

The IPS is an organisation of corporate and individual members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat. It promotes the gathering, exchange and communication of knowledge and experience. The Society serves all those interested in peat and peatlands including the scientific, industrial and commercial, and regulatory communities. It respects the economic, social and environmental values of the peatland resource. Currently the IPS has more than 1,500 individual and institutional members from 44 countries.

## IPS Executive Meetings in Brussels

The Executive Board of the IPS will hold its next regular meeting in Brussels during **11 - 13 November 2014**. On the agenda are future conferences, finance, publications and the structure of the IPS, the EU No Net Loss initiative, a Wise Use cooperation proposal, outcomes of the recent Ramsar preparatory meetings in Gland and Kufstein, the IUCN peatland conference in Inverness and many other activities. We will keep you informed.

## IPS Annual Meetings 2015 in Tullamore, Ireland

Most important meetings of the IPS next year will be held in association with a "Colloquy on The Peatland Experience" in Tullamore, Ireland from **7 - 12 June 2015**. The Colloquy will begin with The Irish Experience, a day-long journey around all aspects of peatlands and their uses, providing a hands-on experience relevant to the subjects that will be covered during the Colloquy. This first day will be essential for all attending, as it will set the scene for the following days as well as being a comprehensive and fun-filled journey through the peatlands and communities of the midlands. The Colloquy will be opened by two contrasting inspirational keynote speakers. Other days will offer:

- Master-classes, sessions designed to impart relevant knowledge and skills from experts to participants;
- Interactive poster sessions at which the authors of some 30+ posters will each make a five-minute presentation followed by questions and discussion; and
- 'Fireside chats' which will combine discussion of different perspectives on peatland issues with enjoyable social occasions.

A Mistress/Master of Ceremonies (MC) will co-ordinate and motivate the Colloquy. Keynote speakers, poster presenters and mentors of Master-classes and fireside chats will be asked to be present for the whole Colloquy. The purpose of the Colloquy is to communicate experience and convey instruction and learning to everybody participating. This will be a unique opportunity to consider new perspectives, develop new skills and enjoy the rich peatland fabric of the Irish midlands. Mark the dates and stay updated at [www.peatsociety.org/tullamore2015](http://www.peatsociety.org/tullamore2015).

## Call for Articles and Ads: Peatlands International 4.2014

IPS is finishing the first year in its history with four magazines in a year. You are invited to contribute: send an article on your work, your interests, recent developments in your country, company or institute, future events or similar matters to the IPS Secretariat by **17 November 2014**. We are also looking for additional advertisers that support the magazine financially. Texts should be written in Arial 10, and pictures provided separately with captions and the names of the copyright holders. For more information and to download the latest issue (Pi 3.2014 published on 10 October), go to [www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international](http://www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international).

## International Peat Journal 1-12 at IPS Intranet

The International Peat Journals Vol. 1-12 have now been uploaded onto the document database at the IPS website. In addition, most of them can still be ordered in print from the IPS Secretariat for € 16 including mailing costs. The International Peat Journal was published by the IPS from 1986 to 2004. These journals contain scientific papers, short communications, and review articles about peat and peatland research and have been widely cited. To enter the IPS intranet, please log in at the left upper corner of [www.peatsociety.org](http://www.peatsociety.org). If you have lost your password, type your

email address to the “lost my password” sheet: [www.peatsociety.org/user/password](http://www.peatsociety.org/user/password). Each IPS member has his or her member profile and personal intranet access. A list of all IPS publications that can still be ordered in print can be seen at [www.peatsociety.org/publicationsm](http://www.peatsociety.org/publicationsm), please order by email to ips (at) peatsociety.org and we send you an invoice.

## Autumn Meeting and Seminar of the Finnish Peatland Society

Suoseura, the Finnish Peatland Society, will hold its 65th Anniversary Seminar and Autumn General Assembly in Helsinki at the House of Science and Letters on **26 November 2014**. The formal Assembly will begin at 12:00 hrs and the jubilee seminar at 13:00 hrs. The programme will concentrate on presentations of future experts: young scientists and professionals are asked to speak about or present posters on their recent research work. This can be in Finnish and/or English. Proposals can be sent until **7 November** to Leila Korpela, leila.korpela (at) metla.fi. To attend the seminar, please register by **20 November** by writing an email to Jenni Simkin, jenni.simkin (at) gmail.com. For more information and additional events see [www.suoseura.fi](http://www.suoseura.fi).

## IPCC Finalizes Synthesis Report on Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its Synthesis Report on Climate Change on Sunday, **2 November**. The Report distills and integrates the findings of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report produced by over 800 scientists and released over the past 13 months and is, according to IPCC, the most comprehensive assessment of climate change ever undertaken. The concluding instalment of the Fifth Assessment Report states that “human influence on the climate system is clear and growing, with impacts observed on all continents. If left unchecked, climate change will increase the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems. However, options are available to adapt to climate change and implementing stringent mitigations activities can ensure that the impacts of climate change remain within a manageable range, creating a brighter and more sustainable future.” The Synthesis Report confirms that climate change is being registered around the world and warming of the climate system is unequivocal. Since the 1950s many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia. The report expresses with greater certainty than in previous assessments the fact that emissions of greenhouse gases and other anthropogenic drivers have been the dominant cause of observed warming since the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. For more information and to download the complete report, see [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch). (IPCC Press Release)

## International Wetland Meeting 2015 in Rhode Island, US

Wetland scientists from around the world will gather in Rhode Island next year to examine the relationship between wetlands and global climate. The 2015 International Meeting of the Society of Wetland Scientists will be held during **31 May - 4 June 2014** at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, R.I., United States. During the meeting, scientists will examine the role wetlands play in the global carbon cycle, the effects of climate change on wetlands, and the adaptation services wetlands can provide. Leading researchers from around the world will present research findings that represent the most current understanding of how wetlands function in the context of climate change. Meeting organizers are currently seeking symposia presentations that reflect the meeting theme, “Changing Climate, Changing Wetlands,” and the interdisciplinary nature of the meeting. A number of field trips, both coastal and inland, will be offered. To learn more about the annual meeting, visit the event website. Since 1980, the Society of Wetland Scientists has maintained a thorough focus on its primary mission – to promote understanding, scientifically based management and sustainable use of wetlands. SWS is committed to providing meaningful resources that promote wetland education, conservation and restoration on a global level. For additional information, please visit [www.swsannualmeeting.org](http://www.swsannualmeeting.org). (SWS press release)

## Peat Production Statistics from Lithuania

According to preliminary data from the Lithuanian Peat Producers Association, the season of 2014 was successful even though the amount of peat extracted was slightly less than in the previous year, i.e. 2.5 million m<sup>3</sup>. August was the rainiest month so far reaching almost 120 mm, which is twice as high as the previous year. A new task for the Lithuanian peat producers is to achieve a use of energy peat in the country of at least 1 TWh per year. June 2014 was marked by an international seminar in Aukstumale, which was the first Lithuanian bog described in a scientific monograph. The event was held under the EU financial instrument LIFE+. (Giedrius Kavaliauskas) More details on the production season 2014 will be available in Peat News 11/2014.