

Conservation and Restoration of Mire Habitats — Estonia's LIFE Mires Programme

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Estonia

Quality score: 80/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Estonia's 2015–2021 LIFE Mires programme restored natural water conditions on nearly 8,000 hectares of drained peatland by closing 317km of ditches and building about 2,500 dams, bringing back capercaillie, moor frogs and bog butterflies across six Natura 2000 sites.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	2/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	3/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	1/3
Governance, certification & transferability	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[Eestimaa Looduse Fond \(Estonian Fund for Nature\), European Commission LIFE Programme, Estonian Environmental Investment Centre](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[European Commission: Conserving and restoring mire habitats in Estonia](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[Estonian Fund for Nature — Soode taastamine \(Mire Restoration\) programme](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[CINEA: How LIFE is protecting Europe's degraded peatlands](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

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