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THE PEATLAND POST

LIFE Multi Peat project site in Poland - photo: Tomasz Wilk

LIFE PeatCarbon

MULTI PEAT

Peat Pals for LIFE

Dear Reader,

the formation of peat is the patient work of many years. Organic matter decays and compresses slowly, deep in the soggy bog, as the world races by above. Slow to form, quickly destroyed by draining and development, and laborious to repair - and yet, restoration work on diverse peatlands across our many project landscapes has been proceeding at an inspiring pace.

The past months have been restoration primetime across the peatlands of Europe. Winter and spring offer good conditions for the necessary work of removing brushy overgrowth, priming the soil for rewetting, seeding the sites with peatland vegetation to kickstart recovery processes and, as ever, monitoring the progress of the work and its impact.

From the micro to the macro, we also have encouraging developments to report from high-level networking events, and groundbreaking publications and tools from the broader policy and conservation finance spaces. Put your boots on and let's wade in!

Your Peatland Post Team

Peatland News

LIFE Multi Peat: Steady progress on restoration measures in Häsener Luch

LIFE Multi Peat's German project site Häsener Luch has made further progress along the road of peatland restoration. This formerly drained peatland was overgrown with woody vegetation, which needed to be cleared. A team of NABU employees and volunteers met in early March to continue the winter's work of clearing the overgrowth, and to prepare the ground, subsequently distributing special hay seeded with characteristic peatland vegetation over the site surface.

The intense physical and mechanical labour brings the project site a few steps closer to the goal of a wet, thriving peatland ecosystem. Read the whole article on NABU's website!

Restoration works at LIFE Multi Peat location: Galway Wind Park

The Irish site of LIFE Multi Peat experienced a busy period as a restoration plan was issued by the project team in order to gather more information about how various measures could be carried out in an environmentally responsible way. An external company created a map of the onsite drainage network using LiDAR data. This data is vital in planning the location of drainage dams, their quantity and type.

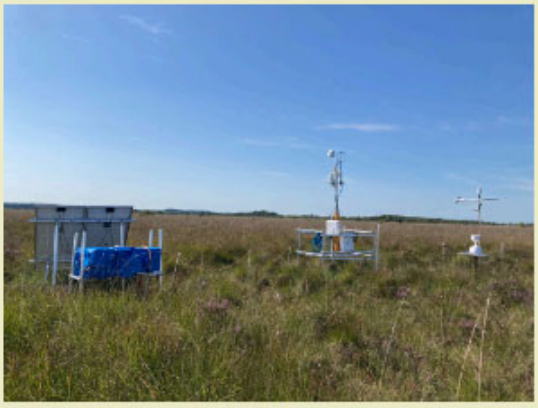
For more details, follow this link and peruse the full activity report!

Best practices in closing and damming drainage ditches in Belgian LIFE Multi Peat site

The hydrology of the Valley of the Grote Beek became a priority for the Belgian project team. In order to best restore the area, several drainage ditch blocking techniques were tried and tested, such as filling the ditches completely, peat-wood dams in forested areas and sandbags.

Read more about the methods here!

Peat Pals for LIFE: Greenhouse gas Baseline Scenario for Peatland Restoration



Demonstrating the impact of peatland restoration measures starts with clear baseline scenarios: this is what the Peat Pals team from Wageningen University & Research has been working on. During the process, greenhouse gas emissions were estimated using the GEST approach, which makes it possible to derive emission estimates from field observations.

Future follow-up assessments will be made to determine the impact of restoration. Read more here!

Forums, photos, UNESCO spotlights: LIFE PeatCarbon breaks ground for peatland restoration

Peatland restoration offers strong benefits for climate, water tables, overall ecosystem health and even national defense. The LIFE PeatCarbon project, running from 2022 to 2027, is tasked with generating on-the-ground data on reducing CO_2 emissions in project sites through peatland restoration measures. Communication and networking are a vital part of that mission, transporting key learnings from project work to other conservation organisations, scientific institutions, land managers, policymakers and the broader public.

At a series of high-level events throughout Europe in early 2026, project experts have been doing just that - forging connections, presenting project insights and building momentum around peatland restoration.

Follow this link to read about all the LIFE PeatCarbon events!

Further readings

- Horizon PalusDemos launches interactive map of 13 sites across the UK, Ireland and the Netherlands on different land uses, food and carbon farming
- Pioneering report by Landscape Finance Lab provides a roadmap to unlock private capital for peatland restoration
- A new publication in the Land Use Policy journal assesses the opportunity costs of rewetting agriculturally used organic soils in the German context, and provides insights for policymakers seeking to incentivise rewetting of drained peatlands to meet targets on reducing GHG emissions. This LinkedIn post summarises key findings and takeaways

Peatland Events

Power to the Peatlands 2026: Imagining tomorrow, acting today

Location: 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands

Date: 2-4 September, 2026

The core ambition of Power to the Peatlands 2026 is clear: to serve as a catalyst for the implementation of the European Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR). Our focus is not just on the theory (the 'what'), but primarily on the practice (the 'how'). We are bringing together

scientists, policymakers, land users, the private sector, and communication experts to formulate concrete, feasible solutions for peatland restoration.

The main themes of the conference include biodiversity monitoring and technical innovations, climate adaptation and mitigation, communication and engagement, practical restoration methods and policy and finance.

After the opening of submissions, 345 abstracts have been received, with which 34 sessions have been created. Abstract submissions are now closed, but you can view the detailed program here!

Interested? Please visit the event page for more information and to register!

The conference is organised by the Interreg Admire and LIFE Multi Peat projects.

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