Peatland Code Validation and Verification Service

Expertise to support your peatland restoration project.

With over 80% of UK peatlands in a degraded state, there is an urgent need to address this decline as part of our fight to tackle climate change. A healthy functioning peatland acts as a carbon sink however, restoring peatlands is an expensive process.

The IUCN's Peatland Code has been developed to help fund peatland restoration projects across the UK that are reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improving habitats for biodiversity. This is a voluntary, quality standard which was introduced to encourage private funding to support these restoration projects. The certification allows project developers to sell carbon credits from their restoration projects, providing assurance and clarity for business and investors through independent validation and verification.

SAC Consulting is an approved validation/ verification body (VVB) and offers a validation and verification service to ensure high quality carbon credits are generated by peatland restoration projects delivering a variety of ecosystem services.

The process consists of 3 key stages:

- Pre-restoration validation audit which is a desk-based review of the validation plan to check that Peatland Code requirements are met and to validate to the GHG assertion.

- Post-restoration validation audit which is an on-site evaluation of the restoration activities against the Peatland Code and the validation plans.

- Verification stage at year five and every subsequent ten-year interval which is an o-site evaluation of the condition category of peatland against the baseline condition category presented at validation stage

Our team of independent, expert consultants can offer land managers, owners, and custodians a validation and verification service, as part of the Peatland Code.

We are research-backed with a wealth of environmental, ecological and land management knowledge. We have developed a range of internal protocols to ensure an efficient and fast delivery of this service to the standards of ISO14065.

With a wide range of experience in peat surveying, environmental auditing, UAV surveying, data collection and analysis, carbon management, land restoration studies, ecology and environmental protection and management, our team are ready to help your business.

To explore how we can help your project, contact our team on peatlandcode@sac.co.uk