

The Great North Bog

Confluence
November 2023

Mars

Sphagnum magellanicum, Magellanic Bog-moss



*“In the core of the web, in the warp
and weft of a world made red you are
centreless, your stain is relentless – hold
my skin, as I step off the planet,
there are lights here that know no damage
there is scent here without its trapping,
a universe unwrapping.”*

Elizabeth Jane Burnett
Twelve Names for Moss

The mission

- To restore all the north of England's remaining degraded upland peatland over the next 20 years – faster if we can
- To fully functioning wetland ecosystems, providing benefits for nature, climate and people.



The problem

Peatlands damaged by:

- Decades of drainage
- 200 yrs of atmospheric pollution
- Inappropriate management

Leading to:

- Carbon loss (3.7mt pa) / reduced sequestration
- Increased flood risk, sediment load, watercolour
- Loss of biodiversity and grazing land



The solution



Old grip line

Peat dam

Grips are blocked using peat dams, which are simple, efficient and cost effective.



TOGETHER
FOR OUR
PLANET

England Peat Action Plan

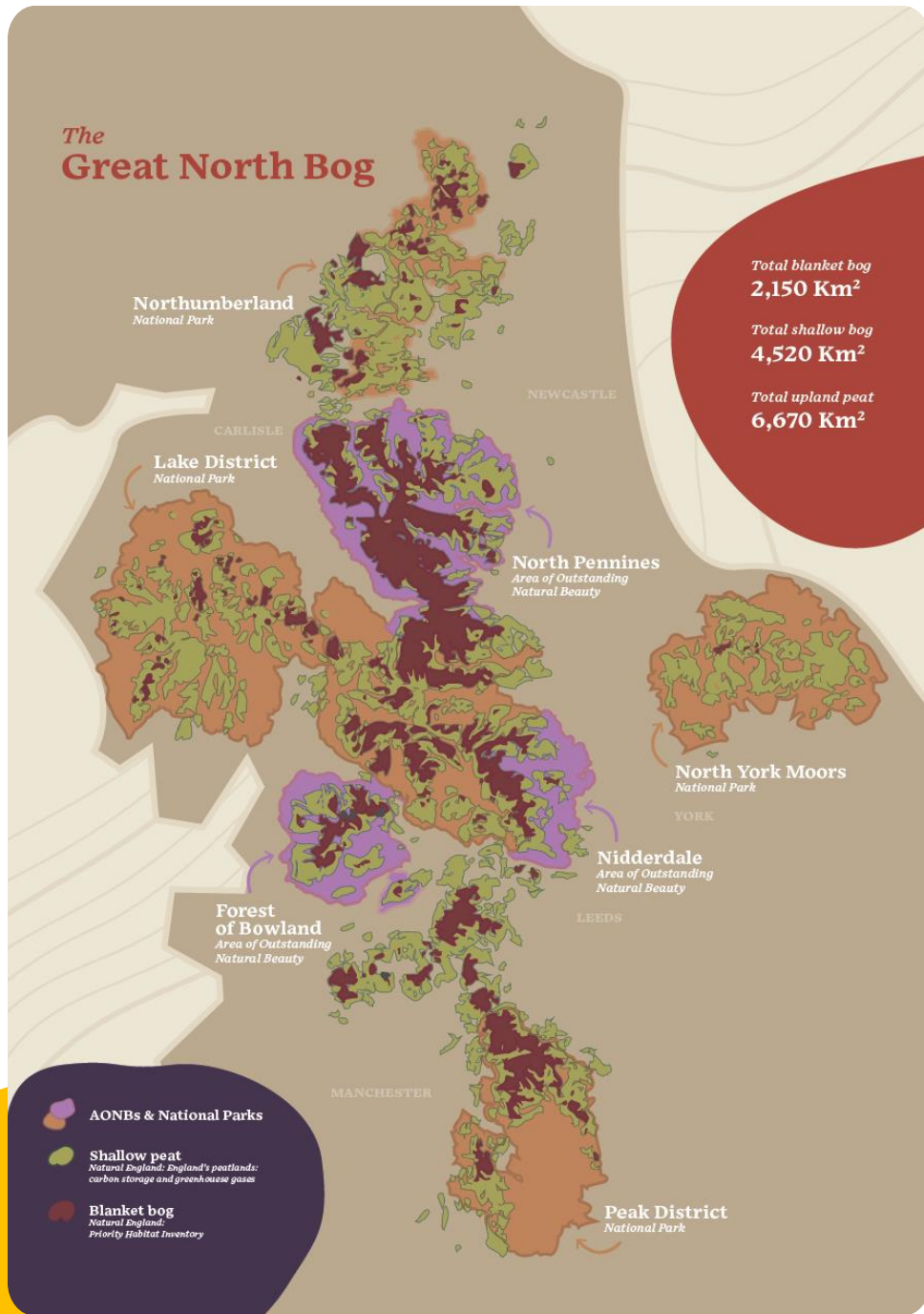
May 2021



Butterburn Flow. © Iain Diack



UK Government



Cooperation across the North....-

- GNB - coalition for nature, climate and people.
- Building on an outstanding track record where c130,000ha of peatlands have begun to be restored.
- Aligning the six peatland delivery partnerships - including teams from AONBs, National Parks and Wildlife Trusts
- Joined by the Government (Defra) and its agencies (Natural England and Environment Agency).
- Actively supported by the Water Companies and Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Nature North and Universities.
- Working with a wider partnership of private landowners/ managers, contractors, eNGO's, and corporate partners.

Working together on...

- Accelerating restoration
- Seeking long term finance – public and private sources needed, as well as landowner agreement
- Increasing public awareness & engagement
- Lobbying to support positive peatland policies i.e. horticultural peat ban/ ELM/ carbon regulation
- Working with academic partners - iCASP/ Waterlands – insight & innovation





“This coalition will enable us to do more than we could alone – with our ambition and urgency matching that which is required to restore and protect our peatlands.”

Sarah Johnson
Lancashire Wildlife Trust / LPP

Thank you

