



CANAPE winter newsletter - rain and diggers

Yesterday was World Wetlands Day, marking 49 years since the signing of the Ramsar Convention. This year the focus is on Wetlands and Biodiversity, with the tagline "Life thrives in wetlands." This is something that is important to remember, whilst the current mood is focused very much on CO2 storage, our wetlands are a haven for wildlife and act as a guard against the current biodiversity crises.

The winter so far has been relatively warm, but very wet. This has given us more than a few challenges. Working in wet soil is one thing, finding your previously too dry site suddenly a lake is quite another. Looking to the future, it seems likely that learning to deal with this will be part of adapting to our changing climate.



Breaking Ground at the Sphagnum Farm

After much anticipation, December saw the start of construction at Barver Moor. In an amazingly short space of time a flat area of grass has become the farm of the future. We are in the process of preparing an aerial video of the site.

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Chasing Fish in the Friesland Lakes

Lakes and rivers are inherently linked to their surrounding wetlands. In the Netherlands, in order to improve our understanding of these systems, VHL University of Applied Sciences has launched its fish tracking project at Lake de Leijan.

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The return of the 20 tonne excavator

Now the water temperature has dropped, we have returned to Hickling Broad to continue building our new wetland. This year we are also trialling new DNA testing technology to support the water quality monitoring around the construction site.

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Mapping the Broads Carbon store

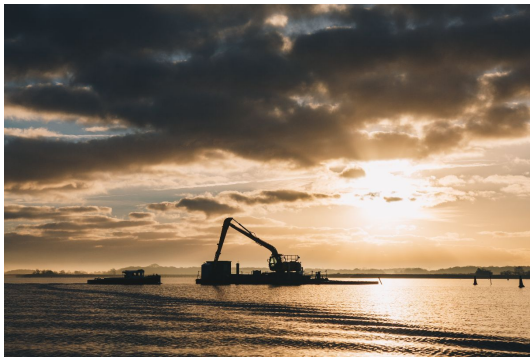
The Broads National Park holds a vast amount of Carbon in its peat soils. Understanding just how much carbon, and where it is being lost, is the subject of a research project funded through CANAPE. This project, with Queen Mary and Cranfield Universities, will provide a better estimate of carbon loss, sequestration and storage in the region.

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Coming up

The start of 2020 marks the mid-point of the CANAPE project. This year will be the transition from planning to delivery of many of our



sites, with 2 new paludi-farms, and a wave of construction at all our partner sites. Stay tuned.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. If you would like any further information about the project, please don't hesitate to contact harry.mach@broads-authority.gov.uk

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