

# Peatland Code Public Consultation Summary Round 1 – April 2024

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# Peatland Code

## A UK government-backed, domestic voluntary carbon market standard

- Landowners with eligible damaged peat can follow to attract private finance for peatland restoration by selling carbon units.
- The Peatland Code provides assurances to buyers
- Blending public and private finance









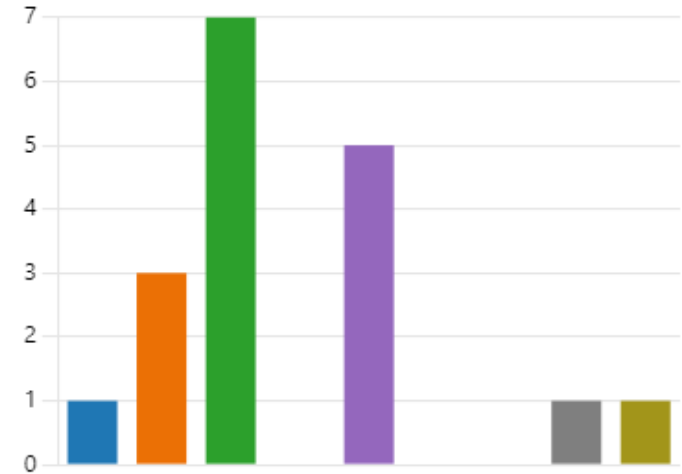
# Background

- 30-day Public Consultation from April – May 2024
- Anonymous online survey
- 20 respondents from a range of stakeholders
- The aim was to allow a wider range of stakeholder to input into the new version

1. Please choose the option which is most appropriate

[More Details](#)

	Academic	1
	Carbon Market participant	3
	Project Developer	7
	Governmental organisation	0
	NGO	5
	Research and academia	0
	Standards Body	0
	Individual (i.e., not affiliated wit...	1
	Other	1





# Core Questions

The survey focused on the main changes proposed in version 2.1 and asked question in those key areas such as

- Grouping of projects
- Monitoring vegetation in modified to rewetted modified bog,
- Risk buffer and risk assessment.
- Surveying in areas with shallow peat.
- Minimum peat depth in Fens







# Key Findings

- Over 70% of respondents understood how units should be claimed from the risk buffer and found the updated risk assessment user friendly.
- Only 42% of respondents were in favour of reducing the minimum peat depth for Fens with the potential impact of not getting ICVCM's Core Carbon Principle approval for those credits.
- No overall option for grouping of projects was preferred with 30% of respondents asking for more flexibility in how projects were grouped.
- Over 50% of respondents were concerned about using the field condition matrix with some concerns it might add to the workload and require more specialist knowledge with little return.

# Conclusion and Next steps

The consultation findings were discussed at the Peatland Code Technical Advisory Board (TAB) and Executive Board (EB) to agree on final changes to version 2.1.

Topic	Outcome TAB/EB	Next Steps
Lowering the peat depth in Fens	After discussion at both Technical Advisory Board and Executive Board it was agreed that Cropland – drained can have a lower minimum peat depth if the project can evidence that the average carbon soil content is more than 30 times the Tier 1 Emission Factor for CO2-C emissions. Guidance is currently being drawn up on how to evidence this, basing on the guidance that the Soil Carbon Code has on soil sampling for carbon content measurements.	Draft guidance to be added in our clarification document and then add to Version 2.1 once published.
Risk Buffer	Agreed to continue with the 20% risk buffer contribution despite concerns but continue to improve guidance.	Work with a legal team to ensure the grievance and appeals process is fair and without conflict of interest for version 2.1.
Grouping	It was agreed that flexibility should be permitted and allow projects to chose whether to all have the same start date or allow projects to join at a later date.	Add guidance into version 2.1 under the section Project Clustering, with guidance on how grouping of projects will work.
Condition Matrix	The TAB/EB listened to concerns raised during the public consultation phase and decided not to include this update in version 2.1	Discussion at the TAB on how we could improve the guidance for modified to rewetted modified bog for the time being.





# Peatland Code Review process

Following a public consultation there are additional steps that need to take place before a version/methodology change can take place. For more information visit our [Peatland Code development page](#) on our website.

# Peatland Code Version Timeline

Due to the recent updates to ISO 17029:2019 standard, the Peatland Code team need to make some additional changes to version 2.1 before publishing. The Peatland Code team will also add any changes that need to take place to meet ICVCM requirements. Therefore, below will now have a revised timeline for publishing version 2.1.

**Autumn 2024**

Additional work to meet ISO standards and ICVCM requirements

**Winter 2024**

Final draft reviewed by the TAB/EB before publishing V2.1

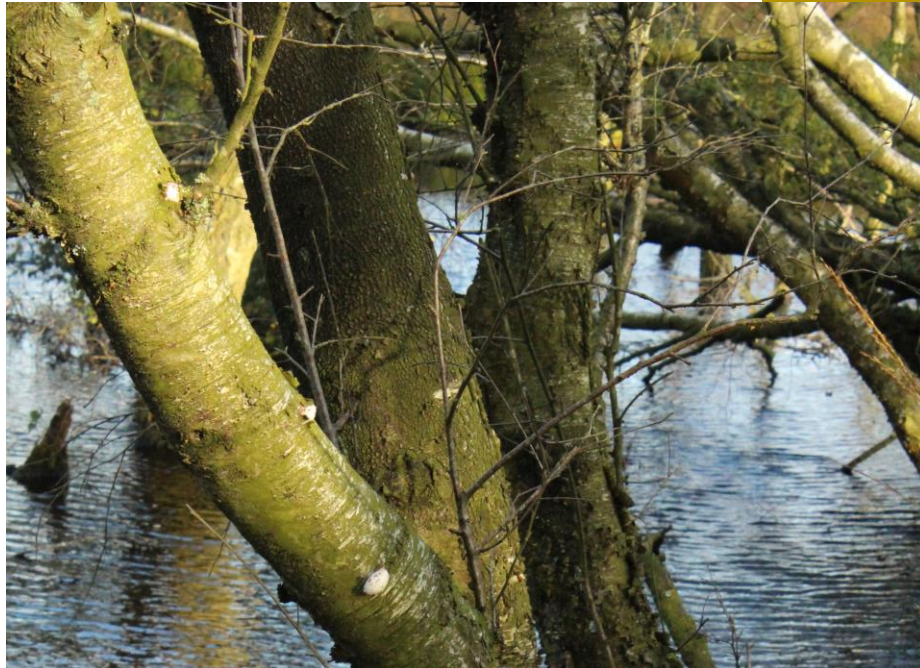
**January 2025**

Applying to ICROA for conditional endorsement





# Get in Touch



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