



Peatland Programme

PEATLAND CODE



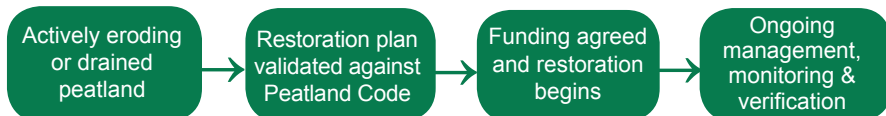
An introduction



WHAT IS THE PEATLAND CODE?

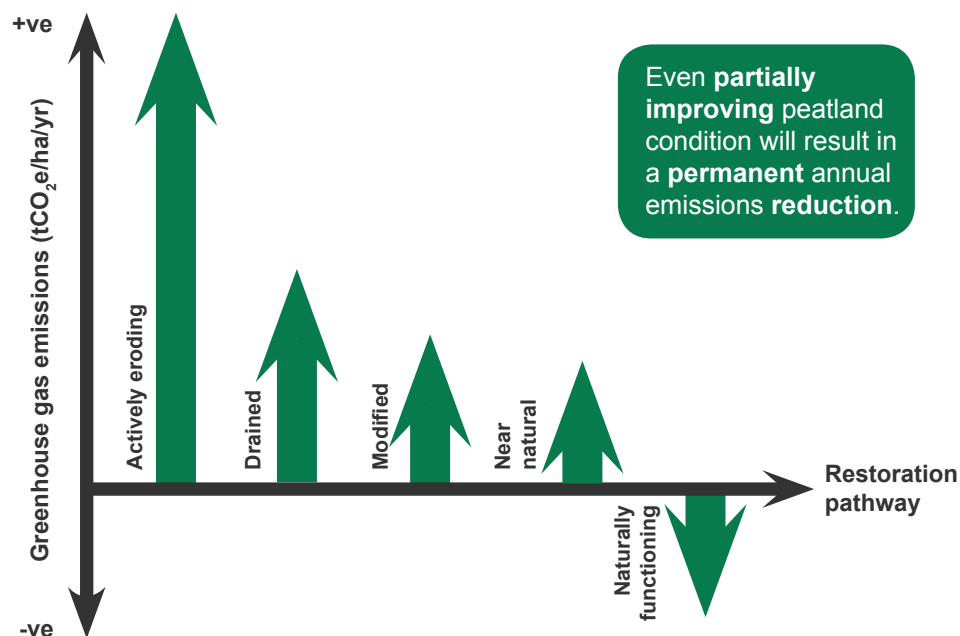
The Peatland Code is a voluntary standard for UK peatland projects wishing to market the climate benefit of peatland restoration. Independent validation and verification to this standard provides assurance and clarity for buyers with regards the quantity and quality of emissions reductions purchased.

Funding obtained from carbon finance provides cost effective peatland restoration and ensures management and maintenance of restoration projects over the long term (minimum 30 year agreements).



CLIMATE BENEFIT OF PEATLAND RESTORATION

Restoring peatlands reduces greenhouse gas emissions loss to the atmosphere from peat carbon stores. Over time the conditions for peat formation turn a source of emissions into a sink.



WHY GET INVOLVED?

It is in everyone's interest for peatlands to be in a healthy state. Peatland restoration is an internationally recognised and cost effective way to tackle climate change. Local communities, farmers and crofters, sporting estates and other land managers can also benefit from improving peatland condition, by avoiding erosion and preventing the problems damaged peatlands bring for livestock, game, wildlife, landscape, access, water supply and climate.

Action now to invest in peatlands will avoid far greater cost to businesses and wider society in future, with the Peatland Code providing a robust mechanism for those wishing to do so.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

We would like to hear from businesses interested in pioneering this exciting work to support the development of an innovative environmental funding mechanism. Funding is required for inspiring peatland projects with opportunities for staff and customers to see first-hand the benefits for nature and people of these natural places.

A wide range of peatland projects across the UK are available for funding using tried and tested methods to deliver restoration. We are also keen to hear from anyone who may have additional projects to bring forward.

For more information on restoration projects and funding opportunities available please visit www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/peatland-code.

“Protecting our peatlands is essential not only to benefit the local countryside, but also [in] tackling greenhouse gas emissions, improving water quality and supporting wildlife.”

Dr Thérèse Coffey, UK Environment Minister, 2017

We want to see two million hectares of UK peatlands in good condition, under restoration or being sustainably managed, by 2040.

The Peatland Code is issued by the IUCN UK National Committee and is managed on its behalf by an Executive Board. The Executive Board is facilitated by IUCN UK Peatland Programme staff and supported by a Technical Advisory Board including additional stakeholder groups, when required.

The IUCN UK Peatland Programme exists to promote peatland restoration in the UK and advocates the multiple benefits of peatlands through partnerships, strong science, sound policy and effective practice.

Our long term vision is that peatlands in the UK function to their full potential with no further loss of peatland. Investment in peatland is needed now to secure the benefits they provide and avoid the costly consequences of their deterioration.

The programme was established in 2009 and is a partnership of environmental organisations, land managers, public bodies and scientists.



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