

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.

Straightened streams, directed into deep drainage channels in the past, are returned back to their natural courses. The flooding water from restored shallow streams can thus finally infiltrate into the adjacent areas.

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

WHAT IMPACTS DO WE EXPECT FROM THE RESTORATION AND WHAT ARE THE MAIN OUTPUTS?

- Restoration of mires and wetlands covering an area of 1 672 ha.
- Blockage of 80 km of drainage channels. The water table will return near to the natural pre-drainage level.
- Restoration of the Vlčí Jámy peat bog destroyed by industrial peat-cutting.
- Restoration of 13 km of regulated streams. Rapid outflow of surface water from the landscape will be reduced.
- Restored mires will contribute to the cooling of the landscape through evaporation; they will thus reduce negative impacts of extremely hot and dry periods.
- Mire habitats important for the endangered bird species of black grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*) and other rare wetland species will be improved.

OTHER OUTPUTS:

- Popular book "Water Lost and Returned";
- Complex educational program for pupils and students;
- Educational film about mires and their restoration;
- Voluntary activities for the rescue of disturbed mires

**Name of the project:** Transboundary restoration of mires for biodiversity and landscape hydrology in Šumava and Bavarian Forest

**Duration of the project:** 2018-2024  
**Coordinating Beneficiary:** Šumava National Park

**Project partners:** National Park Bavarian Forest, Bund Naturschutz in Bayern e.V., University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice



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.



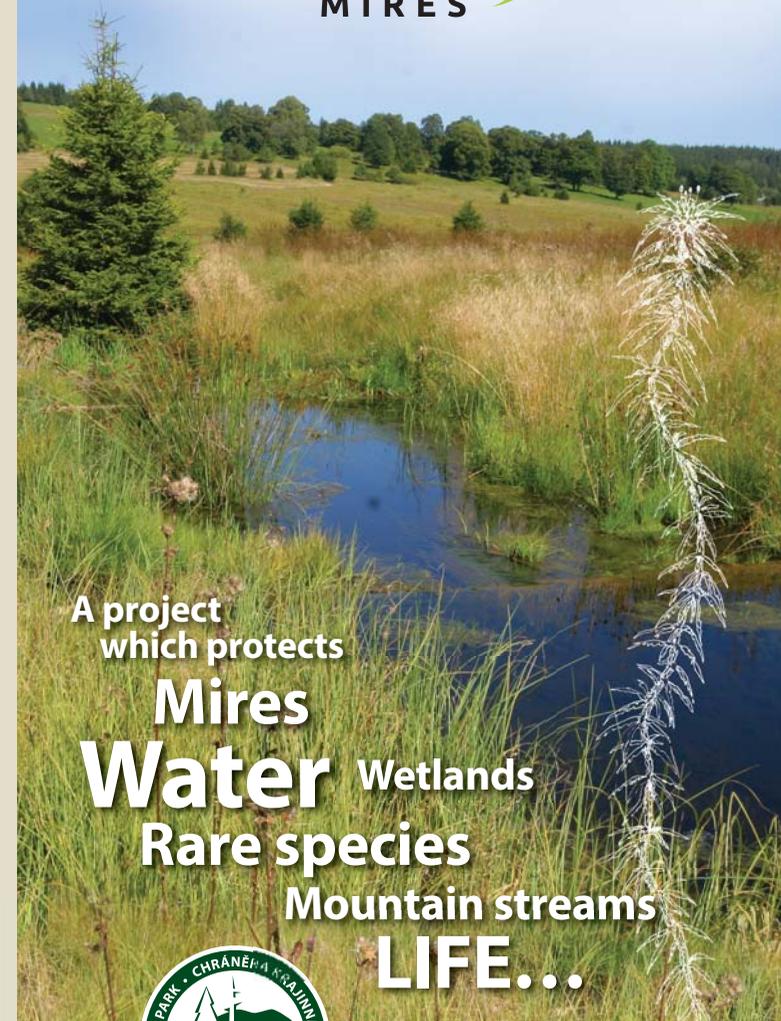
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LIFE FOR MIRES



A project which protects  
**Mires**  
**Water** Wetlands  
**Rare species**  
 Mountain streams  
**LIFE...**



## EVERYBODY NEEDS WATER

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.

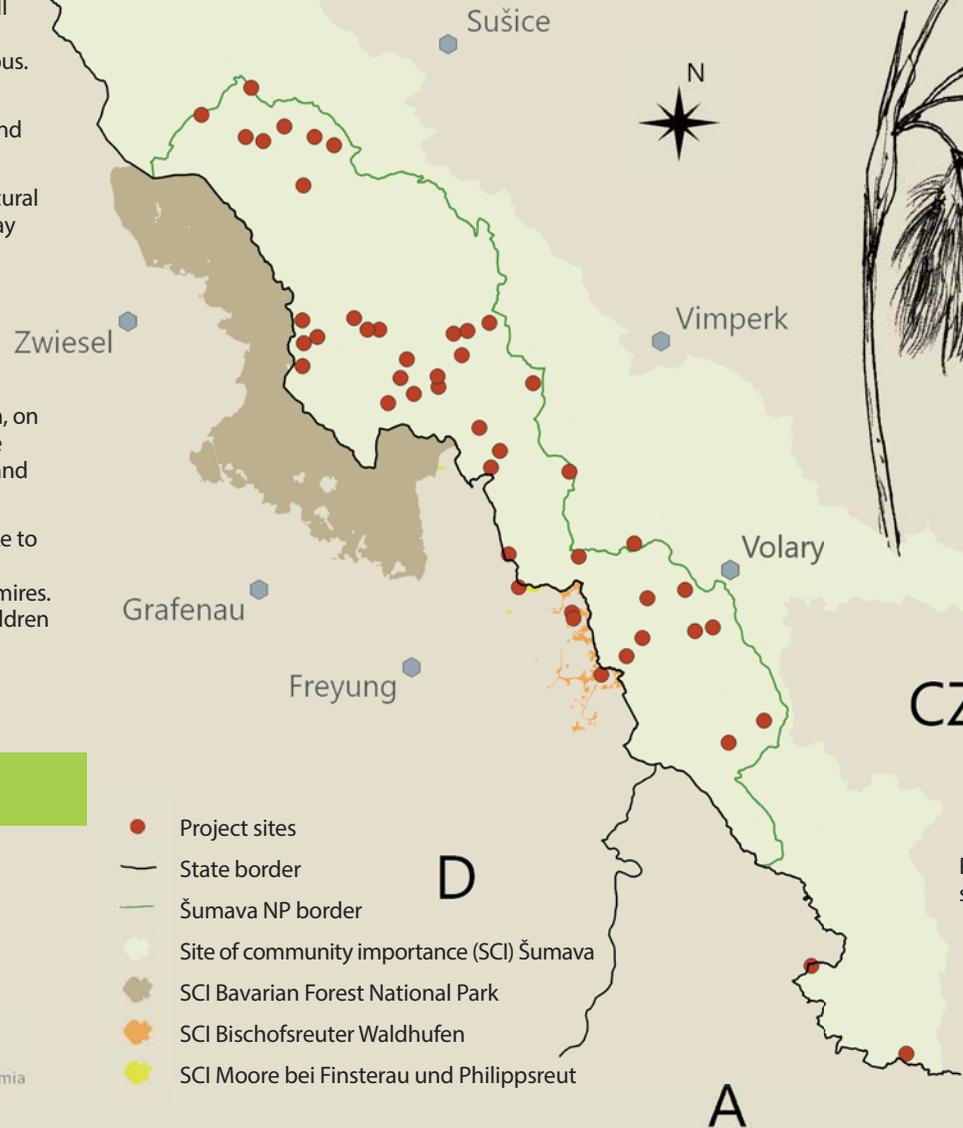
We encourage you to read more about our project which helps to bring water back to the landscape contributing thus to the correction of past mistakes.

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.

## PROJECT AREA



## HOW TO JOIN US?

**Do you want to know why it is important to restore the wetlands?**

Feel free to register for our public events.

**Are you a teacher?**

Are your students interested in what is happening with the water around us? Use our complex educational program.

**Do you want to join us in saving wetlands?**

Register as a volunteer for our event „People for mires“.

## OUR PARTNERS



NATIONALPARK  
Bayerischer Wald



BUND  
Naturschutz  
in Bayern e.V.



Jihočeská univerzita  
v Českých Budějovicích  
University of South Bohemia  
in České Budějovice

For further information and contacts see our official website:

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*Landscape without wetlands is landscape without water*