

PEATLAND
CODE



Woodland
Carbon CO₂de

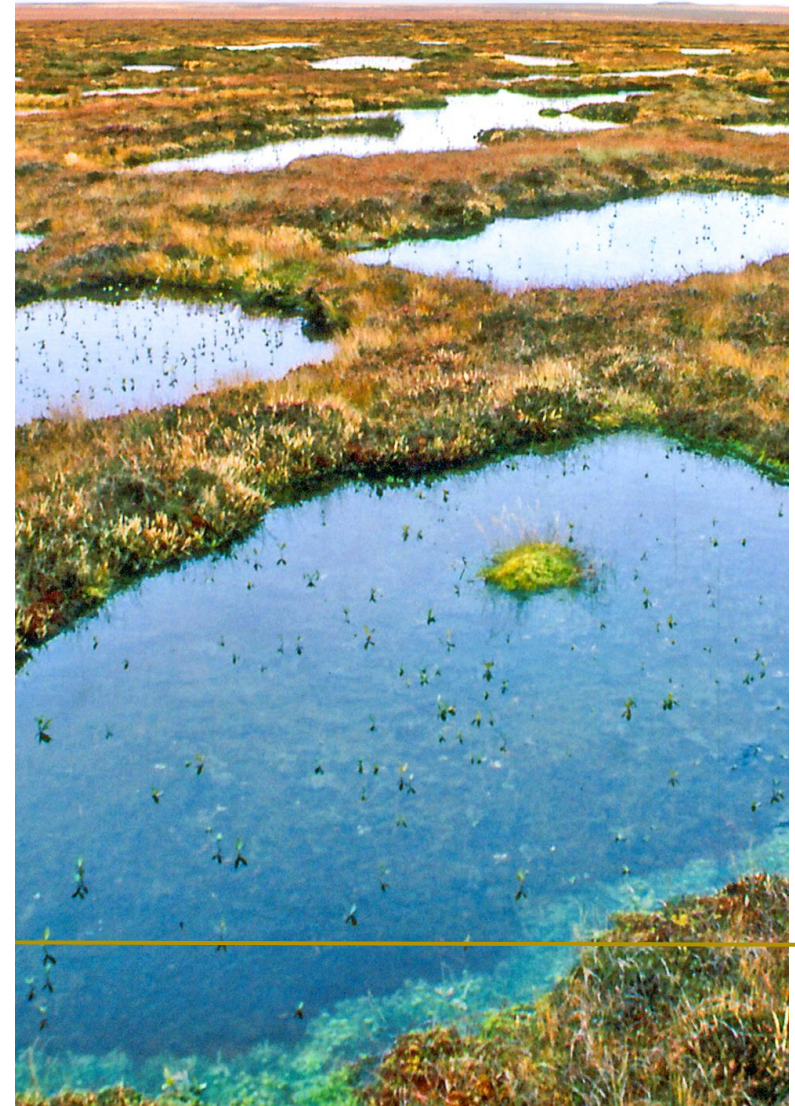
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Peatland Code and Woodland Carbon Code FIRNS Biodiversity Public Consultation Summary 2025



Made possible with
**Heritage
Fund**

This project is supported by The Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland (FIRNS).
Delivered by NatureScot in collaboration with The Scottish Government and in partnership with
the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

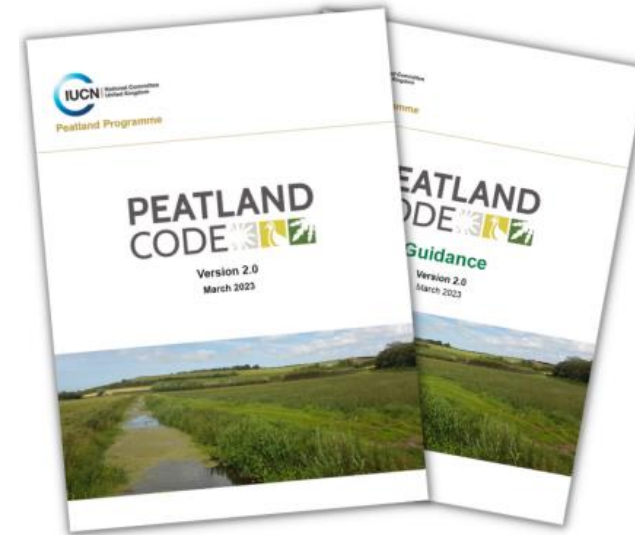


Peatland Code and Woodland Carbon Code



UK government-backed, domestic voluntary carbon market standards

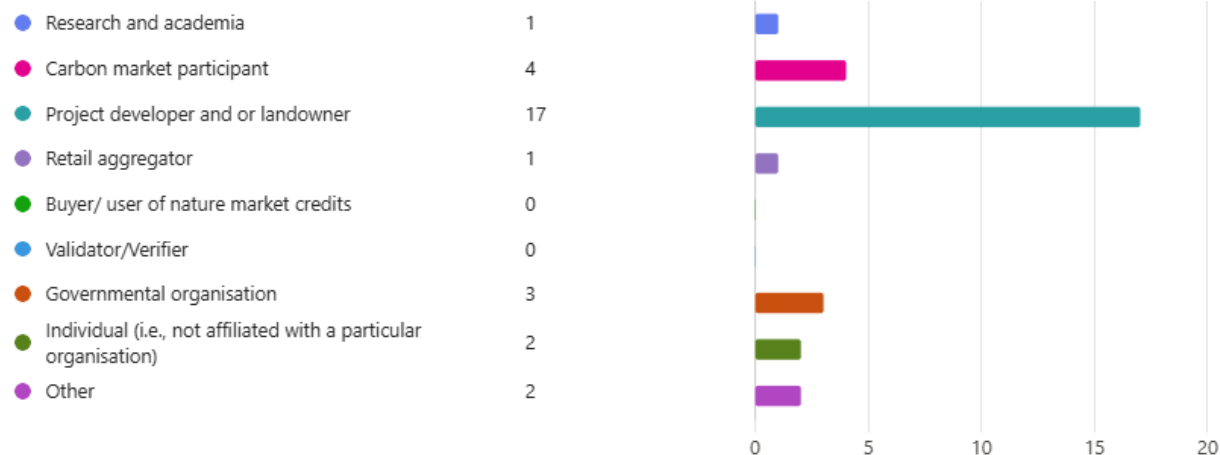
- Landowners with eligible damaged peat can follow to attract private finance for peatland restoration by selling carbon units.
- The Peatland Code and Woodland Carbon Code provides assurances to buyers
- Blending public and private finance



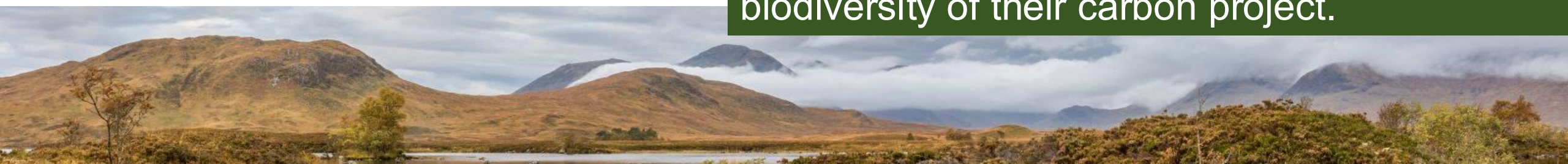
Background

- 30-day online public consultation from January 2025 – February 2025
- 25 respondents from a range of stakeholders
- The aim was to allow a wide range of stakeholder input into the Biodiversity methodology as part of the FIRNS project.

4. Please choose the sector which is most appropriate



49% of respondents are interested to see how the new biodiversity market could function and 27% of respondents want to measure the biodiversity of their carbon project.



Core Questions

The survey focused on key areas such as

- Carbon+ credit, or 'explicit bundle'
- Using independent experts to review monitoring plans
- Chosen metrics for Woodlands and Peatlands
- What risks there might be with the chosen metrics
- General feedback on proposed methodology



General findings

- **52%** of respondents stated they would pilot the methodology and **63%** of respondents would be very likely to register a Carbon + project if available.
- As an initial step, this project is proposing a Carbon+ credit, or 'explicit bundle' where biodiversity is quantified as part of a carbon project **43%** agreed with this approach.
- Most respondents **54%** agreed with the approach of not having a 'pending issuance unit' for biodiversity.
- No consensus on the approach that only 'new' projects would be eligible, ruling out the possibility of existing carbon projects adding biodiversity quantification.



Key Findings for Peatlands

Over **59%** of respondents thought the metrics chosen were suitable for baselining a Peatland project. With **35%** concerned that some metrics are missing.

12. On a scale of 1 (not at all confident) to 5 (being very confident) how confident are you that the metrics selected will be appropriate to baseline biodiversity of a project?



Although there was confidence in the chosen metrics **76%** had concerns it would be challenging with extra monitoring requirements and financial costs for small projects.

76% of respondents agreed with the proposed approach for peatlands that a separate biodiversity credit be allowed areas especially for shallower peat areas that are not eligible to access the Peatland Code.

Key concerns raised

- More concerns were raised having a stand-alone credit than an explicit bundling given how young the biodiversity market many raised this was lower risk.
- A few raised concerns around the impact of climate change and how that will impact uplift.
- Concerns around overcomplicating and adding more time to an already lengthy process for WCC/PC.
- Concerns over the metrics over simplifying the ecological relationships.

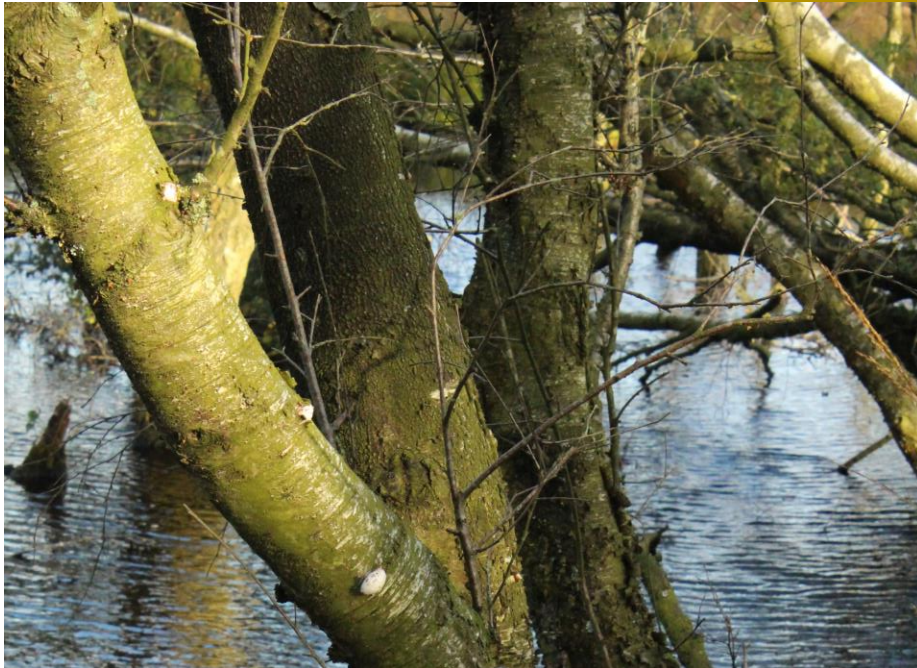


Next Steps

- Both Woodland Carbon Code and Peatland Code teams will digest the feedback and submit to the EB boards for review.
- Highlighting key areas where more work needs to be done and applying for more funding to continuing the work.
- Setting up the registry to allow pilot projects to register biodiversity methodology.



Thank you



Contact us:



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[FIRNS Project: Biodiversity crediting for
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