


# Peatland Monitoring and Reporting: Data needs and the Peatland Code



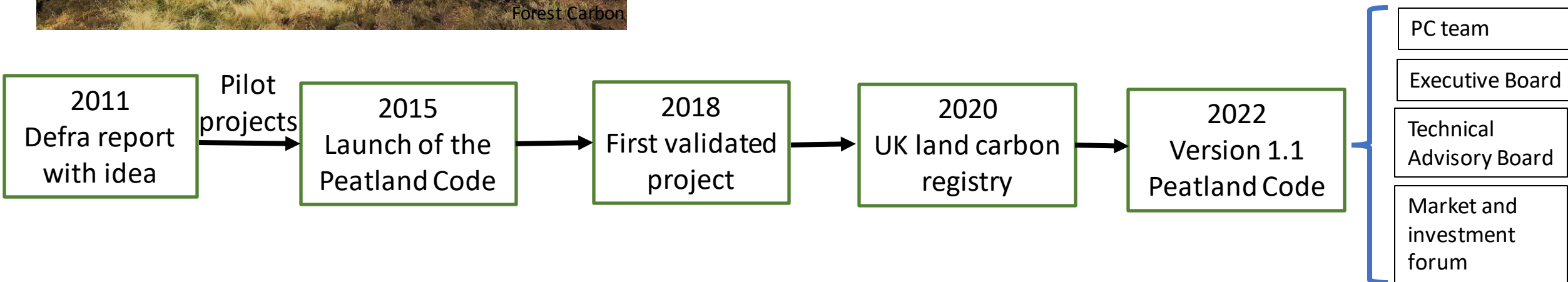
Ed Salter  
Peatland Code  
Officer

# Overview



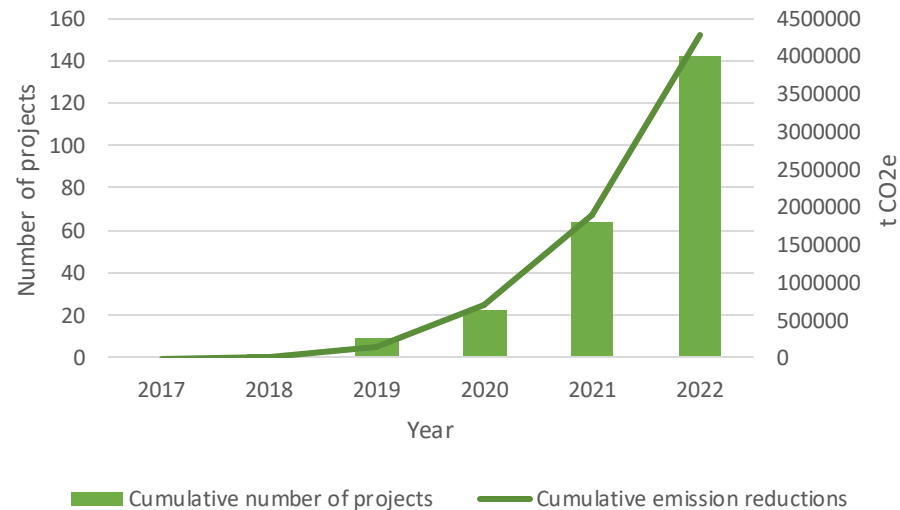
- Helps companies to reduce their net emissions
- Helps the UK to meet national GHG targets
- Peatland restoration only

**PC's purpose is to underpin market trust and confidence**



# Number of projects

- **142** Projects registered
  - 19,360 ha of peatland restoration
  - 4,281,262 tCO<sub>2</sub>e emission reductions
- Of which:
- **18** validated (green)





## Forest to bog restoration

- The most recent estimate places approximately 18% (439,410ha) of the UK's peatlands under forestry
- Forest to bog restoration can cost far more than other forms of peatland restoration due to the level of treatment required from the impacts to the peatland system
- Additional finance is needed to make forest to bog restoration viable

## Sequestration

- Carbon credits currently sold as an emissions reduction, not a GHG removal
- A recent DEFRA report shows that carbon sequestration potential of peat restoration may have been significantly underestimated
- Carbon sequestration data must be collated and refined before piloted in the Peatland Code



# Paludiculture

- Paludiculture is wet agriculture on peatlands, managed with high water tables and commonly used for reed cultivation or Sphagnum production
- Data on the GHG impacts of paludiculture management are limited
- Plans to pilot Paludiculture in the Peatland Code in 2023



- Peatlands form the UK's largest extent of semi-natural habitat
- Demand for voluntary biodiversity offsets has so far been relatively low due to concerns about the robustness of biodiversity metrics
- How do you quantify biodiversity in relation to the Peatland Code?

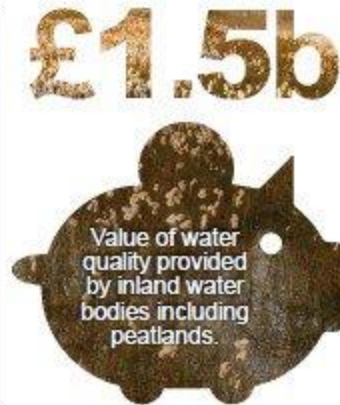
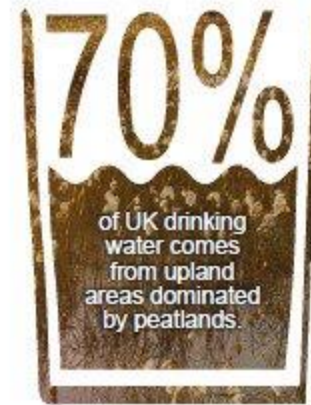
## Remote sensing & satellite imagery

- The use of remotely sensed data could assist with mapping at scale and increasing or maintaining accuracy and reduce costs in detecting change
- The technologies have potential to make monitoring and verification cheaper
- IUCN UK PP will commission a report remote sensing for peatlands.



# Additional Data Gaps

- Water quality/quantity
- Improvements in monitoring techniques
- Species inhabiting



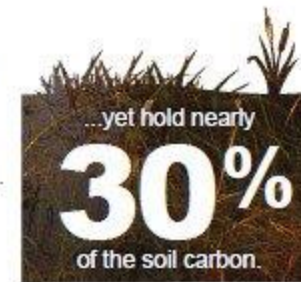
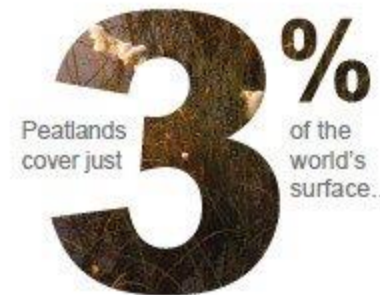
Peatland vegetation slows the flow of rainfall, helping to prevent flooding in local towns and villages.

Peatlands are wonderful places for wildlife, they are home to:



Hunting birds of prey including the threatened hen harrier, quartering the ground.

Weird and wonderful plants like the insect-eating sundew.





**PEATLAND  
CODE** 

**Questions?**

 **IUCN** | National Committee  
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