

Thorne and Hatfield Moors Oral History Project

Interview with: Kevin Bull (part 2)

Date: 17 October 2006

Interviewer: Lynne Fox

Summary

Kevin Bull is the Site Manager for Thorne & Hatfield Moors. He is employed by Natural England. He was interviewed as English Nature became part of the new organisation 'Natural England'.

How he came to be involved with his current job. Early work for English Nature
English Nature and the conservation of the Moors from 1970s to date – including 2002 buy-out
Impact of surface milling
Details of current restoration programme – working with a peat bog, the practicalities on the ground
Amount of work and size of workforce (8300 acres of land and 5 employed staff)
Working with others – contractors, relationship with local farmers, volunteers
Working with Scotts UK on restoration – value of Scotts employees' expertise & knowledge
End of the contract with Scotts – possibilities for the future relationship
His view and description of the Moors prior to large-scale peat extraction
Description of current Moors – mixed habitats
Plans for restoration – his aim and vision
Drawing on experience of other sites in Europe – Hatfield & Thorne Moors restoration as pioneer –
one of largest restoration programmes in Europe
Progress of restoration of site – success to date
Why the bogs exist in an area of low rainfall – problems of modern water management in the area
The peat as a record of historic climate change
Confirmation of the status of the site in terms of protection, designations etc.