



# INTERNATIONAL TALLINN 2020 PEATLAND CONGRESS

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Alexela Concert Hall, Tallinn, Estonia

## **MANAGED PEATLANDS AS NOVEL ECOSYSTEMS**

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The „novel ecosystem“ approach has been developed primarily to address the effect of invasive species or climate change on biodiversity and ecological functioning. „Novel“ ecosystems result as a consequence of human activity but don't need ongoing human intervention to maintain the novel state.

I argue that understanding managed peatlands as novel ecosystems is essential to a proper investigation of their ecological and biogeochemical functioning and, thus, their management.

This argument will be based on results of recent research projects in managed temperate peatlands focussing on, inter alia, short-, and long-term vegetation development, GHG emissions and microbial community development.