

UPLANDS
Peatland Action

Restoring Scotland's peatland

Peatland Action is primarily about delivering on-the-ground habitat restoration in the Cairngorms National Park. Project work is focused on restoring degraded upland blanket bog and re-vegetating features such as bare peat pans, erosion gullies and peat hags.

In the last four years we have helped to put peatlands back on the road to recovery by:

- blocking 19 km of drains with peat dams
- re-vegetating 94 km of peat hags and eroded gullies
- initiating re-vegetation on 27 ha of bare peat

Project work has been undertaken primarily with funding from the Cairngorms National Park Authority and has involved eight estates across the National Park during 2014-2017.

This work covers some 779 ha and further work is likely to be needed to bring the sites to a near natural state.

Peatland Action currently supports one full-time project officer in the National Park. A further project officer will be appointed in 2018 to help continue to deliver restoration projects across the Park.

Find out more ...

- **Peatland Action**
- **Peatland Action youtube channel**
- **Glenshee Restoration Project**
- **IUCN - What's so special about Peatlands**
- **SNH - Peatland Action factsheet: Benefits**



Glenshee Restoration Project

Peatland Action is a Scotland wide programme. Its key aim is to restore peatland habitats for long-term Carbon benefits. Since 2013 Peatland Action has provided nearly £8m of funding to restore 85 square kilometres of degraded peatland across Scotland.

Glenshee Ski Centre
Peatland Action supported a project in 2015 to target degraded peatland in the area adjacent to the Sunnyside ski runs and at the top of the Sunnyside chairlift. Cumbrian based contractors, Barker & Bland, used eight ton excavators to repair and re-vegetate the 11 kilometres of eroded peat hags and gullies.

Spreading sphagnum rich mulch onto bare peat (above) to create a living carpet of mosses across the surface and repairing peat hags (left).

Vegetated peat surfaces on the ski runs will hold snow longer than bare peat.

Before Restoration **After Restoration**

Degraded Peatland Newly applied sphagnum rich mulch

Bare Peat restoration area size = **8** Football pitches

Carbon Savings from restoration = Carbon Emissions from 250 houses

8 other sites across the Cairngorms National Park have restored a total of 8 km² of degraded peatland

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Supported by:
 Scottish Natural Heritage
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