



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Peatland restoration - What next?

Sion McGeever, September 2024



Forestry Commission
England



Environment
Agency

Defra and Moors for the Future

2023

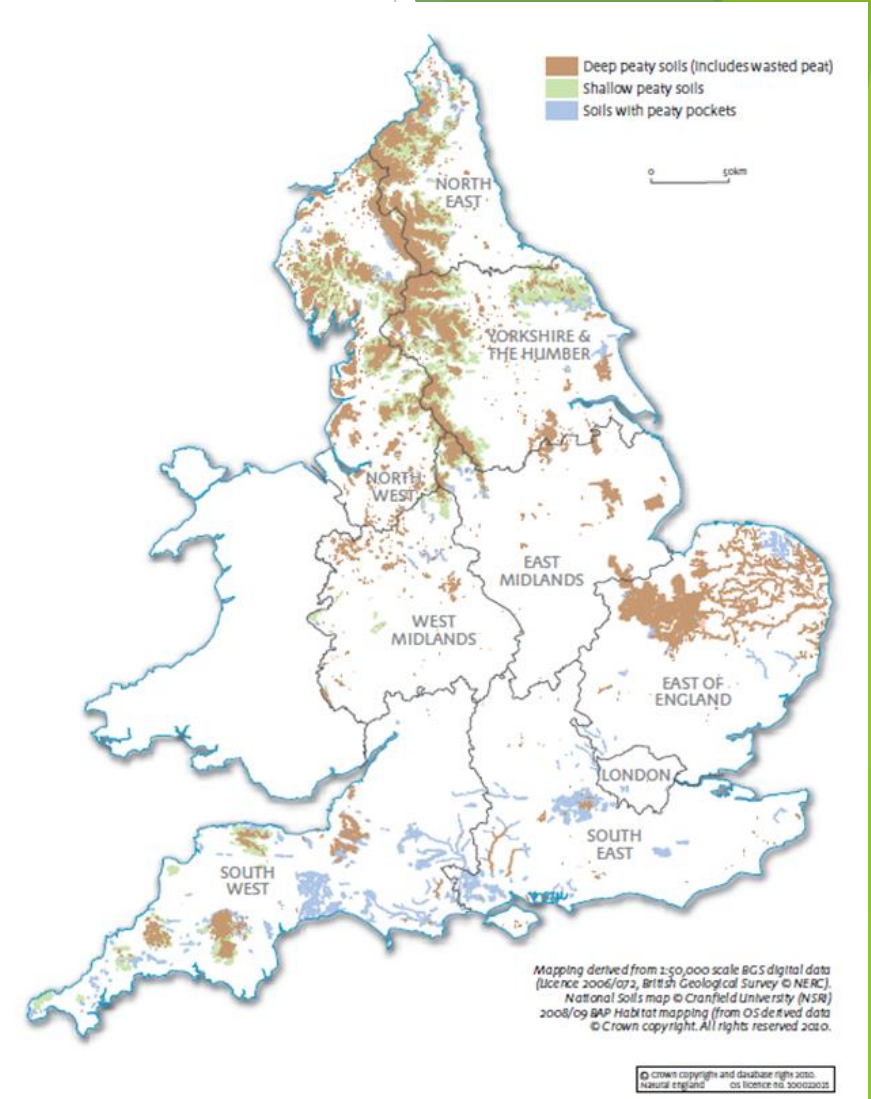


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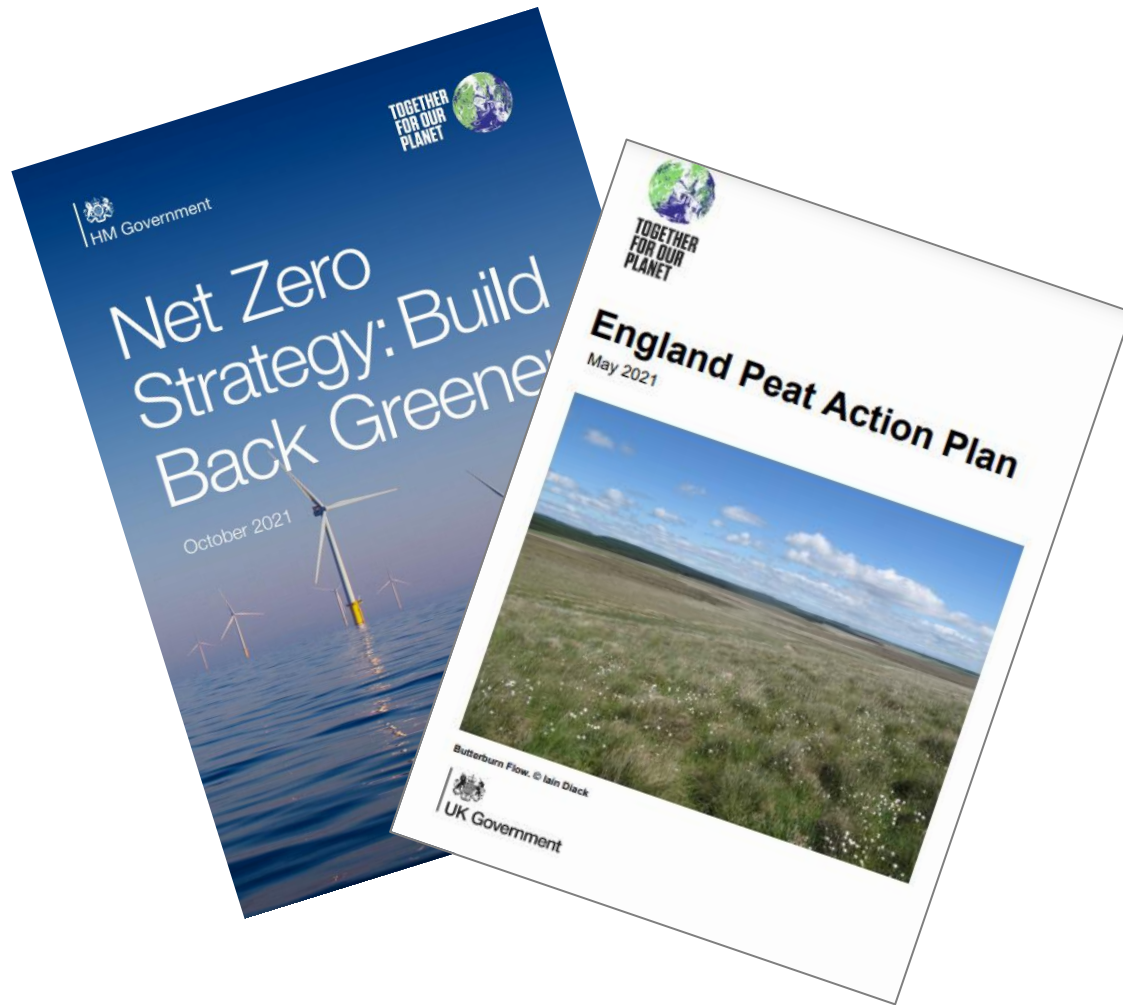


Why Peat matters to government

- Damaged peatlands a major source of greenhouse gas emissions - **8million** annual tonnes or 2% of all England's CO2 emissions.
- Crucial to biodiversity targets e.g. will account for **6% of 'wider habitat' Environment Act 2021 target.**
- Act as a natural flood defence (peat holds 20x its own weight in water)
- Requires a smarter water management model – less drainage, holding more water in the land – more resilience to drought



Government commitment to peatland



- Restore
- Reduce
- Protect



A fresh start
- but a long
way to go...

Giving investors confidence



**NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT
INVESTMENT
READINESS
FUND**

bsi.