

## Natural England (formerly English Nature)

### Duddon Moss / Little White Moss / Tysons Field

Design: English Nature / Duncan Ross Ltd

#### Project Brief:

Design and construction of various drainage modifications and earthworks to facilitate restoration of mosses, peat lands and natural habitats to Special Area of Conservation sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.



#### Project Overview

Duncan Ross Ltd worked with English Nature on the Peatlands for People Project, an initiative with the congruent aims of restoring some of the most important Mosses in Cumbria and raising local awareness of these special places.

The objective of our works was to restore these various peat lands and raised mire areas, which had been subject to decades of deterioration and drying out as a consequence of extensive peat workings and intensively drained intervening areas, which had resulted in the water table falling significantly below mire surfaces.

These environs were classified as extremely sensitive to interference and hence our methods of access, working methods and equipment choice were primary factors in project success.

Following detailed surveys of the drained areas and the Moss margins by Hydrologists, the following works were undertaken in order to reverse the deleterious processes that were resulting from the gradual drying out:

- Tree removal and scrub clearance.
- Earthworks and soil/peat redistribution in order to reprofile margin lands and mitigate the effects of level differences between the moss lands and surrounding fields.
- Investigation of existing drainage provisions with subsequent disruption and blockage to discontinue their operation.
- Construction of peat bunds to intercept surface water flows.
- Installation of recycled plastic piled dams and construction of peat dams to block surface water ditches and cuttings