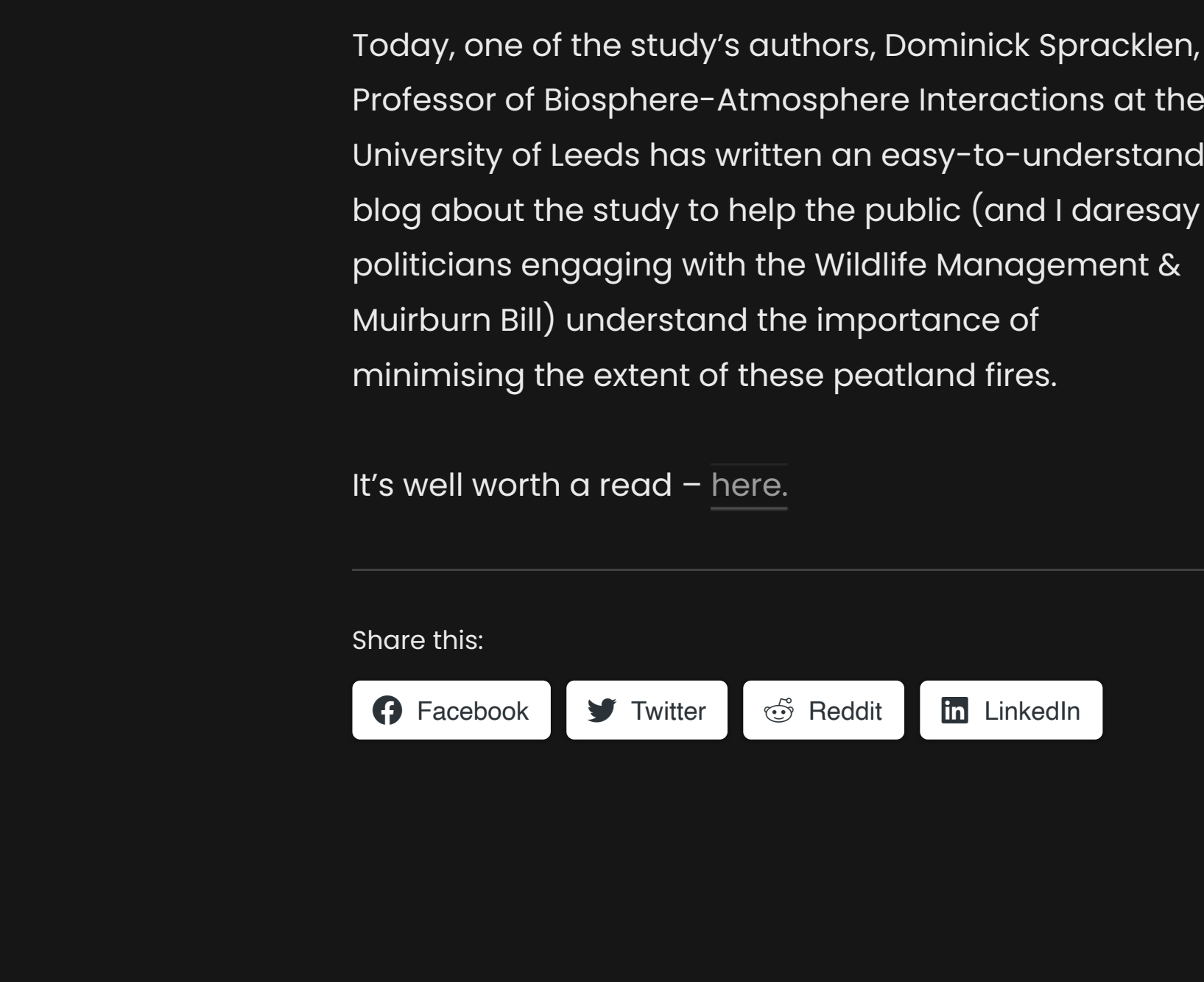


Raptor Persecution UK

Extent of burning on Scottish peatlands, including many grouse moors, is why regulation is needed urgently

RaptorPersecutionUK
 January 23, 2024
 News
 scottish parliament

Just before Christmas a new scientific paper was published by experts from Leeds University, revealing that burning on deep peat is widespread on many Scottish grouse moors, and that, surprise surprise, land managers were ignoring the new (voluntary) Muirburn Code which suggests burning on peatland should be avoided (see [here](#)).

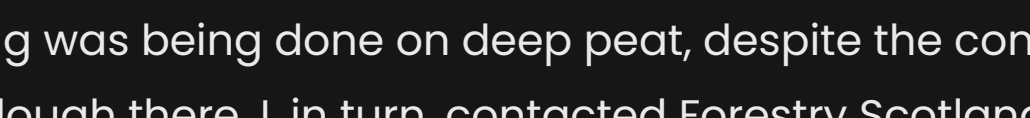


Muirburn on an Aberdeenshire grouse moor in 2022. Photo by RPUK blog reader

Today, one of the study's authors, Dominick Spracklen, Professor of Biosphere-Atmosphere Interactions at the University of Leeds has written an easy-to-understand blog about the study to help the public (and I daresay politicians engaging with the Wildlife Management & Muirburn Bill) understand the importance of minimising the extent of these peatland fires.

It's well worth a read – [here](#).

Share this:



2 thoughts on "Extent of burning on Scottish peatlands, including many grouse moors, is why regulation is needed urgently"

kgdancey

January 23, 2024 at 9:44 pm

"It's well worth a read"

I agree. And, if anything, it understates the importance of the issue – because peat of considerably less depth than 50cm contains an astonishing amount of stored carbon.

Reply

Rachel

January 24, 2024 at 11:32 am

It's not just burning but forestry too. I was alerted to ploughing for conifers on peat in early 2021 by a concerned member of the public whose photos showed the ploughing was being done on deep peat, despite the company knowing it couldn't plough there. I, in turn, contacted Forestry Scotland, which was unaware of the situation, but took action.

I wouldn't be surprised that it happened all over the place.

I did give it coverage in my paper, by the way

Reply

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