

# Reclamation experience in Germany

## Challenges and opportunities

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[International Peatland Society](#) - Commission Environment

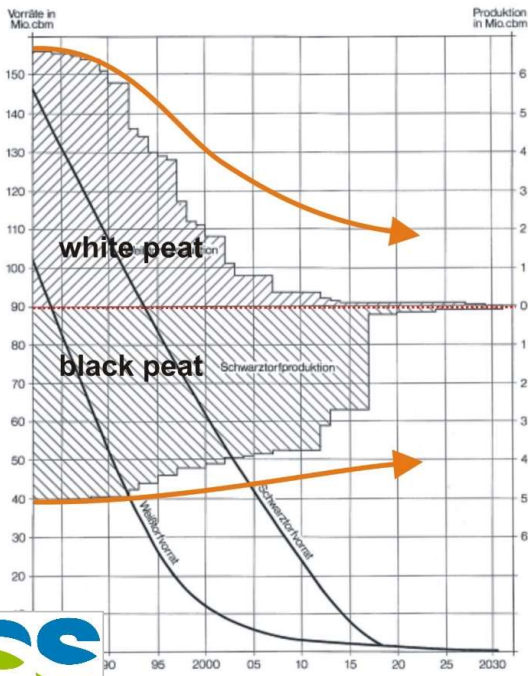
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Moor- und Torfkunde

NABU Klimafond

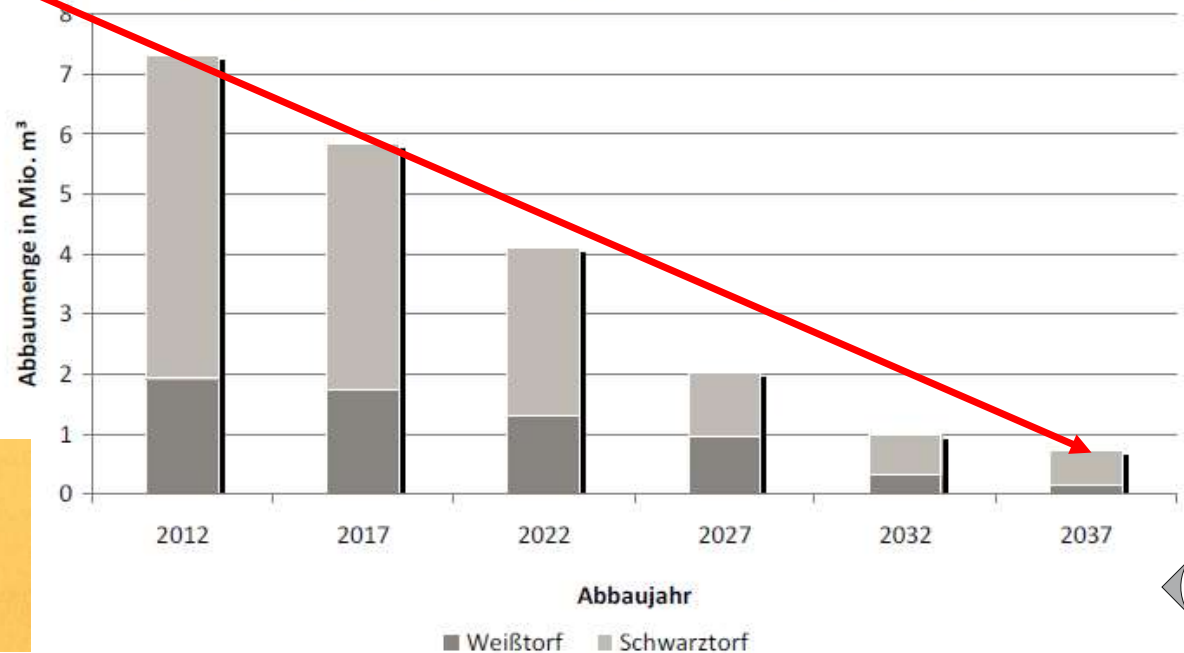


## Development of peat extraction volume in Germany

1982	1995	2011	2017-19	2024
11 692 000 m <sup>3</sup>	9 893 000 m <sup>3</sup>	7 000 000 m <sup>3</sup>	4 180 000 m <sup>3</sup>	ca. 2 000 000 m <sup>3</sup>

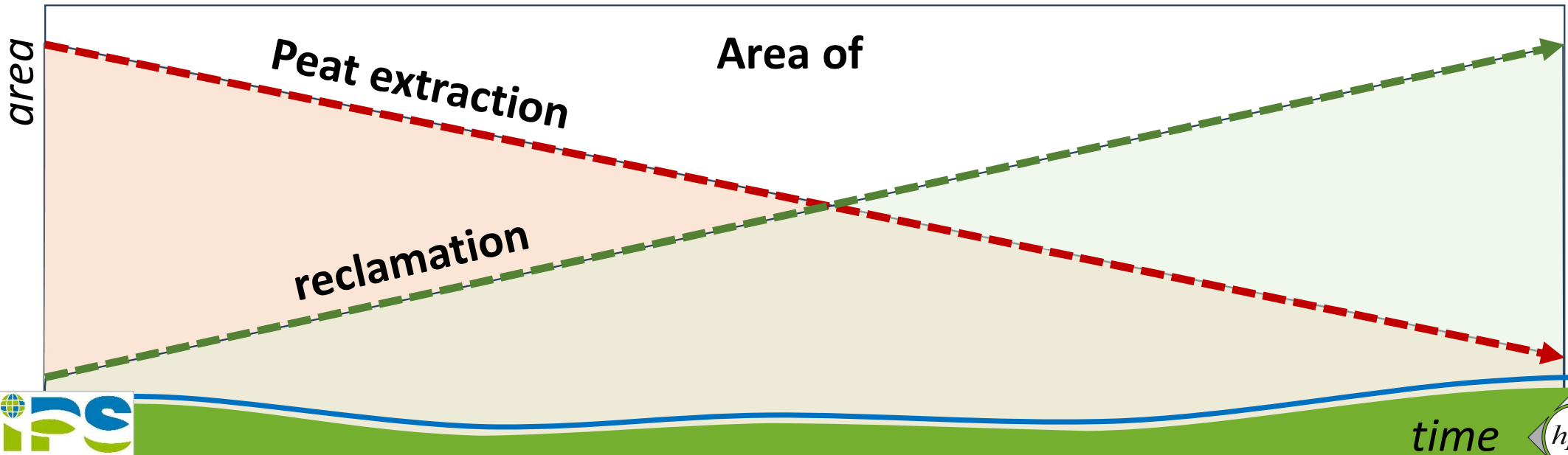


## Abbaumenge in Mio. m<sup>3</sup> in Niedersachsen



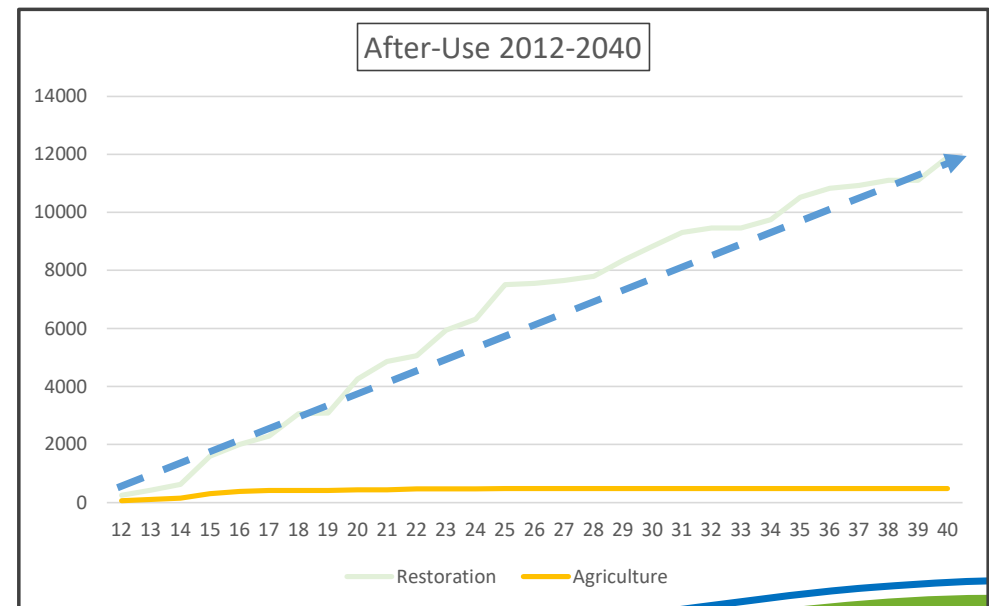
## Development of peat extraction area in Germany

1994	1997	2011	2018	2024
26 000 ha	21 513 ha	11 500 ha	9 000 ha	5 000 ha
Moorschutzprogramm 1994	Umweltmonitoring Nds 1997	IVG 2012	IVG 2020	IVG 2020



## Development of after-use in Germany

- Until the 1980s, the after-use following peat extraction was largely plowing for intensive agricultural use.
- Forestry was only permitted in exceptional cases as trial areas.
- When the moor protection program came into force, the after-use was oriented towards rewetting and moor restoration.
- Agricultural use was only licensed as extensive wet grassland use on peat.



## Practical advice on optimal rewetting of peat extraction sites

**NfB**

Niedersächsisches  
Landesamt für  
Bodenforschung



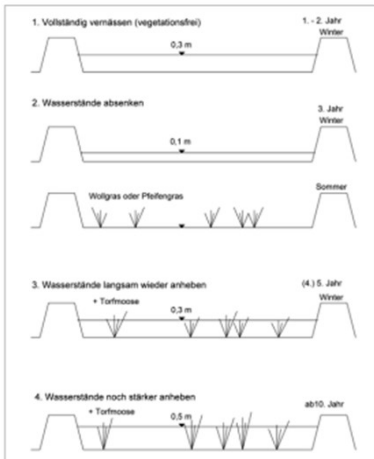
### Geofakten 14

Praktische Hinweise zur optimalen Wiedervernässung von Torfabbauflächen

Blankenburg, J.<sup>1)</sup>

■ Boden

September 2004



AG Geologie / Geologische Kartieranleitung / Geogenetische Begriffsdefinitionen / Anthropogene Bildungen / Meliorativ veränderte Gesteine / Dislozierte Torfe / Tiefumbruch aus Torf



Abb. 347-02: Anlage der Sandmischkultur mit Raupenfahrzeugen (DTK 25 Blatt 3309 Meppen), Foto: W. SCHÄFER 1986

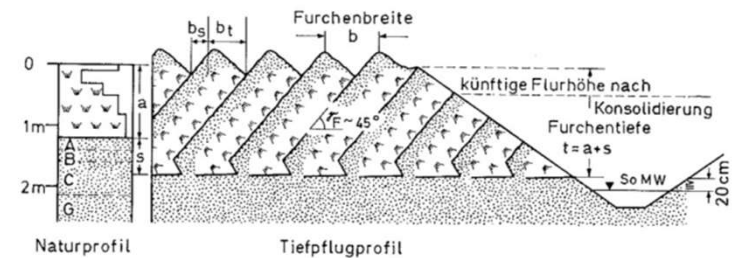
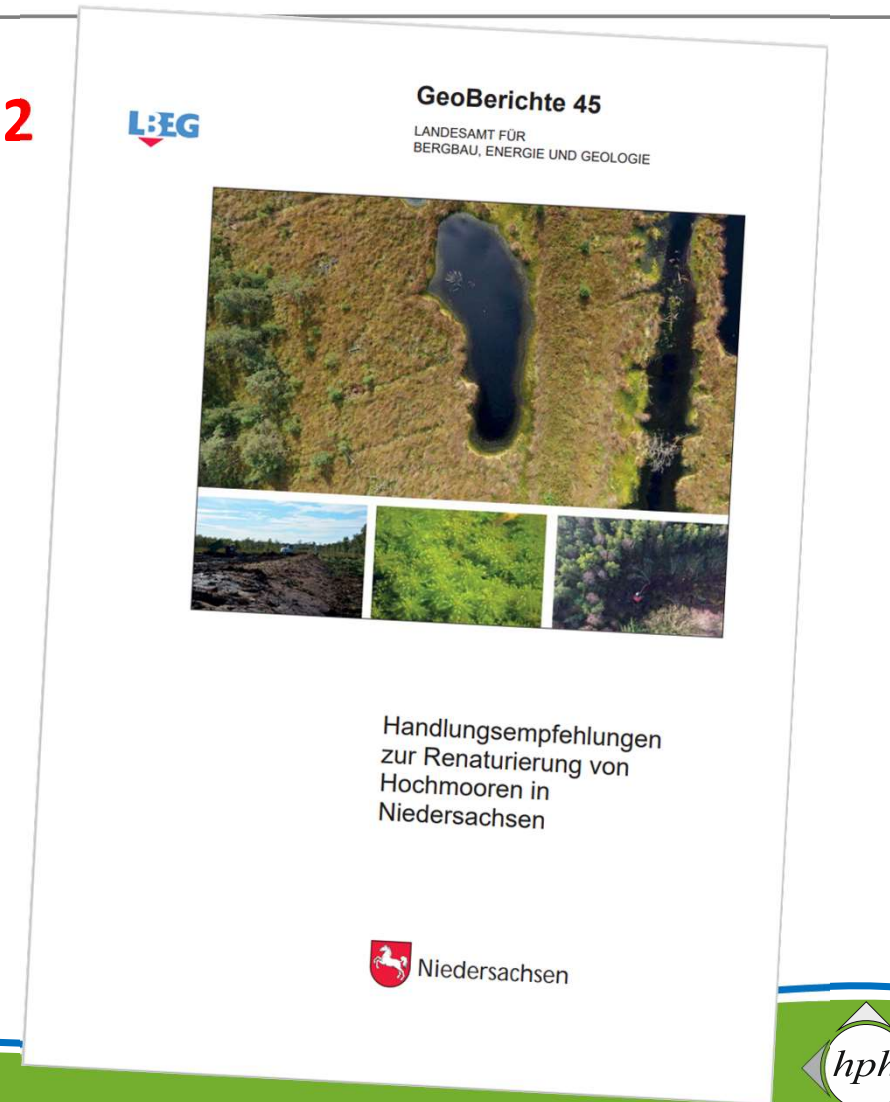


Abb. 347-03: Schema eines Natur- und Tiefflugprofils im Hochmoor mit der erforderlichen Entwässerungstiefe (EGGELSMANN 1981)

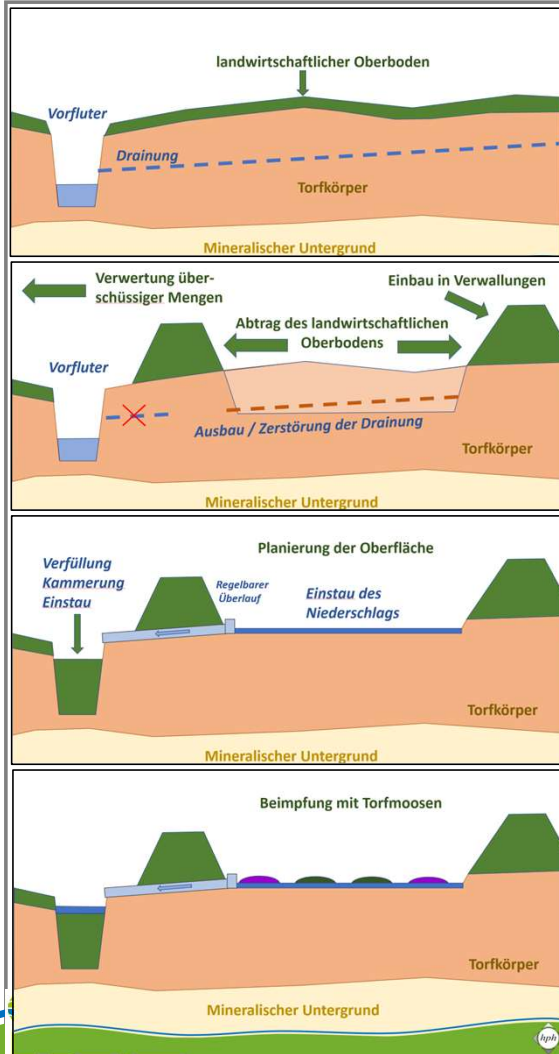
## Guidelines for action for the restoration **2022**

1. Introduction
2. Hydrological core processes of raised bogs
3. **Assessment framework for the success of rewetting measures**
4. Technical measures
5. Restoration of industrial peat extraction sites
6. **Restoration of agriculturally used peatlands**
7. Restoration of forest bogs with inclusion of the catchment area
8. Restoration of unused near-natural and degraded areas
9. Permanent maintenance measures
10. **Active reintroduction of the typical raised bog vegetation**



## Assessment framework for the success of rewetting measures

Factors of water retention	Minimum	...	Maximum	Points	Residual peat layer (covering the whole area)	
					< 100 cm Black peat or other peat	> 100 cm Black peat H7-H10
Soil type/grain size of the mineral subsoil	Gravel sand	...	Clay	0 - 20		90
Groundwater level in the mineral subsoil in summer	deep (under peat base)	...	towards raised bog base	0 - 10		
Stagnant layer below the peat base	not existing or disturbed	...	vorhanden intakt	0 - 20		
Quality of the remaining peat layer	Fens peat Friable peat White peat	...	Black peat H7 – H10	0 - 20		
Thickness of the remaining peat layer covering the entire area	< 40 cm	...	> 80 cm	0 - 20		
Climatic water balance in the summer season	Extremely high to high deficit	...	High to extremely high surplus	- 25 bis 25		
				Sum		



## Restoration of agriculturally used peatlands

- Removal of agricultural topsoil
- Construction of the dams from the uppermost horizon
- Use of the remaining removal in the growing media industry
- This conserves resources of renewable raw materials and peat imports.



### NABU-Klimafonds sichert 3.200 Hektar Moorfläche

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**NABU und REWE ziehen erste Erfolgsbilanz / Bis Ende des Jahres 12 Millionen Euro in die Renaturierungsprojekte investiert**  
 Um die deutschen Klimaziele zu erreichen, gilt es, degradierte landwirtschaftlich genutzte Moorböden wiederzuvernässen. Doch die Wiederherstellung der Moore kommt in Deutschland derzeit nur langsam voran. Deshalb hat der NABU gemeinsam mit seinem Kooperationspartner REWE bereits im Jahr 2022 den NABU-Klimafonds gegründet. Mit Investitionen von mindestens 25 Millionen Euro werden naturbasierte Klimaschutzprojekte vorangebracht.





## Active reintroduction of the typical raised bog vegetation

- Very promising experiences and measured values from the OptiMoor project (2017-2021)
- Establishment of peat-accumulating raised bog vegetation after 2 years
- Use of the remaining removal in the growing media industry
- This conserves resources of renewable raw materials and peat imports.



Danke schön!

