Maximising pay-back from peat restoration

Efforts to restore Yorkshire's vast peat bogs are getting a welcome boost from an iCASP project that is making it easier for practitioners to use modelling tools and economic valuation methods.

The Yorkshire Peat Partnership and Moors for the Future Partnership have been collaborating with the Universities of Leeds, Manchester and Durham to develop tools that people can use when they consider how to get the most value from restoring peatland even as the climate changes. The project team has produced a user-friendly interface for a digital modelling tool called DigiBog_Hydro which informs what peatland restoration activities can do to optimise ecosystem service delivery.

They have also developed a guide to help practitioners decide on the type of method that could be used to value the benefits of peatland restoration. This is illustrated with helpful case studies to show how different valuation methods can be used for different purposes. These tools can be used to support multi-million pound investments in peatland restoration and to strengthen the business case for more investment in such schemes.

Partners:
Durham University, Moors for the Future Partnership, University of Leeds, University of Manchester, Yorkshire Peat Partnership.

Duration:
February 2018 – January 2019