

“Climate protection and the preservation of biodiversity are the greatest challenges facing society. The PSC can significantly support these goals by assessing and optimizing the ecosystem functions of peatlands.”

Prof. Dr. Matthias Drösler



### Knowledge Transfer

e.g. Peat Talks – Weihestephaner Moorgespräche (The complete programme can be found on the website)

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If you would like to be informed about activities and events of the PSC, please send an e-mail to [psc@hswt.de](mailto:psc@hswt.de) with a request to be added to the mailing list.

### Head

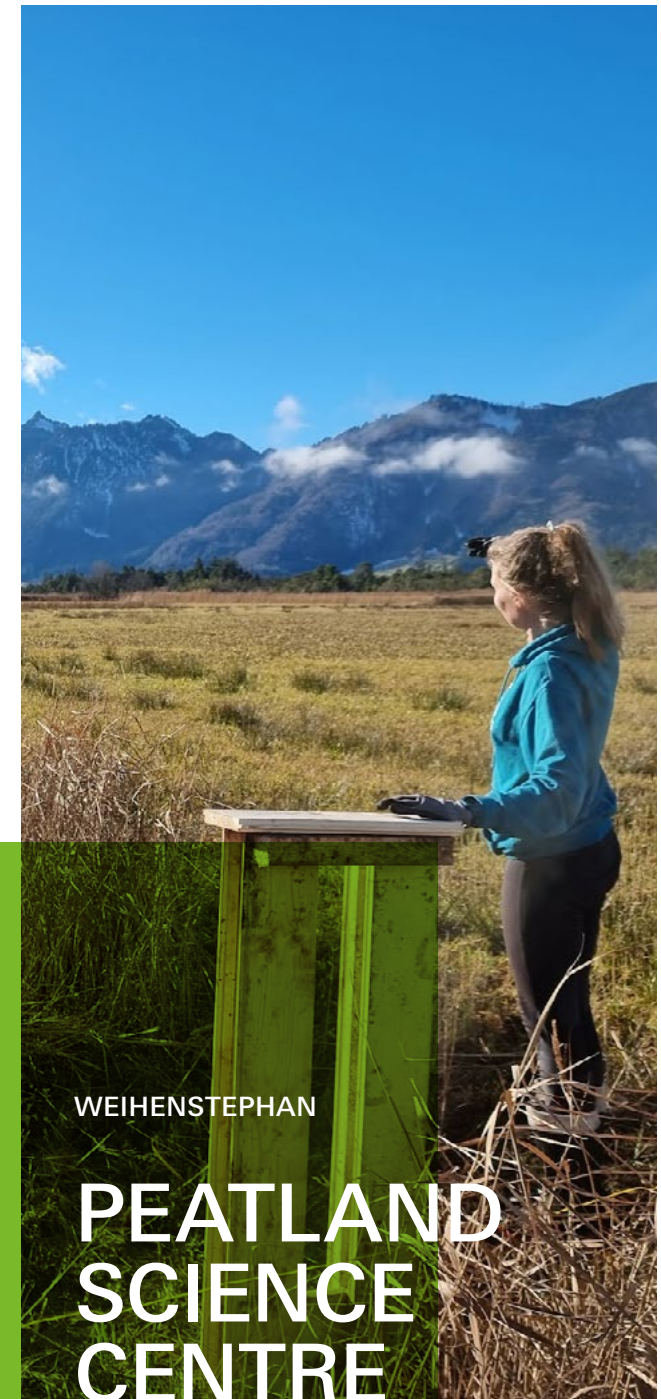
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## BACKGROUND

In Bavaria, there are approximately 220,000 hectares of peatland soils. These areas are largely drained and emit approx. 6.7 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents per year. This corresponds to approx. 8 % of Bavaria's total greenhouse gas emissions.

The Peatland Science Centre (PSC) Weißenstephan received financial support in 2022 for its start-up phase from state funding provided by the governing parliamentary groups within the Committee on Science and the Arts in the Bavarian State Parliament. The PSC has been developed from the Professorship for Vegetation Ecology at HSWT and the HTA Professorship for Climate Change and Peatland Ecosystems. The PSC aims to significantly enhance the scientific foundation for peatland development in southern Germany and on an international scale while also offering regional solutions.



Peatland  
Science  
Centre



## TASKS OF THE PSC

- Survey, model, and scale the climate resilience of current and prospective land-use systems on peatland soils.
- Survey, model, and scale the water balance of peatlands and further advance water management systems.
- Survey, protect, and develop peatland biodiversity.
- Develop urgently needed innovative and practical solutions for climate protection in peatlands.
- Support the establishment of value chains for products from wet peatland management (paludiculture).
- Develop CO<sub>2</sub> certificates for the voluntary and official market.
- Establish a variety of formats for application-oriented science communication addressing policy-makers and specialised publics.
- Expand peatland-related teaching at HSWT to educate future peatland managers.

## OBJECTIVES

- Further research and the exploration of central questions concerning the climate effectiveness of peatlands, their protection and utilisation strategies – regionally, nationally and internationally.
- Contribute to the process of achieving climate neutrality in Bavaria and globally, in synergy with other resources such as biodiversity, water balance, and productivity.
- Ensure the continuity of the institution and preservation of the peatland research station in Freisinger Moos and the ICOS measuring sites in Schechenfilz and Mooseurach. Peatland protection is an enduring responsibility, both in the realm of science and in practical implementation.

