



VALUING NATURE

Natural capital trade-offs in afforested peatlands

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Peatland ecosystem services

Carbon



Water



Fuel



Peatland Natural Capital

Biodiversity



Cultural



Provisioning



UK peatlands

- (Far) more carbon than all UK vegetation.
- Majority of UK's drinking water.
- Largest global area of blanket bog (probably).

UK peatlands and forestry



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UK peatlands and forestry



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UK peatlands and forestry

Desire for:

- Secure domestic timber supply
- Rural employment
- Gainful use of land viewed as unproductive.

Plus:

- Tax breaks made lucrative investment for the wealthy.

The future

- Second rotation forestry?
- Peatland restoration?
- Other options?
 - 'Peatland Edge Woodland'

Natural capital
considerations central in
these decisions!



This project

- Opportunities:
 - Timely.
 - No other assessment.
 - Stakeholder enthusiasm and engagement.
- Constraints:
 - Small project.
 - Limited time.
 - Short turnaround.

Key principles

- Co-production with stakeholders.
- IUCN commission of enquiry as a direct route to policy.
- Avoid replicating previous work.
- Focussed on key questions, not trying to do everything.

Plans

- First stage: identification of key questions.
- Second stage: prioritisation of questions.
- Third stage: evidence synthesis.
- Fourth stage: report preparation.
- Fifth stage: review and revision.

The output

- A report distributed directly to stakeholders.
 - Visually attractive.
 - Concise.
 - Structured around key questions.
 - Extensive use of diagrams to synthesise evidence.
- Direct input to IUCN commission of enquiry.