

PEAT NEWS



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEAT SOCIETY

The International Peat Society (IPS) is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organization of scientific, industrial and regulatory stakeholders. It is dedicated to fostering the advancement, exchange and communication of scientific, technical and social knowledge and understanding for the wise use of peatlands and peat.

/// **Master Research Project: Revegetation and stabilization of translocated peat soil**

The University College Dublin, Ireland, offers a 24 month Masters project, which will examine the stability and revegetation of peat soil that has been moved from one site to another. The work will focus on site surveys, water table monitoring and vegetation mapping. For information about application and enquires visit the IPS webpage: <http://www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=224>

/// **Book WISE USE OF MIRES AND PEATLANDS available as PDF**

The book *Wise Use of Mires and Peatlands – Backgrounds and Principles including a Framework for Decision-makers* (WUMP) edited by Donal Clarke and Hans Joosten in 2002, is available now as PDF on the IPS website at <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=40>
The aim of the book is to highlight the nature of peatlands and identify problems resulting from their use. It provides guidelines for all stakeholders interested in peatland management, how to approach the peatland issue in a rational way, making wise decisions on their future utilisation to the benefit of all of us.

/// **Peatlands International 2/2007 presents Special about Tropical Peatlands**

Peatlands International 2/2007, the member magazine of IPS, will come out in December with a 25 pages special about tropical peatlands. Among other topics it will deal with fires, restoration, water management, fibre and palm oil plantations and give an overview of topical peatlands worldwide. Peatlands International is sent in approximately 3,000 copies twice annually to all IPS members by post. Additionally, Peatlands International is distributed to a number of other stakeholders in peat and peatlands.

The magazine consists of about 50-60 pages with background reports on peat and peatlands, reviews of conferences and books, it publishes research findings, business reports and internal information on the IPS.

/// **New Secretary of Latvian Peat Producers Association, IPS Latvian National Committee**

Ms Ilze Gorovneva is the new secretary of the Latvian Peat Producer Association. The former secretary Ms Linda Raupe changed the job at the end of August. Please address all correspondence please address to the new secretary. E-mail: peat@peat.lv

/// **Wanted! Nominations for IPS Executive Board Members and IPS Commission Chairs**

IPS National Committees are invited to make proposals for 2nd Vice President and for IPS Executive Board Members whose four-year-term is over. Please send nominations to the IPS Secretariat at latest by 13 February 2008. The time table is binding. The IPS Secretariat will copy the proposals for the National Committees, which will select new members for the IPS Executive Board in the Annual Assembly in Tullamore, 13 June 2008.

IPS members are invited to make proposals for IPS Commission Chairs. The proposals must be supported by at least two IPS members. Please send your nominations to the IPS Secretariat at latest

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by 15th of February 2008. The appointed Chairpersons will be announced in the International Peat Congress 2008, Tullamore, Ireland, 8-13 June 2008.

For more information about the IPS nominations download PDF of Peat News 9/2007 at <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=58>

/// Call for Nominations: The Wim Tonnis Peat Award 2008

The IPS Secretariat invites all IPS members to submit their proposals for the Wim Tonnis Peat Award 2008. Your nomination should be sent to the IPS Secretariat by 31 January 2008.

The Wim Tonnis Peat Award 2008 will be conferred in June 2008 at the IPS Annual Assembly in Tullamore, Ireland, during the International Peat Congress.

More information: <http://www.peatsociety.org/index.php?id=103> and

http://www.peatsociety.org/user_files/files/internalregulations2007.pdf (Section XI)

/// LIFE Active Blanket Bog in Wales Project

A new five-year project in northern Wales, UK, will see large areas of blanket bog being restored. The amount and quality of blanket bog in Wales and the rest of the UK has declined greatly over the past few decades as trees have been planted and drains installed. The partnership project between the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Countryside Council for Wales and the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission Wales, aims to reverse this trend for two areas by returning the bog to a favourable condition. The EU LIFE-Nature programme has met 75% of the £2.57 million (€3.7 million) project costs.

The project work will include:

- blocking 90,800 m of drainage channels (grips)
- mowing 420 hectares (ha) of dry heath to protect 1,452 ha of blanket bog from fire
- reseeding 50 ha of degraded bog with heather
- removing trees from over 230 ha of blanket bog on Forestry Commission Wales land and grazing the area with native ponies.
- removing rhododendrons and Sitka spruces from around 3,000 ha of land to protect blanket bog from invasion

Alongside the habitat restoration work, the project will also be working with local communities, including discussing best management practice with farmers and other landowners, providing regular project updates and hosting educational visits for local schoolchildren.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the project team, based at Lake Vyrnwy, on +44 (0)1691 870939 or e-mail gorgorscymru@rspb.org.uk or visit the website at www.blanketbogswales.org

/// Upcoming IPS events

- **Scientific Advisory Board Meeting 7**, Vlotho, Germany, 2 November 2007

It is also possible to participate in the Bad Neydharting Round Table Conference mentioned below on 2 - 4 November 2007. Please contact the IPS Secretariat for more information.

- **Commission VI, Bad Neydharting Round Table Conference**
- Vlotho, Germany, 2 - 4 November 2007, Please contact: Gerd Lüttig +49 5141 930200
- **IPS Executive Board Meeting**, Brussels, Belgium, 14 - 14 March 2008
- **13th International Peat Congress: After Wise Use - The Future of Peatlands**
Tullamore, Ireland, 8 - 14 June 2008, More info: www.ipcireland2008.com

For further upcoming IPS events please visit <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=47>.

Other events

- **2nd International Workshop on Criminal and Environmental Forensics**
Edinburgh, UK, 30 October – 1 November 2007
More info: www.soilforensicsinternational.org
- **20th World Energy Congress and Exhibition**
Rome, Italy, 11 - 15 November 2007, More info: www.rome2007.it
- **German Peat Society + BTH, German Peat and Humus Day**
Bad Zwischenahn-Ohrwege, Germany, 13 -14 November 2007, More info: www.dgmtev.de
- **Finnish Peat Society (Suoseura), Autumn Annual Assembly**
Helsinki, Finland, 20 November 2007, More info: www.suoseura.fi
- **Finnish Bioenergy Association, Bioenergy Days**
Helsinki, Finland, 21 - 22 November 2007, More info: www.finbio.fi
- **The 3rd Annual European Energy Policy Conference 2007: Energy Policy & Technology**, Brussels, 21 - 22 November 2007
More info: www.euenergypolicy.com
- **Association of Finnish Peat Industries, Autumn Annual Assembly**
Helsinki, 22 November 2007, More info: www.turveteollisuusliitto.fi
- **Estonian Peat Association, 15th Anniversary Conference**
Tallinn, Estonia, 22 November 2007
- **The Inaugural European Carbon Capture & Storage Summit**
London, UK, 28 - 29 November 2007, More info: www.cityandfinancial.com/ccs1
- **COP 13 and COP/MOP 3, Conference of the Parties (COP), Thirteenth session and Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP), Third session**, Bali, Indonesia, 3 - 14 December 2007,
More: www.unfccc.int
- **First Symposium on Horticulture in Europe**
Vienna, Austria, 17 - 20 February 2008, More info: www.she2008.eu
- **World Sustainable Energy Days 2008**
Wels, Austria, 5 - 7 March 2008, Deadline for the submission of abstracts is 10 October 2007, More info: <http://www.wsed.at/wsed/index.php?id=217&L=1>
- **First International Symposium on Woody Ornamentals of the Temperate Zone**
Pruhonice (near Prague), Czech Republic, 26 - 30 May 2008
More info: www.woodyornamentals.cz
- **International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG), Permafrost Peatlands and Climate Meetings and Excursion in Yakutia**, More info: www.imcg.net
- **International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG) Excursion, Scientific Symposium and General Assembly Georgia/Armenia**, 27 August - 11 September 2008
More info: www.imcg.net
- **EnergiaForum 2008 new!**
Tampere, Finland, 28 - 30 October 2008
More info: www.energia.fi

For further upcoming peat-related events please visit <http://peatsociety.org/index.php?id=77>