Environment Analysis - DEFRA

Britain's Bogs & Climate Change



- The UK possess 13% of the worlds blanket bogs.
- Blanket bogs contain a special community of plant species, the most important being Sphagnum moss.
- Sphagnum moss is essential for healthy bogs, without sphagnum, bogs will no longer 'grow' peat or sequester carbon.
- Sphagnum mosses rely on a cool wet climate to survive.
- Peatlands, including blanket bog, store carbon and are important for achieving net zero.
- Peatlands also have an important role in adapting to the effects of climate change by storing water, decreasing the risk of flooding.
- Human activities, including land use change has degraded 80% of our peatlands and climate change will likely add to these pressures.
- Understanding how Sphagnum moss might be affected by climate change will be important to guide how we reverse the decline of blanket bog as a nature based solution to climate change.