

Our lakes

Zuidlaardermeer

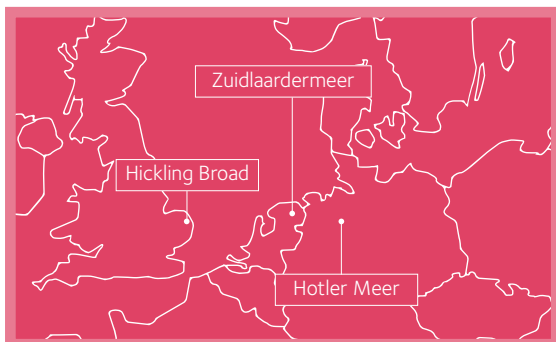
This is the largest lake in the Northern Netherlands. Mathematical modelling using PCLake shows that it needs more reedbed along its edges. CANAPE will create an extra 20ha of reedbed.

Holter Meer

This small lake in Lower Saxony, Germany, suffers from overloading with nutrients. CANAPE will model the water of the lake and work with farmers to improve the water quality.

Hickling Broad

This lake was formed by peat extraction in the middle ages. It is the largest lake in the Broads National Park. Poor water quality has led to the erosion of areas of reedbed along the lake edge. CANAPE will restore some of the lost reedbeds, using sediment dredged from the bed of the lake.



For CANAPE updates visit

www.northsearegion.eu/canape

The website has details of all our project sites and products, and you can sign up for the project newsletter to receive regular updates.

+44 (0)1603 756065

harry.mach@broads-authority.gov.uk

Broads Authority
Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road
Norwich NR1 1RY. UK

www.broads-authority.gov.uk



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€2.772.554 million of ERDF

Total project budget €5.545.105

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Interreg
North Sea Region
CANAPE
European Regional Development Fund



Creating A New Approach to Peatland Ecosystems



What is CANAPE?

CANAPE is a project to restore and improve wetland and lake ecosystems, in order to deliver economic benefits to local populations. Historically, these wetlands and lakes were treated as a resource to be exploited, without sufficient understanding of the value of their ecosystems.



Marsh Harrier©Terry Whittaker/2020 VISION



Chara Bay reedbed restoration scheme, Hickling Broad

To achieve the project aims we are:

- Restoring 90ha of wetland, including work at three lakes and four bogs, in order to recoup the benefits to the ecosystems, including saving 1,640 tons of CO₂ emissions per year.
- Improving the water quality of 3 lakes with a total surface area of 26km².
- Encouraging farmers and landowners to raise water levels in peatland areas in order to improve the overall catchment.
- Demonstrating alternative crops (paludiculture) that can be grown in rewetted soils and encouraging farmers to grow them.
- Convincing policymakers of the importance of supporting wetland agriculture and placing it on an equal footing with conventional agriculture.
- Engaging with the public through citizen science programmes to help people understand the value of wetlands.
- Working in partnership in five countries within 14 organisations.

What is paludiculture?

- Paludiculture, or wetland agriculture, is the growing of crops on wet soils.
- Traditional paludiculture includes reed and sedge harvesting to provide the material for thatched roofs.
- The CANAPE project is also developing demonstration sites for moss farming, charcoal creation, compost production and papermaking.
- With moss farming and compost production, the aim is to provide alternative products to the peat currently produced by draining and cutting bogs.
- The main benefit of paludiculture is that it allows landowners to generate income from their land, while protecting the carbon and water storage benefits of wet peatland.



Fen Harvester