

## Peatlands of Franche-Comté

The programme Life "Tourbière de France" is at the origin of a lot of regional actions. Espace Naturel Comtois (Natural space of Franche-Comté) have conducted an important inventory programme of peatland in Franche-Comté with the support of a wide range of organisations (regional, national and European). This programme ended in 1998 and 361 peatlands for a surface of 2800 Ha is now recorded (0,17 % of the area of Franche-Comté). Two poles of distribution are identified corresponding essentially to the two mountains of the region: the Vosges (which a part is in Franche-Comté) and the Jura:

	peatlands of Vosges	peatlands of Jura
two groups of different dimensions		
Surface	245 ha	2560 ha
Number	108	253
	from 0,02 to 36 ha with an average value of 2,3 ha	from 0,02 to 221 ha with an average value of 10 ha
a wide range of peatlands		
geological context	Siliceous rocks	calcareous rock
water alimentation	slope sheet, stagnant sheet, pond, lake, precipitation	Stagnant sheet, pond, lake, precipitation
acidity degree	bog	Fen, transition bog, bog
great patrimonial stakes specific to each group		
flora	14 peatlands specific plants 16 protected species	22 peatlands specific plants 45 protected species
fauna	wood grouse, dragonflies	dragonflies, butterflies, birds, reptiles
habitats	7 habitats of European interest (2 priority)	12 habitats of European interest (2 priority)
threatened and graduated peatlands		
graduation	ponds creation, drainage, peat extraction, forest exploitation	Drainage, ponds creation, peat extraction, forest exploitation
threats	ponds creation forest exploitation	drainage ponds creation

Peatlands are very much a part of a diverse countryside in Franche-Comté. They provide valuable habitat for very rare and scarce plants (i.e. *Saxifraga hirculus* and *Utricularia ochroleuca*) and invertebrates (i.e. *Leucorrhinia albifrons* and *Boloria aquilonaris*). Their conservation is a priority and a new programme of action is now beginning: the Franche-Comté Peatlands Regional Programme of Action (Programme Régional d'Action en faveur des Tourbières de Franche-Comté). The aim of this programme is to ensure durable protection of the 59 sites that have priority in Franche-Comté. In 2002, 4 sites have been selected for a surface of 100 ha. The restoration and management programme is now working.