relationships e.g. personality clashes

Our funders and partners are:-













