

Biodiversity Credits For the Peatland Code

PEATLAND CODE

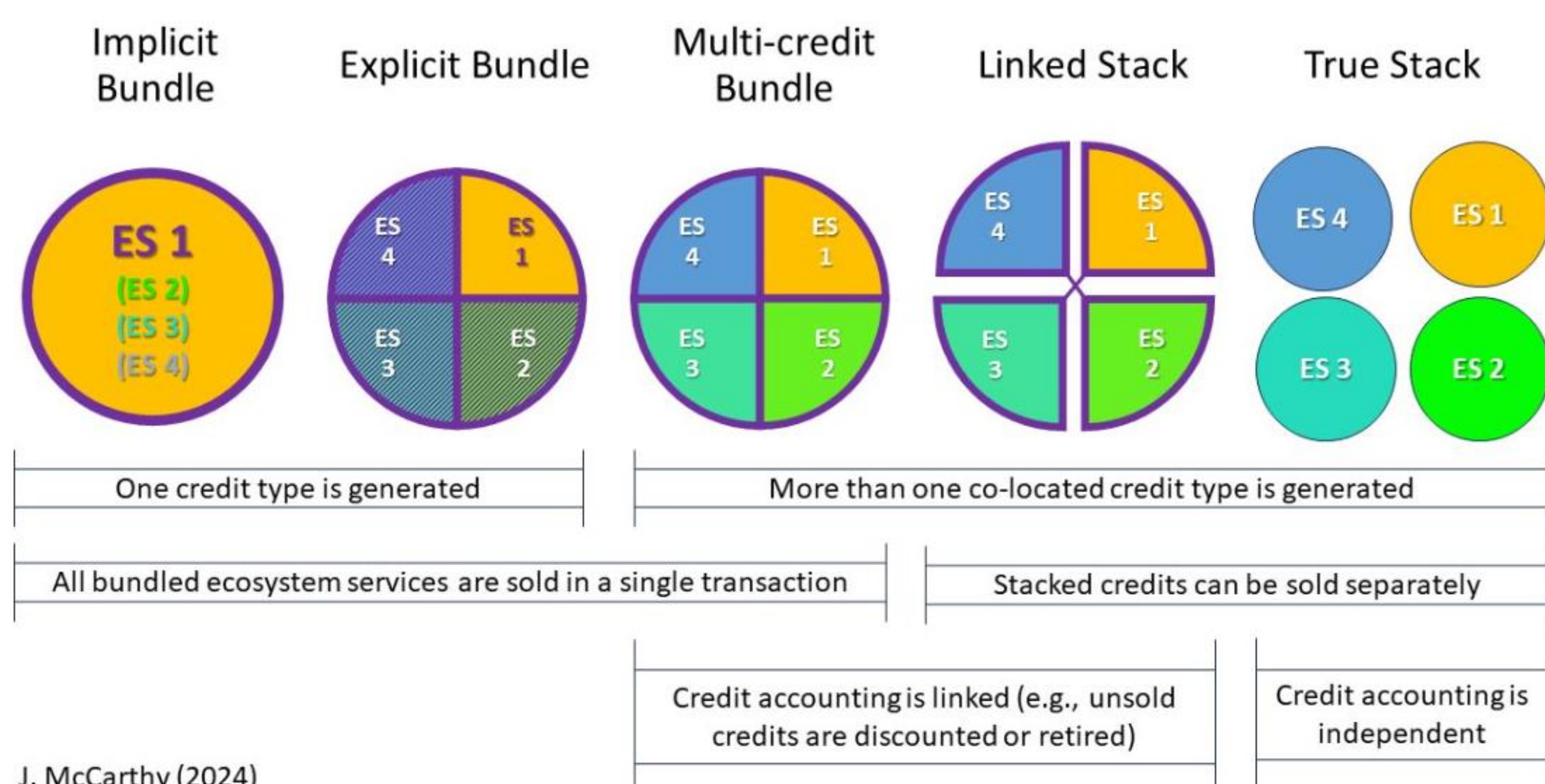


New Biodiversity Crediting Programme

- The Peatland Code and Woodland Carbon Code are developing a biodiversity crediting framework
- This will be parallel to, and compatible with, carbon quantification through the Peatland Code and Woodland Carbon Code.
- Operation Wallacea Bio Credit Methodology will be employed:
 - ✓ Open source and compatible with existing carbon frameworks
 - ✓ Considered one of the highest integrity approaches to habitat and species monitoring in the Scottish context (A. McVittie, 2023)
 - ✓ Can be modified to be regionally/habitat specific (i.e. UK woodlands and peatlands)
 - ✓ Is already being adopted by market leaders in domestic and international markets

Market Framework

- Aiming to develop a multi-credit bundle (see below)
- 1 credit = 1% uplift across combined metrics, per ha



Proposed Metrics

- Taxonomic Metrics:
 - ✓ Plant Surveys
 - ✓ Bird Monitoring
 - ✓ Insect Populations
- Structural metrics (likely to be limited to 2):
 - ✓ Modified BNG Metric
 - ✓ Peatland Condition Matrix
 - ✓ Community Similarity Index (TBD based on data availability)
- Metric selection and approved methods to be finalized in October '24

Piloting

- Currently collecting baseline biodiversity data on 2 peatland sites (Rottal Estates and Loch Katrine)
- Working towards a streamlined method for validation and verification bodies to validate biodiversity data



Remote, app-driven quadrats and pitfall traps, just some of the monitoring methods currently being trialled for biodiversity monitoring

Progress to Date & Timeline



- New framework anticipated to be ready for first project registrations Summer/Autumn of 2025
- Ongoing work includes filling knowledge gaps for more accurate quantification and better predictability of uplift

Any questions? Please contact the Biodiversity Credits Programme Officer: joe.anderson@iucn.org.uk

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.



Made possible with
Heritage Fund



Peatland Programme

McCarthy, Julia. "Stacking and Bundling in Biodiversity Credit Markets." Environmental Policy Innovation Center, 4 Apr. 2024. www.policyinnovation.org/blog/beetles-in-a-pay-stack.
McVittie, Alistair, et al. Scotland's Rural College Measuring Biodiversity: Research into Approaches. 2023. pure.sruc.ac.uk/ws/portalfiles/portal/74268893/research-approaches-measuring-biodiversity-scotland.pdf.

<https://www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/>