







## **Cumbria BogLIFE**

Restoring 3 major peatlands in Cumbria, UK

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#### **UK Peatlands**

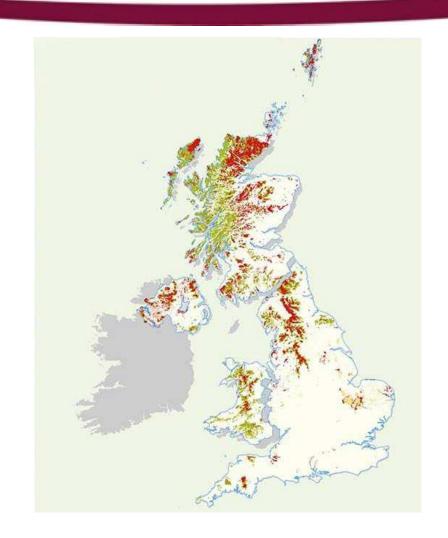








- UK peatlands
  - 2.6M ha
- Over the past 100 years, the area of lowland raised bog in the UK diminished by around 94%
- 95,000ha to approximately 6000ha today
- Historically the greatest decline has occurred through
  - agricultural intensification including drainage
  - peat extraction
  - afforestation
    - These activities have all contributed to the gradual drying out of the bogs



### Cumbria Peatlands

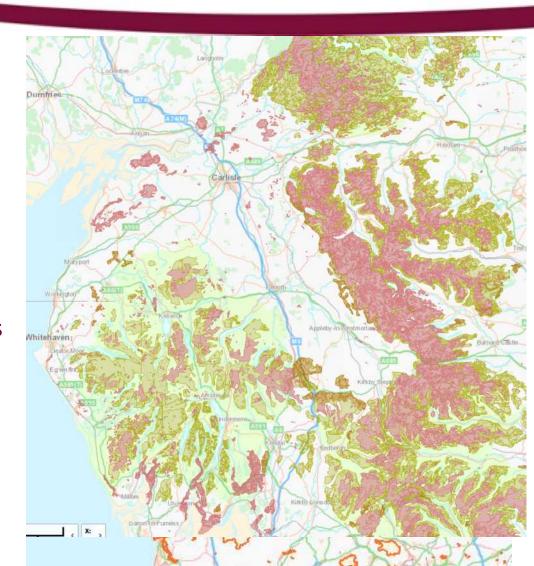








- Cumbria has the most protected land in England – over 280 individual sites
- Much is mountain or peatland habitats
- 42,800 hectares
- Cumbria Team have been developing our restoration techniques over the last 40 years

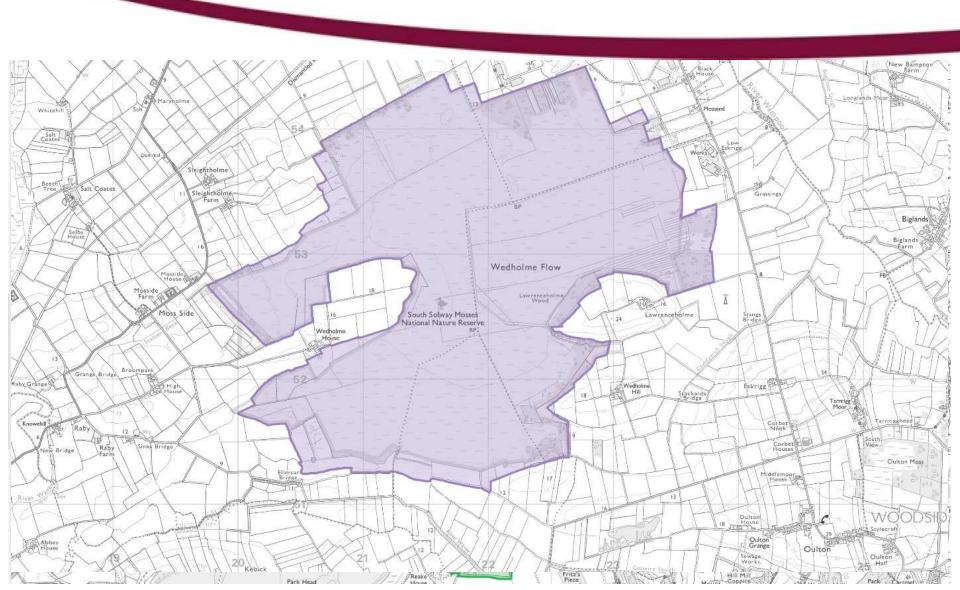


### Cumbria BogLIFE









### Roudsea Woods & Mosses











### **Bolton Fell Moss**









### South Solway Mosses -Wedholme Flow











# Sphagnum Farming & Paludiculture











- Bolton Fell Moss
  - Sphagnum Farming Trial
  - 6 trial beds
    - 5 different applications of sphagnum and 1 control
  - Draw on experience from Canadian and German Trials











#### **Additional Works**









- Re-wetting of additional areas of Roudsea Woods & Mosses
- Remediation & Restoration of Factory site at Bolton Fell Moss
- Installation of Boardwalks at Bolton Fell Moss
- Installation of interpretation and viewing platform at Bolton Fell Moss



- C1 Tree & scrub removal
- C2 Rhododendron removal
- C3 Groundwork & raising water levels on degraded/vegetated peat

### Monitoring









- Roudsea Woods & Mosses
  - Hydrological monitoring
  - Vegetation monitoring
  - Fixed point photography
- Bolton Fell Moss
  - Hydrological monitoring
  - Vegetation monitoring
  - GHG monitoring
  - Fixed point photography



#### Communications









 Increasing the awareness and knowledge of peatbogs and the importance of restoration within the local community:

- Notice boards
- Newsletters
- Website

Moss

Roudsea Wood and Mosse

- Events e.g. walks and talks
- Schools and youth work

Community consultation at B



### Communications









- Sharing Knowledge and best practise among peatland professionals:
  - Newsletters
  - Demonstration events and workshops
  - Attendance at Conferences
  - Networking with other projects
  - Publication of best practice notes







### Cumbria BogLIFE - AfterLIFE









#### Roudsea Woods & Mosses

- Ongoing yearly control of rhododendron & Kalmia latifolia
- Influence neighbours to continue with rhododendron removal
- Ongoing vegetation monitoring

#### Wedholme Moss

- Maintain water levels to ensure against flooding
- Ongoing monitoring of the restoration
  - Reapplication of donor material if required







### Cumbria BogLIFE - AfterLIFE









#### Bolton Fell Moss

#### Restoration

- Ongoing monitoring of the restoration
- Supplementary dressings of donor material may be required
- Scrub control on deep dry peat

#### Monitoring

- Maintain sufficient water levels through ongoing hydrology monitoring
- Ongoing monitoring of the vegetation
- Ongoing monitoring of GHG if budgets allow

#### Communications

- Declaration of Bolton Fell Moss as a National Nature Reserve.
- Providing online information and interpretation for the local community
- Guided walks and community talks.
- Provide opportunities for volunteering and possibly set up a "Friends of" group.
- Look for opportunities to apply for further funding such as HLF.



### Supporting Peatlands after Brexit

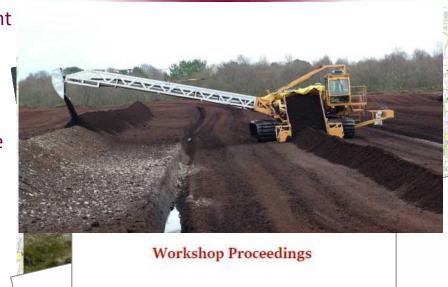








- European Union Framework for UK land management
  - Environment LIFE
  - Rural Development Programme
- Post Brexit
  - IUCN have set out 10 commandments to ensure that peatlands will be safeguarded post Brexit:
  - 1. Set strategic goals and actions
  - 2. Fund restoration and management
  - 3. Support regional peatland partnerships
  - 4. Incentives for private investment
  - 5. Accounting for peatland condition
  - 6. Retain/improve protected sites network
  - 7. Control harmful management/practices
  - 8. Government supported research & Monitoring
  - 9. Adaptation to wetland agriculture
  - 10. End peat use for horticulture and power generation





### Thank you for listening!







