

## **Peatland Restoration Campaign**

In 2023 we began our first ever carbon offsetting project by partnering with the Scottish Wildlife Trust's **Peatland Restoration Campaign**

We donate a substantial amount of money annually for them to be able to protect and restore peatlands.

Careful management of peat as a resource is so important to our industry, and we are proud to be able to support the Scottish Wildlife Trust in their important work.

Please see below for detailed information about the peatlands we support, and the core activities undertaken at each site. Our Green Tourism page is [here](#) and our charity and community information can be found [here](#).

If you would like to find out more or get involved in our Green Tourism work please contact us on [marketing@scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk](mailto:marketing@scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk)





## Peatland 2023 Recap Summary.

In good condition peatland, absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere, making organic peat soil the most significant type of soil. Over 20% of Scotland is covered in peat soils, which store over 1600 million tonnes of carbon. However, it is estimated that over 80% of Scotland's peatlands are degraded.

Peatland restoration is essential to ensure Scotland reaches net-zero. The following is an overview of the Trust's 2023 peatland restoration efforts:

### Red Moss of Netherley

#### Site description

Red Moss of Netherley is a mosaic of fen, marsh and woodland habitats and is one of the best examples of a raised bog in northeast Scotland (Figure 1.). Heather flourishes in these conditions, interspersed by the yellow spikes of bog asphodel and other bog plants such as Sphagnum moss and carnivorous sundews.



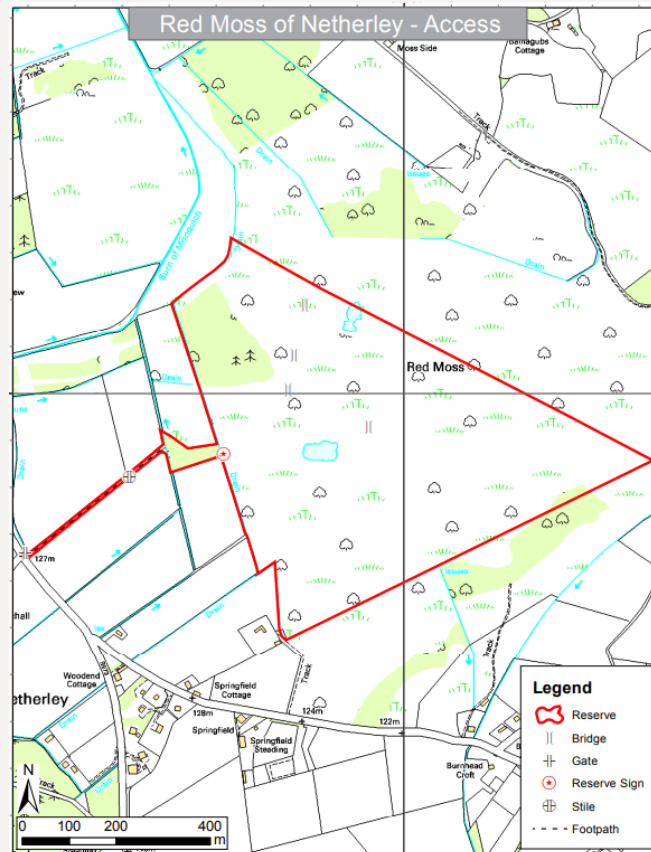


Figure 1: Map of Red Moss of Netherley showing site boundary (red line) and site features.

### Core activities

- Ditch blocking, by using peat dams to block ditches and delay water flow, ditch blocking aims to restore the natural levels of the water table and enhance the quality of peatland or lowland raised bog habitats. Planning underway.
- Dipwell monitoring, monitoring water levels in a peatland is essential following blocking of drains with dams. This gives valuable information on the effectiveness of drain blocking activity.
- Species surveys.

## Bankhead Moss

### Site description

Bankhead Moss is a small, raised bog, an uncommon habitat in this part of Scotland (Figure 2.). There is an area of woodland and wetland with pools and scrapes where curlew, snipe and lapwing may be spotted. The bog provides ideal conditions for specialised plants including cottongrass and sundews.



Figure 2: Map of Bankhead Moss showing site boundary (red line) and site features.

### Core activities:

- Currently planning preparations for annual grazing of birch on peat dome. It is essential for the health of peatland to keep it clear of developing birch and other non-essential vegetation.

## Dalmellington Moss

### Site description

Dalmellington Moss is a raised bog on the floodplain of the River Doon (Figure 3). Hummocks of heather and deergrass are interspersed with waterlogged hollows full of Sphagnum mosses and cottongrass, allowing beetles, moths and dragonflies to thrive in these conditions.

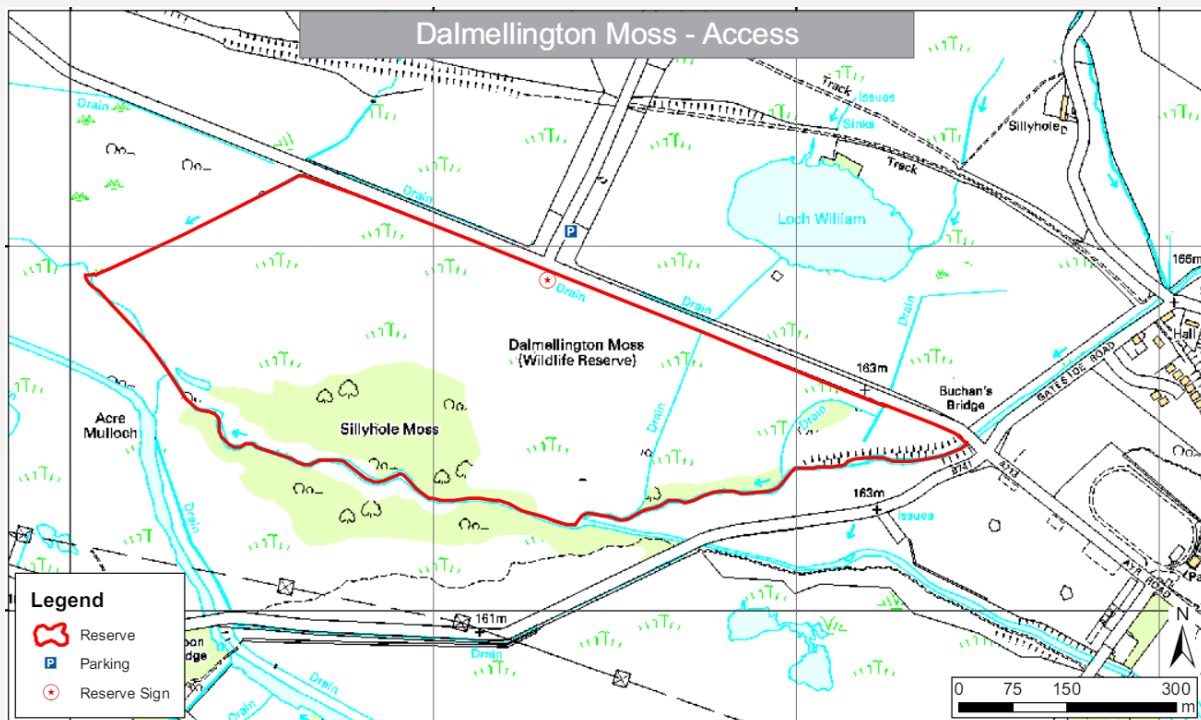


Figure 3: Map of Dalmellington Moss showing site boundary (red line) and site features.

### Core activities:

- Dipwell monitoring.
- Species surveys.