

PEATLAND CODE

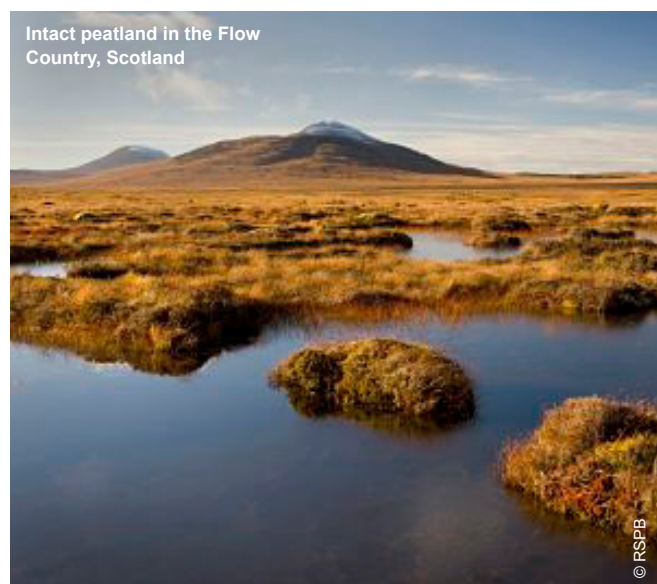
Peatland Code: A buyer's guide

What is the Peatland Code?

The Peatland Code is a certification standard for UK projects wanting to sell the carbon benefits that will result from peatland restoration.

It sets out a series of best practice requirements that gives assurance to buyers that their purchase will result in a climate benefit that is permanent, additional and verifiable.

Recognising that carbon benefits arise for many years after the initial restoration activities are implemented, the Peatland Code ensures the carbon benefit will be regularly measured and monitored over the lifetime of the project. Buyers can therefore be confident in purchasing peatland carbon units upfront, enabling the restoration project to take place.



Why purchase Peatland Code carbon units?

It is in everyone's interest for peatlands to be in a healthy state. Peatlands are a key part of our natural capital worth £billions in terms of the services they can provide.

Healthy peatlands:

- act as a carbon sink, contributing to climate change efforts
- improve drinking water quality
- slow surface water flow, helping prevent flooding
- provide habitat for unique biodiversity.

To put in perspective the scale of their importance, peatlands cover an estimated 12% of the UK with deep peat storing twenty times as much carbon stored in the whole of the UK's forest biomass.

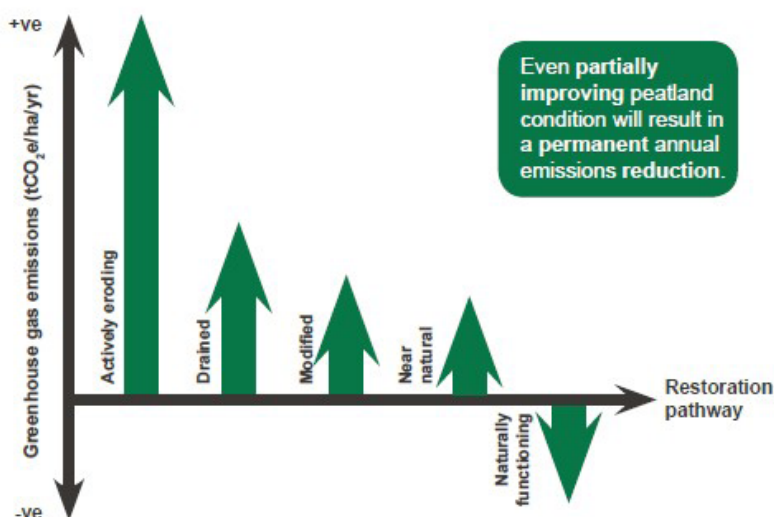
Unfortunately over 80% of UK peatlands are in a degraded state, dramatically reducing the services listed above that they can provide and their natural capital worth. Without action now to stabilise and restore the peatland that remains their condition will continue to deteriorate imposing a huge environmental cost on future generations. The purchase of Peatland

Code carbon units will directly contribute to increasing the number of restoration projects taking place in the UK and the associated benefits.

How does peatland restoration result in carbon benefits?

Peatland in a damaged condition emits carbon and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere contributing to climate change. By preventing further damage and improving peatland condition through restoration activities significant emissions savings can be made.

The scale of carbon benefit will depend on the extent of damage prior to restoration, the size of the project and the length of the management agreement. Each project is unique and one can be found that will meet the needs of each individual buyer.



Where can Peatland Code carbon units be purchased?

Peatland projects across the UK are available for funding using tried and tested methods to deliver restoration. Registered projects are publically available to search [online](#) or alternatively buyers can use the services of a specialist carbon broker to actively search for a suitable project on their behalf.

Projects can sell the carbon benefit at any time over the duration of the project, with the majority selling the total upfront once their peatland restoration plan has received validation under the Peatland Code.

To find out more and discuss how you can support a Peatland Code project then please get in touch with the IUCN UK Peatland Programme team or visit our [website](#).

Contact us

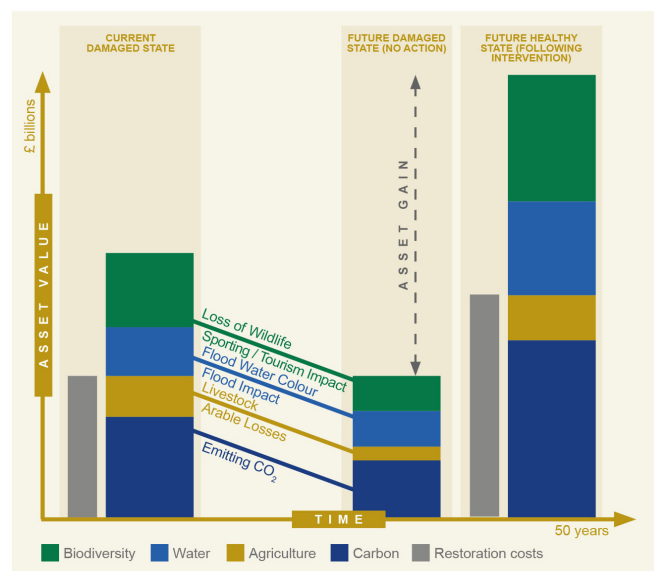
**PEATLAND
CODE**

E: info@iucn.org.uk

T: 07341 733242

W: www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/peatland-code

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (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.



What are the benefits of buying Peatland Code carbon units?

Purchasing Peatland Code carbon units makes clear environmental and economic sense. 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.

Each Peatland Code project is unique, and undertakes restoration for a wide variety of reasons and with specific objectives in mind. A project can therefore be found where the benefits of greatest importance to a specific investor can be generated.

Supported by:

