

PEATLANDS GATHERING 2021

Peatlands Gathering: A new beginning

Report by Natural Capital Ireland on the Peatlands Gathering event that took place between the 7th and the 9th October 2021.



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



Summary Report

Aims: The Peatlands Gathering (7th-9th October 2021) was a huge success. The primary aim of the Gathering was to share knowledge and understandings in order to cultivate a new beginning for peatlands in Ireland. We also aimed to create an open forum to promote dialogue about peatlands and their future. We succeeded in both aspects!

Impact and reach: The online event took place on Oct 7th and 8th. This aspect was sold out with a total of 500 participants registered. Participants from across the globe logged-on over the two day webinar (see map below showing the range of locations).

The maximum participants online at any given time was 200. Participants were engaged throughout the webinar with plenty of interesting discussions between participants in the Zoom chat room and many questions for the panellists following each session.



Follow up steps: Key messages from the Gathering will be presented at the meeting on Climate Change (COP26) in Glasgow in November 2021.

Keynote speakers: We were delighted to have Minister Malcolm Noonan deliver a keynote address to open our event. (Read his full message [here](#)) and watch the the keynote [here](#).

“Only with healthy ecosystems can we enhance people’s livelihoods, counteract climate change and halt the collapse of biodiversity”

(Minister Malcolm Noonan)

Matthijs Schouten, University of Wageningen, Netherlands delivered an inspiring keynote address on the second day of our event (watch the keynote [here](#)).

Irish bogs are “the treasure house of bogs in Western Europe”.
(Matthijs Schouten)

A wide variety of topics were covered in relation to Ireland’s peatlands with specialists from a range of fields including archaeology, climate change, community initiatives, culture & heritage, ecology, ecosystem services, farming, hydrology, natural capital, restoration and many more. The summary messages are included in Appendix 1. The full event list can be viewed in Appendix 2 with hyperlinks to watch videos of the speakers in your own time [here](#).

Blog posts:

Our exciting and animated blog posts can be accessed [here](#). These include entertaining and engaging articles about Irish peatlands and peatland initiatives. Natural Capital Ireland will continue to promote these blogs on social media with newly published blogs expected over the coming months. See also Appendix 4 for a list of useful links that were collated from the Peatlands Gathering Zoom chatroom.



Highlights from the three days

Day 1: Informative and engaging presentations from 31 guest speakers over five sessions. View Day 1 [here](#).

Day 2: Excellent presentations from 17 guest speakers over three sessions, followed by a summary of the key messages in a session chaired by journalist Ella McSweeney. The event closed with an engaging round table discussion with panellists including Minister Pippa Hackett. View Day 2 [here](#).

Day 3: Field Trips

In-person field trips to nine bogs across nine counties were enjoyed by 129 participants on Saturday 9th October 2021. Peatland site types included lowland and mountain blanket bog, cutaway raised bog, restored raised bog and fen. These field trips were a resounding success with great opportunities to continue the discussions from the online forum. See Appendix 3 for full details of the field trips including highlights from each.



Appendix 1

SUMMARY MESSAGES

Over the course of the three days of the Peatlands Gathering, we covered many topics. While we have summarised the main messages here, please watch the videos for the full presentations and contact the presenters where you would like further information.

Peatland extent, condition and uses

Ireland is a global hotspot for peatlands, with over 20% of the land cover characterised by blanket bog, raised bog, highly modified / exploited bog, and fens. Peatlands are valuable ecosystems that form a significant part of the Irish socio-cultural landscape, acting both as sources of livelihood and inspiration.

Healthy peatlands provide a range of contributions to human wellbeing including provision of grazing areas for livestock, climate and water regulation, carbon storage, places for amenity, recreation, and education, as well being characterised by a unique and rich biodiversity.

Since the 18th century, activities such as peat extraction, forestry, and agriculture have led to the conversion of more than half of the original peatland area to alternative uses. Recent pressures include increased use for recreation and renewable energy projects. All combined, these activities have led to ongoing net loss of carbon from peatlands (having a climate warming effect), as well as negative impacts on water quality and regulation of water flow (such as increased flooding), a significant loss of biodiversity (habitats and species), with direct impacts on people's livelihoods and wellbeing.

While extensive areas of peatland are within designated conservation areas, a small portion of legally protected peatlands is considered to be in a healthy condition.

We must align our activities (science, policy, and practice) to ensure communities and landowners are supported in their role as stewards of peatlands. That includes a framework to ensure a just transition towards the sustainable use of peatlands for all those who still rely on peat for home energy, those who are extracting peat for horticulture with no regulatory mechanisms, those farming on carbon rich soils, and those living in peatland dominated landscapes.

Science, policy, and practice

While there are knowledge gaps, a number of research projects are consolidating the science around how best to manage peatlands in terms of biodiversity, the appropriate hydrological measures required to reduce carbon emissions from farmed, forested and extracted peatlands, as well as how to manage and regulate water flows at the catchment scale. Work to date in Ireland and globally has shown that peatland restoration supports multiple benefits for climate, water, biodiversity, and human wellbeing.



Science, policy, and practice *continued*.

Despite advances in the overall direction of national and international policy towards the sustainable management and restoration of peatlands, there remain many examples of policy failing in ensuring progress on the ground. Examples of this can be seen in the Agriculture, Energy, Forestry and Planning policy frameworks which are often pulling in different directions. Alongside these sometimes-contradictory policies, many issues arise due to non-implementation and/or enforcement of existing regulations.

On the ground initiatives including EIP (European Innovation Partnership) and other projects (including those led by the EPA, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and the Marine, Teagasc, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and projects under the EU LIFE funding scheme) are working to support those managing peatlands, building a culture of awareness around the values of healthy peatlands and ways to farm sustainably in peatland landscapes.

Agri-environment initiatives in Ireland are leading the way by demonstrating the importance of local adaptation and the benefits of moving away from a rules-based to an outcome-based approach. Learnings from these projects should be incorporated into national and international policy (such as the EU Common Agricultural Policy).

Despite a national peatland strategy and a number of EU funded farming and restoration projects, there is a need for a strategic and long-term vision in order to deliver healthy peatlands for future generations. Work in Ireland should align with the global movement to manage peatlands sustainably. This would benefit from a coherent and inclusive European peatland strategy, that would serve to guide national strategies and restoration targets across the European region.

Opportunities

There is significant interest and enthusiasm from local communities to get involved in restoring and managing peatlands. Communities can often feel excluded in decision making however, and there is a need to engage more widely. Providing a platform whereby community groups, scientists and policy makers can engage to inform policy changes and practice, would help deliver a long-term, shared vision for peatlands.

Investment provided through the business community can support the conservation and restoration of peatlands as carbon stores and potential carbon sinks. This requires a firm standard and verification system to quantify and regulate investment programmes, while ensuring that community benefit is at the heart of any funding. Considering peatlands as part of a wider landscape will help in this investor offering.



Appendix 1

Opportunities

Further development of technical expertise and upskilling amongst practitioners is essential to build capacity and deliver improved management of peatlands. This can be achieved through additional specialist training, education, and peer to peer learning.

A tailored and collaborative mitigation and research plan for the vast archaeological heritage stored in peatlands must be developed. This will ensure that we can continue to learn from our ancestors, who viewed and valued peatlands in a different light, yet were as deeply connected to these living landscapes as we are today.

A new beginning for peatlands in Ireland: moving forwards together

Every peatland is different. We must acknowledge that in our thinking, and in our actions. Collaboration is key and requires working together both from top-down and bottom-up perspectives.

The Peatlands Gathering 2021 brought together one of the most diverse sets of peatland stakeholder groups yet in Ireland. A similar event every two to three years would continue this positive engagement, knowledge exchange, and collective learning.



Dublin/Wicklow field trip
Photo: Aoibheann Gaughran 2021



Appendix 2

Day 1: Thursday 7th October 2021

	OPENING SESSION		Recording of Opening Session and Session 1 here.
9.15am	Welcome to the Peatlands Gathering 2021	Catherine Farrell	Trinity College Dublin
	Keynote address: Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform	Minister Malcolm Noonan	NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
9.30am	SESSION 1: Chair: Catherine Farrell (TCD); Notes taker: David Fallon (Ballydangan Bog)		Session 1 recording here
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	Global Peatlands Initiative - Working together to tackle the nature and climate crises	Dianna Kopansky	United Nations Environment Programme - Global Peatlands Initiative
	The role of the Peatlands Council and community	Seamus Boland	Irish Rural Link, Chairperson of Peatlands Council
	Reviving Ireland's raised bogs	Suzanne Nally	NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
	Mapping Irish peatlands	John Connolly	Trinity College Dublin
	Irish peatland archaeology - past, present, and future	Ellen O'Carroll and Cathy Moore	School of Archaeology, UCD and Archaeological Consultant
10.15am	Q/A		
10.30am	Close		
11am	SESSION 2: Chair: Catherine O'Connell (Irish Peatland Society); Notes taker: Maurice Eakin (NPWS)		Session 2 recording here
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	EU LIFE IP Peatlands and People	Christine Domegan	National University of Ireland, Galway
	Active and Degraded Raised Bog habitats status- Article 17 first three reporting rounds results overview	Fernando Fernandez	National Parks and Wildlife Service
	Fens in Ireland	Philip Perrin	Botanical, Environmental & Conservation (BEC) Consultants Ltd.
	Peatlands and Climate Change Action Plan 2030	Nuala Madigan	Irish Peatland Conservation Council
	Integrated approaches to carbon reduction: The Care-Peat Project	Terry Morley	National University of Ireland, Galway
	Finding finance for peat: diversifying community-led investment in rehabilitation	Shane McGuinness	Community Wetlands Forum & UCD
11.50am	Q/A		
12pm	Close		



Day 1: Thursday 7th October 2021

12.30pm	SESSION 3: Chair: Pat Fitzgerald, Irish Peatland Society; Notes taker: Ray Flynn (QUB)	Session 3 recording here	
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	Turbary and archaeology	Seamus Caulfield	University College Dublin (UCD)
	Overview of peat landslides in Ireland	Mike Long	University College Dublin (UCD)
	Peatland restoration and CAP: the role of Results-based Agri-environment Schemes	Derek McLoughlin, Paddy Crushell, Colm Gavin	National Parks and Wildlife Service, Wetlands Survey Ireland, and Pearl Mussel Project
	Monaghan Wetlands for Climate, Nature and People	Shirley Clerkin	Monaghan County Council
	The legal framework for peatlands	Andrew Jackson	University College Dublin (UCD)
1.20pm	Q/A		
1.30pm	Close		
2.15pm	SESSION 4: Chair: Florence Renou-Wilson; Notes taker: Ken Byrne (UL)	Session 4 recording here	
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	Current state of knowledge of carbon cycling in Irish peatlands	Ken Byrne	University of Limerick
	Development of a peatland ecohydrological and greenhouse gas monitoring network for Ireland	Shane Regan	National Parks and Wildlife Service
	Community-led Conservation and Climate Action	Chris Uys	Abbeyleix Bog Project
	Addressing Climate Action and the role of Irish peatlands: The SmartBog project	Matt Saunders	Trinity College Dublin
	Peatlands and greenhouse gas emissions and removals reporting	Bernard Hyde	EPA
	Priorities and update: IUCN UK Peatland Programme	Stuart Brooks	IUCN UK Peatland Programme
3.05pm	Q/A		
3.15pm	Close		



Day 1: Thursday 7th October 2021

3.45pm	SESSION 5: Chair: Paul Johnston (TCD); Notes taker: Laurence Gill (TCD)		Session 5 recording here
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	Peatland restoration and achieving Water Framework Directive objectives	Patrick Morrissey	Environmental Protection Agency
	Blanket bogs: where does the water flow?	Ray Flynn	Queen's University Belfast
	Peatlands connecting people: engaging communities and supporting collaboration for peatland and community well-being	Kate Flood	National University of Ireland, Galway
	Ecohydrology of peatlands	Laurence Gill	Trinity College Dublin
	Determining monitoring and assessment tools for blanket bog pools and lakes in Wild Nephin	Heather Lally	Galway Mayo Institute of Technology
	Improving water from managed bogs	Florence Renou-Wilson	University College Dublin
4.35pm	Q/A		
4.45pm	Close		



Day 2: Friday 8th October 2021

	Opening Session		Recording of Opening Session
9.15am	Welcome to Day 2 of the Peatlands Gathering 2021	Catherine Farrell	Trinity College Dublin
	Keynote address: From wasteland to national treasure	Matthijs Schouten	University of Wageningen; the Netherlands
9.30am	SESSION 6: Chair: Shane McGuinness (CWF & UCD); Notes taker: Emma Gray (GMIT)		Session 6 recording here
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	Wonders of our Living Bog	Tina Claffey	Nature Photographer
	Landscape level interventions on blanket bogs and heaths	Fergal Monaghan	Hen Harrier EIP project
	Peatland bird communities in Ireland	Alec Copland	Inis Environmental Consultants Ltd.
	Tracks to a layered landscape	Monica de Bath	Creative Rathangan Meitheal
	Peatlands in peril: restoring for the future	Catherine Farrell	Trinity College Dublin
10.20am	Q/A		
10.30am	Close		
11am	SESSION 7: Chair: David Wilson (Earthy Matters); Notes taker: Francis Mackin (RPS)		Session 7 recording here
	Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation
	Evidence based policy to enable Peatland Restoration, Biodiversity and GHG reduction	Niall Ó Brolcháin	National University of Ireland, Galway
	Shutting down peatland carbon emissions: Results from Moyarwood bog	David Wilson	Earthy Matters Environmental Consultants
	The Peatlands Climate Action Scheme	Mark McCorry	Bord na Mona
	Restoration planning for raised bogs	Francis Mackin	RPS
	The future of peatlands past? Community, archaeology, and cultural heritage	Ben Gearey	National University of Ireland, Cork
	Agricultural Peat Soils	Philip Blackwell	Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine
11.50am	Q/A		
12.00pm	Close		



Day 2: Friday 8th October 2021

12.30PM			
SESSION 8: Chair Niall Ó Brolcháin; Notes taker: Terry Morley (NUIG)			Session 8 recording here
Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 8 minutes)	Presenter	Affiliation	
Afforestation on Peatland: The Past, the Present, and Lessons for the Future	Ken Bucke	Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine	
FarmPEAT: farming with nature in the midland raised bog landscape	Caroline Lalor	FarmPEAT	
Peat Alternatives, should peat harvesting for horticulture cease immediately?	Munoo Prasad	Compost/AD Research, Limerick University and Cyprus University of Technology	
Coillte Nature: Ecological Restoration of Peatlands	Hedda Dick	Coillte Nature	
Carbon dynamics of grasslands on peat	Gary Lanigan	Teagasc	
Dealing with Designations	Michael Fitzmaurice	Turf Cutters Association	
1.20pm			
Q/A			

2.15pm		
Key messages: Chair: Ella McSweeney (Journalist); Notes taker: Pat Fitzgerald (Irish Peatland Society)		Recording of Key Messages here
Presentation title (each speaker is allocated 5 minutes)		
Session 1: Chair: Catherine Farrell (TCD); Notes taker: David Fallon (Ballydangan Bog)		
Session 2: Chair: Catherine O'Connell (Irish Peatland Society); Notes taker: Maurice Eakin (NPWS)		
Session 3: Chair: Pat Fitzgerald, Irish Peatland Society; Notes taker: Ray Flynn (QUB)		
Session 4: Chair: Florence Renou-Wilson; Notes taker: Ken Byrne (UL)		
Session 5: Chair: Paul Johnston (TCD); Notes taker: Laurence Gill (TCD)		
Session 6: Chair: Shane McGuinness (CWF & UCD); Notes taker: Emma Gray (GMIT)		
Session 7: Chair: David Wilson (Earthy Matters); Notes taker: Francis Mackin (RPS)		
Session 8: Chair Niall Ó Brolcháin; Notes taker: Terry Morley (NUIG)		
3pm		
Close		



Appendix 2

Day 2: Friday 8th October 2021

3.15pm	Panel discussion: Chair: Ella McSweeney (Journalist); Notes taker: Pat Fitzgerald (Irish Peatland Society)		Recording of panel discussion here
	Panellist	Affiliation	
	Pippa Hackett	Minister of State for Land Use & Biodiversity Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine	
	Andy Bleasdale	National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	
	Andrew Jackson	University College Dublin (UCD)	
	Alan Matthews	Trinity College Dublin (TCD)	
	Geraldine O'Sullivan	Irish Farmers' Association (IFA)	
	Nuala Madigan	Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC)	
4.15pm	Next steps, field trips housekeeping, farewell and thank you (Catherine Farrell)		



Appendix 3

Overview of the Peatlands Gathering field trips and highlights.

Field trip name	County	Total on trip	Site type	Trip Leader(s)	Attendees background	Themes	Discussion points	Highlights
Ballaghisheen Bog (Glencar)	Kerry	6	ABB and Restored BB	Patrick Crushell	Ecologists; LAWPRO	Results Based Payment Schemes (PMP), Restoring Afforested Blanket Bog	Challenges and successes of restoring afforested blanket bogs. Methods of scoring peatland habitats in a results-based agri-environmental scheme. Taking peat core samples in deep peat and interpretation of same.	The youngest teenage member of the tour having to be rescued from sinking into deep bog pool - TWICE(!) - life lesson: don't walk across bog while looking at your phone!! Listening to the lessons learned by John Moran (Coillte) on methods of restoring afforested bog.
Garron Plateau	Antrim	21	MBB	Raymond Flynn / IAH	Hydrogeologists, NGOs, NI Water Personnel	Blanket Bog Hydrology and drinking water	Critical to incorporate peatland condition when examining stream ecology.	Considerable interest in the delivery of deep groundwater to upland streams draining blanket bogs.
Lemanaghan	Offaly	16	Cutaway RB	Ellen O'Carroll / Catherine Farrell	Local community; scientists; archaeologists	Archaeology and industrial cutaway rehabilitation	How to preserve archaeological features in situ; how to align renewables energy projects with conservation.	Great local knowledge and enthusiasm; great insight from Ellen!
Ballydangan Bog	Roscommon	15	Restored RB	David Fallon	Local community; ecologists	Community led restoration	Ground nesting birds, community led conservation	A 3 year old got her first welly full of bog water and saw her first frog. Sharing stories about community led conservation with others.



Overview of the Peatlands Gathering field trips and highlights.

Field trip name	County	Total on trip	Site type	Trip Leader(s)	Attendees background	Themes	Discussion points	Highlights
Cloncrow Bog	Westmeath	18	Restored RB	Terry Morley / Caroline Lalor	Local community; ecologists	Carbon research and vegetation of restored NHA	Concerns about rewetting and adjacent farmlands; application of bunding and/or peat dams.	Diversity of attendees (farmers, community leaders, academics, state authorities); and the presence of Catherine Farrell....
Mount Allen	Roscommon	22	Restored RB	Raymond Flynn / Thomas Earley	Local community; ecologists; NPWS; scientists	Landowner led restoration.	Funding for landowners to restore cutover; outcomes of practical restoration measures.	Significant wildlife benefits to creating shallow open water pools on cutover.
Pollardstown Fen	Kildare	15	Fen	Paul Johnston / Katharine Duff	Local community; ecologists; hydrologists; planners	Fen eco-hydrology and vegetation.	How to determine impact/damage, especially on sensitive species such as the snail Vertigo in the fen. Methods of mitigation.	Wide range of participants. Realization of the sensitivity of some wetland habitats to hydrological pressures.
Dublin / Wicklow Mountains	Dublin & Wicklow	10	MBB / Uplands mosaic	John Connolly	Geographers; NPWS ecologists; zoologist; general public; engineers; LAWPRO; Geography and Botany students	Uplands habitats, degradation and restoration.	Peatland degradation and restoration, water resources, land use and landowners, concerns and perceived difficulties of rewetting peat on slopes.	The range of attendees including students, water experts, researchers, general public and NPWS experts. Good gender-balance.



Overview of the Peatlands Gathering field trips and highlights.

Field trip name	County	Total on trip	Site type	Trip Leader(s)	Attendees background	Themes	Discussion points	Highlights
Wild Atlantic Nature fieldtrip	Galway	6	ABB	Derek McLoughlin / Gary Goggins (Wild Atlantic Nature); Mary McAndrew (Pearl Mussel Project)	Farmers; foresters; scientists	Results Based Payment Schemes	Communication, dissemination and upscaling good practice. Need for support from government, policy and other key actors.	High number of female participants. Transdisciplinary interest in peatlands. Desire to be involved and take action.

Abbreviations	
ABB	Atlantic Blanket Bog
BB	Blanket Bog
MBB	Mountain Blanket Bog
RB	Raised Bog



Appendix 4

Below are some useful links collated from the Peatlands Gathering Zoom chatroom:

Day 1, Session 1: 9:15-10:30	Link	Posted by
Topic	Link	Posted by:
Publications from the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration regarding peatlands	https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/publications?title=&field_year_value=All&field_types_of_ecosystem_value=Peatlands	UNEP - Patrick Scheel
The State of Finance for Nature report	https://www.unep.org/resources/state-finance-nature	UNEP - Patrick Scheel
Global Peatlands Initiative	http://www.globalpeatlands.org/#News	UNEP - Patrick Scheel
Peatland Pavilion	https://www.globalpeatlands.org/peatland-pavilion-will-feature-at-un-climate-change-conference-cop26/	UNEP - Patrick Scheel
Community Wetlands Forum	https://communitywetlandsforum.ie/	Kate Flood
Global Peatlands Working Group	https://www.globalpeatlands.org/global-peatlands-initiatives-research-working-group/#:~:text=The%20Global%20Peatlands%20Initiative%20Research,research%20funding%20opportunities%20for%20peatlands	Dianna Kopansky
Global Peatlands Assessment process - building a global map based on the best available science and data. Working with incredible Coordinating Lead Authors and combining data and information across the world based on the Global Peatlands Database hosted at the Greifswald Mire Centre.	https://greifswaldmoor.de/global-peatland-database-en.html	Dianna Kopansky
Wetlands International	https://www.wetlands.org	Bjorn Robroek
National raised bog special areas of conservation management plan 2017-2022	https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/files/FOR%20UPLOAD%20Plan(WEB_English) 05_02_18%20(1).pdf	Maurice Eakin
Global Restoration movement	https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/types-ecosystem-restoration/peatlands	Dianna Kopansky
Explore peatlands here	https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/ecosystem-journeys	Dianna Kopansky
Kids join in to Play for the Planet	https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/play-game-restore-planet	Dianna Kopansky
Irish Rural Link and Community Wetlands Forum leading a Just Transition Fund project 'Connecting Communities with Peatlands'	https://communitywetlandsforum.ie/projects/connecting-communities-with-peatlands/	Aoife Kirk - CWF



Appendix 4

Topic	Link	Posted by
Study by Fred Worrall and Gareth Clay. The impact of sheep grazing on carbon balance of a peatland	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969712011783	Scott J. Davidson
M Walsh (2008) Impact of livestock on hill environment	https://t-stor.teagasc.ie/bitstream/handle/11019/1364/EOPR4812_24-07-08.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y	Brian Reidy
Some proxy data from the Burrishoole catchment (Anthropocene environmental change in an internationally important oligotrophic catchment on the Atlantic seaboard of western Europe. Dalton et. al, 2014	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ancene.2014.06.003	Elvira de Eyto
The IUCN UK Peatland Programme is an excellent resource for information on how communities can get the help they need - including through joining up for support to develop projects suited for the Peatlands Code	https://www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/	Dianna Kopansky
For more recent information about the archaeology from wetlands here is a open access link to recent book by Cathy on her excavations of Edercloon "Between the Meadows"	https://www.tii.ie/technical-services/archaeology/publications/tii-heritage/BetweentheMeadows_LowRes.pdf	Rónán Swan
As Scott Davidson has just pointed out on Twitter, the Peatland ECR Action team have compiled some databases that contain (mostly) open access peat(land) data: If anyone has any suggestions for databases to add, please get in touch (peatecr@gmail.com). We are always looking to expand our resources.	https://peatecr.com/peatdata/	Peat ECR



Appendix 4

Topic	Link	Posted by
Day 1, Session 2: 11:00-12:30		
Irish Peatland Conservation Council	http://www.ipcc.ie/a-to-z-peatlands/irelands-peatland-conservation-action-plan/peatlands-climate-change-action-plan-2030/	Nuala Madigan and Fiona Smith
Irish Peatland Projects - link to help contribute to a database of current and past peatland-related projects	https://forms.gle/jNttgdJNp4SSjaDS9	Terry Morley
Conserving Peatlands across Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Cross-border project funded through Interreg is working on sites including Sliabh Beagh	www.thecannproject.org	Shirley Clerkin
Day 1, Session 3: 12:30-13:30		
Information on turbary rights	https://www.prai.ie/appurtenant-rights/	Suzanne Nally
Video of peat slippage in Donegal 2020	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rf6S9Uz2Zrw	Niall Ó Brolcháin NUI Galway
Pearl Mussel Project - publishing guidelines throughout project. a range of our materials including guidance on scoring etc and various documents including scorecards etc	www.pmproject.ie	Paddy Crushell
More about the rights for nature approach here also	https://www.therightsofnature.org/what-is-rights-of-nature/	Kate Flood
Day 1, Session 4: 14:15-15:15		
Link to that GHG exchange info on previously forested peatland restoration (from Ken Byrne presentation)	http://mires-and-peat.net/pages/volumes/map21/map2124.php	Ken Byrne
Wilson et al., 2015. Derivation of GHG emission factors for peatlands managed for extraction in the ROI and the UK	www.biogeosciences.net/12/5291/2015/	Florence Renou-Wilson
Coillte. Rehabilitating ecosystem services	https://www.coillte.ie/coillte-nature/ourprojects/wildwesternpeatlands/	Ken Byrne
All Eyes on the Bog materials available from the IUCN UK Peatlands programme website	https://www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/get-involved/eyes-bog	Stuart Brooks



Appendix 4

Day 1, Session 5: 15:45-16:45	Link	Posted by
Find out more about Connecting Communities with Peatlands here:	https://communitywetlandsforum.ie/projects/connecting-communities-with-peatlands/	Aoife Kirk - CWF
Flood et al., 2021. Assigning value to cultural ecosystem services: The significance of memory and imagination in the conservation of Irish Peatlands.	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S221204162100084X	Aoife Kirk - CWF
Exclusively for today :D the link for the first episode of Bogcast:	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zORK1t5rxO2hXB-4l995iZQMty3EIPAX?usp=sharing	Elena Aitova
Ten days ago the Eurosite Natural Climate Buffers study tour took place in Ireland, hosted by the Community Wetlands Forum. Read more about it here:	https://www.eurosite.org/eurosite-news/looking-back-on-the-3rd-natural-climate-buffers-study-tour/	Elena Aitova
Interesting paper - iron from bogs drives photosynthesis in oceans - everything is connected. Krachler et al., 2016. Sphagnum-dominated bog systems are highly effective yet variable sources of bio-available iron to marine waters.	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969716304387	Chris Uys
True cost accounting could help us move away from our GDP obsession. The UN is researching this new system at present where food and products are priced according to their effect on the environment. Less environmentally friendly - more expensive. This would make economic growth link more closely to activities that help the environment	https://www.nature.com/articles/s43016-021-00379-6	Gwen Bennett



Appendix 4

Day 2, Session 6: 9:15-10:30	Link	Posted by
Learn more and share the Dutch and Irish Bog story	http://www.ipcc.ie/a-to-z-peatlands/dutch-irish-bog-conservation/	Nuala Madigan, IPCC
More on Catherine Farrell's work on the INCASE project	https://www.incaseproject.com/	Fiona Smith
Day 2, Session 7: 11:00-12:30		
Monica de Bath introduces a creative enquiry into the changing peatland context for peatland communities. Creative Rathangan Meitheal's	http://monicadebath.wix.com/monicadebath	Monica de Bath
The EU position paper and other Care Peat outputs here. Care-Peat - restoring the carbon storage capacity of peatlands	https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/care-peat-carbon-loss-reduction-from-peatlands-an-integrated-approach/#tab-4	Terry Morley
EU Policy analysis can be seen at this link. Report on peatland policies and strategies in NW Europe	https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/care-peat-carbon-loss-reduction-from-peatlands-an-integrated-approach/news/report-on-peatland-policies-and-strategies-in-north-west-europe/	Niall Ó Brolcháin NUI Galway
NPWS and Intel launch bog restoration project to increase water storage by millions of litres (2021)	https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/261d3-national-parks-and-wildlife-service-and-intel-launch-bog-restoration-project-to-increase-water-storage-by-millions-of-litres/	Fernando Fernandez
Ireland is part of a coalition of more than 50 countries that have committed to protect almost a third of the planet by 2030 to halt the destruction of the natural world and slow extinctions of wildlife	https://www.independent.ie/business/farming/forestry-enviro/environment/ireland-to-join-global-effort-to-designate-a-third-of-the-earth-as-a-protected-area-39954057.html	Eddie Smyth
Great paleo work at Drummin Bog Project - schedule here	https://drumminbog.com/2021/10/02/the-drummin-bog-banner-project-phase-1-schedule-announced-all-welcome/	Kate Flood
Historic environment viewer shows all currently known archaeological monuments including peatland sites and also all archaeological reports of survey and excavation	www.archaeology.ie	Margaret Keane



Appendix 4

Day 2, Session 8: 12:30-13:30	Link	Posted by
FarmPEAT will be uploading scorecards to the website when we have finalised the first version (panellist referenced a project in Bavaria)	www.farmpeat.ie	FarmPEAT Project
Mrs. Freibauer from the LfL is working on the Programme. It is part of a bigger Project (see link) (website does not feature results yet)	https://www.lfl.bayern.de/moorbewirtschaftung	Frank Pannemann
Today's Teagasc Signpost very important, especially on the need to re-wet high carbon farmland. Will be available soon as podcast.	https://twitter.com/TeagascEnviron/status/1446360962949214208	Charles Stanley-Smith
Mid Shannon Wilderness Park. Community driven project supported by Longford council - communities have been instrumental in this vision	https://www.longfordcoco.ie/services/planning/development-plan-2015-2021/annexes/annex-6-mid-shannon-wilderness-park-plan.pdf	Kate Flood
Day 2, Key Messages: 14:15-15:00		
Dublin's COP26 coalition gathering on November 6 2021	https://www.facebook.com/COP26CoalitionIreland cop26coalitionireland@gmail.com	Katie Holten



Appendix 4

Day 2, Panel discussion: 15:15-16:15	Link	Posted by
There are opportunities beyond sphagnum farming. Prof. Helen Sheridan in TCD researching (high value) therapeutic plants on bogs (2020)	https://www.tcd.ie/news_events/articles/unlocking-the-therapeutic-and-commercial-potential-of-irelands-historic-boglands/	John Connolly
Excellent paper on reducing emissions but still allowing farm enterprises to continue. Evans et al., 2021. Overriding water table control on managed peatland GHG emissions	https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03523-1	Flo Renou-Wilson & David Wilson
Take a look at the Irish Peatland Conservation Council's submission on horticultural peat for frightening photos of horticultural peat extraction sites. Key issues consultation paper 2020.	http://www.ipcc.ie/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/IPCC-Peat-in-the-Horticultural-Industry-Review-2020.pdf	John Fallon
National LiDAR data available from Geological Survey of Ireland	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b7c4b0e763964070ad69bf8c1572c9f5	Margaret Keane
Keep an eye on our PG website including our blogs like this one Treasure - Bog Poetry by Eileen Casey, captured on film. More to come!	https://www.peatlandsgathering.com/post/treasure-bog-poetry-by-eileen-casey-captured-on-film	Fiona Smith

