



NPWS

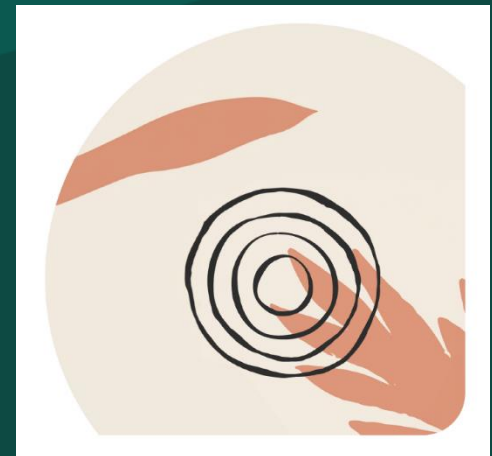
An tSeirbhís Páirceanna
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra
National Parks and Wildlife
Service

Acting for Nature in the Uplands

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A unique national asset



Peatlands, including uplands, occupy circa 20% of the land area in Ireland

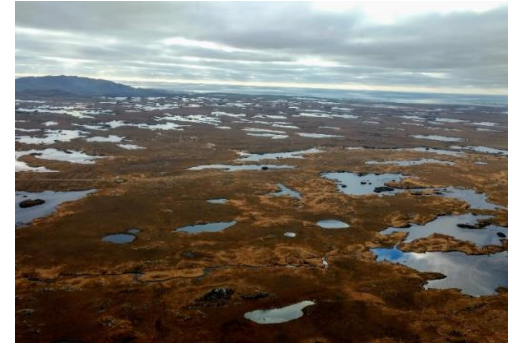
A long history of peat **extraction**, **drainage** and **conversion** for agriculture and forestry in Ireland

Poor condition – **EU Habitats Directive**

Peatland is a significant **carbon source** in Ireland – **6-10 million** tonnes CO₂e per year

Uplands provide ecosystem services

- Regulate **water** flows – water storage; flood alleviation
 - Filter **water** – contribute to water quality improvements
 - Sequester **carbon** and reduce GHG emissions
 - Unique habitats and species
 - Cultural significance
 - Recreational and tourism opportunities
 - Sustain people, **farmers** and livelihoods
- *But how do we confer a value on these ecosystems?*



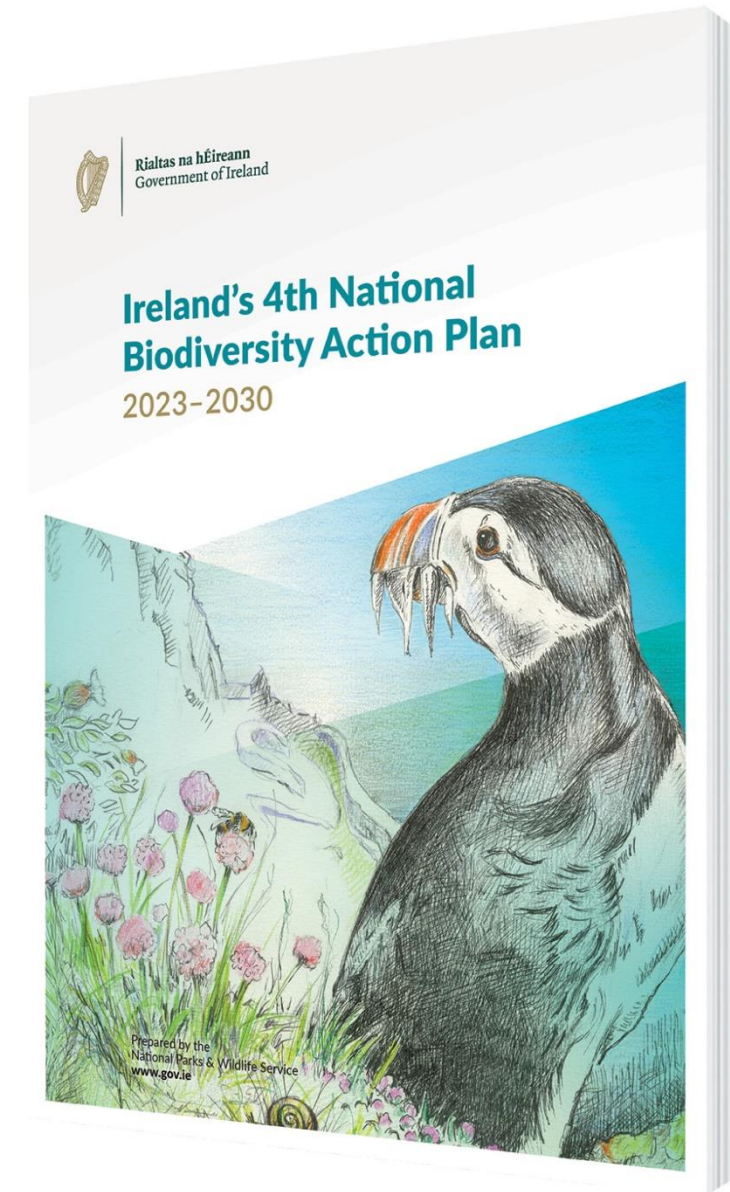
National Priorities

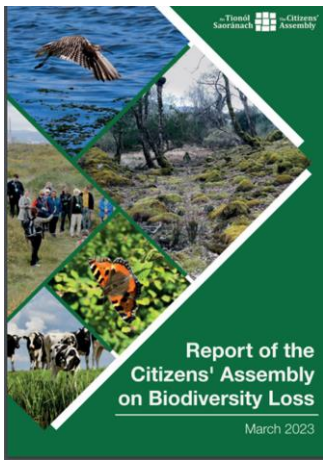


Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

194 Actions (for Nature) split in Plan into 5 themes

1. Increasing integration of biodiversity into governance;
2. Focusing action for conservation and restoration;
3. Recognising the value of nature, including to/for people;
4. Providing data for decision making;
5. Recognising the international role for conservation





Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss – March 2023 159 Recommendations



Children and Young People's Assembly on Biodiversity Loss – April 2023 58 Calls for Action



Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment and Climate Action
Report on the examination of recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly report on biodiversity loss

86 Recommendations



Ireland in 2050 – A Vision for Biodiversity

Biodiversity in Ireland is valued, conserved, restored and sustainably used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people