

Action for Bogs

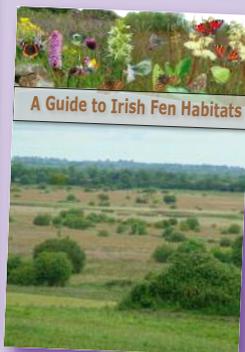
No. 23



Curlews in flight on Lodge Bog, Co. Kildare by Amy McCluskey



Bog and Fen Habitat Guides Now Available



IPCC have produced guides to Fen and Bog Habitats. These guides explain how these wonderful wetlands are formed and the typical plant and animal life that can be found in them. They are available to download at www.ipcc.ie or email us at bogs@ipcc.ie and we will send you a pdf version of each booklet. The IPCC has also produced a video guide to their newest blanket bog nature reserve - Coad Bog, Co. Kerry. This video is available on the IPCC's YouTube Channel.



Curlew Return to Lodge Bog

The Curlew survey supported by the Kildare Heritage Grant continued on Lodge Bog in 2016. IPCC were happy to see

the Curlew return to the bog in April. We are delighted to have spotted four birds this year, one more than last year. We hope that there are now two breeding pairs and that they will breed successfully in future.

National Peatlands Strategy Published

Following the advice of the Peatlands Council, The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht have published the National Peatlands Strategy, a document to guide peatland management across Ireland into the future. The plan outlines 25 Principles which must be adopted by all stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of our peatlands going forward and details 32 Actions which need to be undertaken to achieve the vision and values of the plan; responsible future management of all peatlands in Ireland.

Blanket Bog Survey



IPCC have initiated a campaign to highlight the pressures facing blanket bog habitat in Ireland. There is currently an alarming policy gap in relation to protecting a habitat of which Ireland supports 8% of the global area. Blanket bogs are a crucial ecosystem supporting flora and fauna that are found nowhere else in the world. Despite this they are under threat from a wide variety

of sources, including drainage, peat extraction, forestry, overgrazing, undergrazing, land reclamation, fire and more. As part of our advocacy campaign we are asking for your help. You can keep us up to date on any blanket bog habitat you visit whether it be for recreation or work as we start to compile records of the current condition and threats to our blanket bogs. We have a short survey that can be accessed through our homepage on www.ipcc.ie. Thanks for your help in conserving our blanket bogs.

IPCC's visit to the Bargerveen Nature Reserve in the Netherlands



In June IPCC's Education and Campaign Officers Nuala Madigan and Katie Geraghty travelled to the Netherlands to visit the Bargerveen Nature Reserve. The visit was supported by the Dutch Foundation for Conservation of Irish Bogs and the aim of the visit was to share knowledge about peatland restoration techniques, education and public awareness programmes. The trip was a huge success, the ladies were guided around Bargerveen and the larger International Naturpark Bourtanger Moor-Bargerveen by rangers from the Staatsbosbeheer. These workers described how they have restored water levels over an area of 900ha of the cutaway bog reserve by installing 55km of peat and boulder clay dams. Raising the water levels allows for the regeneration of *Sphagnum* moss. They observed how the dams have become species rich grassland habitat full of wildlife including many butterfly and dragonfly species. A very impressive 25,000 Common Blue butterflies have been recorded on the reserve! They learnt how the use of cattle and sheep grazing helps to maintain these grasslands. The ladies also visited the Veenpark Peat Museum to learn about the historical uses of peat in the Netherlands. They visited sites on the German side of the International Naturpark where they followed an educational peatland trail. They observed how the park has linked important ecological sites with cycle and walking routes making these areas a fantastic amenity for all. The IPCC gained a great deal of knowledge and inspiration from this trip and we hope to keep this Dutch-Irish connection alive into the future.



BioBlitz gets to the heart of Coad Bog, Co. Kerry

Here are some of the discoveries IPCC made

Thanks to all those who took part



Over 200 species of plant, bird and animal were recorded on Coad Bog



Expert Rory Hodd recorded a massive 69 species of moss and liverwort on Coad bog



Frogs were recorded on Coad Bog in damp and wet areas



13 different habitats were found on the 10 acre site. These included wet bog, grassland, rocky outcrop, bog ditch and stream. The stream was the most diverse containing 22 different species



4m depth of peat was recorded in Coad Bog. The bog formed directly on Old Red Sandstone rocky soil



4000 year old pine stumps are present throughout the bog, black because of burning in the past



The students of Caherdaniel National school enjoyed an educational visit to Coad bog



304 working hours were contributed to the BioBlitz from 28 different volunteers



The pH on Coad Bog ranged from 5.1 in a bog pool to 6.8 in the stream



Irish Peatland Conservation Council, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare, R51 V293



Water levels in Coad Bog ranged from 1.5cm to 75cm below the surface

A Love of Bogs Lasts Longer than a Lifetime



Giving in memory a tribute to someone you love

For a free copy of our guide to leaving a legacy, please call Catherine O'Connell on 045-860133, or write to IPCC, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare or e-mail a request to us at bogs@ipcc.ie



Irish Peatland Conservation Council

Volunteer for a brighter future



Photo: C. O'Connell

Join in with us

Find out how by contacting the IPCC today
Contact us today by calling 045-860133 or visit our website
www.ipcc.ie

Bog of Allen Nature Centre
In the heart of the bog and with bogs in our hearts

Open All Year to Visitors

Fáilte
from the Irish Peatland Conservation Council

- Bogland Exhibition
- Guided Tours
- Wildlife Gardens
- Family Nature Activities
- Insect-eating plants
- Nature Shop
- Refreshments
- Toilets
- Conference Centre
- Library
- Classroom
- Lullymore Biodiversity Trail Meeting Point
- Tourist Information Point
- Lodge Bog Nature Reserve
- Lullymore West Bog Nature Reserve

Individuals and Groups Welcome
www.ipcc.ie

nature nature **2010-2020** **BioBog** **BORD NA MÓNA** **Kildare County Council**

Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, Tel: 045-860133 Virtual Tour on www.ipcc.ie

Help Save Our Boglands JOIN IPCC NOW!



Photo: J. Kielesz

I would like to join as a Friend of the Bog (tick category)

- Single** €40
- Joint/Family/Teacher** €45
- Unwaged** €27

I enclose my cheque/postal order payable to IPCC, or, please debit my Debit Card/Visa/Mastercard account for €.....

Card number.....

Signature

Expiry date

Security Code (last 3 digits above signature panel)

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

.....

Tel: Date of Birth:

Post to: IPCC, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare