

DEVELOPING A PEATLAND MANAGEMENT PORTAL FOR PRIORITY UPLAND HABITATS IN THE UK

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The UK's extensive peatland resource is a key component of the nation's carbon storage and sequestration facility, as well as a source of drinking water for the majority of the population. After decades of drainage, over-grazing and other anthropogenic impacts, many of our peatlands are in a highly degraded state. In order for Water Companies to continue to extract drinking water from these ecosystems and to reduce the cost of downstream processing, primarily through more sustainable upstream catchment management, the condition of the UK's peatlands needs to be better understood. Rezatec is working with a number of UK Water Companies to develop a low-cost tool for monitoring peatland condition over large, remote areas. Through a combination of open-source satellite-derived data and strategic ground surveys, we are developing a landscape intelligence tool that can be used to map peatland extent, depth and integrity across water catchments.