Drainage channels are blocked by wooden dams and filled by soil/peat or other natural materials.

As a result, water table rises and water accumulation in mires is enhanced. Rewetting enables spontaneous return of wetland vegetation and re-establishment of a natural water regime. Active peat-forming processes are induced which encourages the return of rare species.

Restoration of open areas and wet meadows by mowing and tree felling will improve a mosaic of biotope necessary for black grouse.

Financial support of the project comes from the Community programme LIFE. LIFE is the EU financial instrument for the environment. It contributes to the implementation of the EU policy on conservation of natural habitats, endangered species and climate change adaptation.

Project LIFE for Mires is also considerably supported by Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic and Bayerischer Naturschutzfonds.

Described in detail:

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Restoration of open areas and wet meadows by mowing and tree felling will improve a mosaic of biotope necessary for black grouse (Tetrao tetrix) and other rare wetland species will be improved.

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Despite the fact that majority of people get water from the tap, all water originates in nature around us. If the landscape’s ability to retain water is reduced, water will become more and more precious.

Wetlands are extremely important for water as they are able to accumulate it in the landscape; they often slow down its runoff and clean it efficiently. Their role for water retention is indispensable.

In the past, lots of wetlands were drained for forestry and agricultural purposes in order to enhance land use. However, it turns out today that the water being previously a nuisance is now missing.

We encourage you to read more about our project which helps to bring water back to the landscape contributing thus to the correction of past mistakes.

The main project aim is the restoration of wetlands and landscape hydrology on both Czech and Bavarian side of Šumava, on the area covering more than 2000 ha. This is closely related to the improvement of the habitats of rare species that need wetlands and mires for their life.

In our endeavour to return water into the landscape we would like to cooperate both with locals and visitors of Šumava. The project is designed so that everyone can directly engage in the salvage of mires. We are also preparing an educational program and events for children and students in schools.

We would like the idea of returning water and wetlands into the landscape to spread further.