

Peatland Code Development – Version timeline and summary

Peatland Code Version	Publish date	PC Versions that project can validate or verify against	Changes made	New documentation
v1.1	March 2017	Peatland Code Version no longer in use. New projects can no longer validate or verify under this version.	<p><i>Eligible activities</i> Minimum peat depth 50cm in bogs</p> <p><i>Project length</i> Maximum project length added.</p> <p><i>Additionality</i> Projects need 15% public funding.</p> <p><i>Baseline and monitoring</i> Better guidance on determining baseline via a new Field Protocol</p> <p><i>Governance</i> The Technical Advisory Board and Executive Board were created.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peatland Code Field protocol - Risk Assessment - Emission Calculator - Additionality Calculator
v1.2	April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New projects can no longer validate or verify to this Peatland Code version. - New projects may only use Peatland Code Field protocol 1.1 if the site surveys were carried out before 31st August 2022. These surveys are valid for two years. Projects will need to evidence that these were carried out before September 2022. 	<p><i>Improved Peatland Code process</i> Project validation added as an extra step for validation. Project Plan Validation and Restoration Validation happen to the same PC version.</p> <p><i>Site Survey and Creation of Restoration Plan</i> Restoration can be done over 2 years for one single Peatland Code project.</p> <p><i>Stakeholder Consultation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peatland Code Guidance Document - Monitoring and Management plan template - Peatland Code Project Progress report

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		Projects that carried out their surveys after 1 st September 2022 shall use PC v1.2 for all documentation.	<p>More guidance on stakeholder engagement</p> <p><i>Registry</i> Project registering through the UK Land Carbon registry.</p> <p>PIUs and PCU guidance</p> <p><i>Governance</i> Market and Investment Forum Disputes process</p>	
v2.0	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New projects validations and/or verifications from the 1st of June 2023 until 31st January 2025 shall be to PC v2.0. - Projects may only use Peatland Code Field protocol 1.2 if the surveys were carried out before 1st June 2023. These surveys are valid for two years and Baseline Peat depth are valid for 5 years. 	<p><i>Eligible activities</i></p> <p>Minimum peat depth 30cm in bogs. Addition of fens with a min peat depth of 45cm</p> <p>Introduction of a fen emissions calculator that uses water table as a proxy to calculate emissions reductions</p> <p>Baseline water table depth measurements required in fens</p> <p><i>Peat depth measurement</i> Peat depth measurements to be mapped on a 50x50m grid.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commitment statement - Emission Calculator Fens

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V2.0			<p>Peat depth only needs to be measured up to 1 meter.</p> <p>Peat coring instead of using a rod to measure peat depth for Fens</p> <p><i>Mapping</i> 30 m drainage buffer around water courses.</p> <p><i>Emission factors</i> Updated in line with UK GHG inventory Water table depth data required for fens Emission calculator to work with water table depth for fens</p> <p><i>Additionality:</i> Test 2 & 3 – Financial: Currently carbon finance required to fund a minimum of 15% of the total project costs and this will be changed to a maximum of 85% of the total project costs can come from public funding (or other income) with a view to reduce this in the near future Test 4 – Other barriers: likely to be removed</p>	

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			<p><i>Stakeholder Consultation</i> Improved guidance on consultation requirements including historic preservation requirement</p> <p><i>Public consultation process</i> Peatland Code revision and methodologies have to go through a 30-day public consultation.</p>	
v2.1	Nov. 2024	<p>Project validation and verification from 1st February 2025 will be against PC v2.1 and all documentation will be to PC v2.1 with the potential exception of using an earlier Field Protocol version*.</p> <p><i>*Field surveys are valid for 2 years, peat depths up to 5 years. Project will need to evidence they have done the field survey before the 1st February 2025 in order to use an earlier versions of the Field protocol. See more guidance in the Peatland Code Guidance document.</i></p>	<p><i>Eligible activities</i></p> <p>Lower peat depth for Fen Cropland – drained condition category and Grassland that used to be cropland in the past 20 years can have a lower minimum peat depth than 45 cm 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</p> <p>Updated definition of shallow peat</p> <p><i>Baseline Survey</i> Validity for baseline peat depth surveys will be valid for 5 years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VVB scheme document - Condition change template - Updated Project Progress Report - Emissions calculator with a carbon cost calculator - Year 5 Emission calculator for 15% and 20% buffer.

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v2.1		<p>From June 1st all new Project Plan Validations for bog projects will be required to use the new emissions calculator which includes the carbon cost calculator when submitting documents to VVB's. For projects that began restoration before the launch of the calculator (February 18th 2025), you may continue to use the blanket 10% buffer.</p>	<p><i>Risk Buffer</i> Increased contribution to 20% with updated risk assessment for project to complete.</p> <p>Validated risk assessment now public information on the registry</p> <p><i>Project Cluster</i></p> <p><i>Reporting against Sustainable Development Goals</i> Added in the Project Design Document</p> <p><i>Updates to Field Protocol</i> <u>Fen Water Table Monitoring</u> Rust rods no longer recommended in Fens. Field Protocol now updated that water table needs to be check by an independent expert.</p> <p><u>Pre-verification condition assessment</u></p> <p><u>Carbon cost calculator</u></p>	