

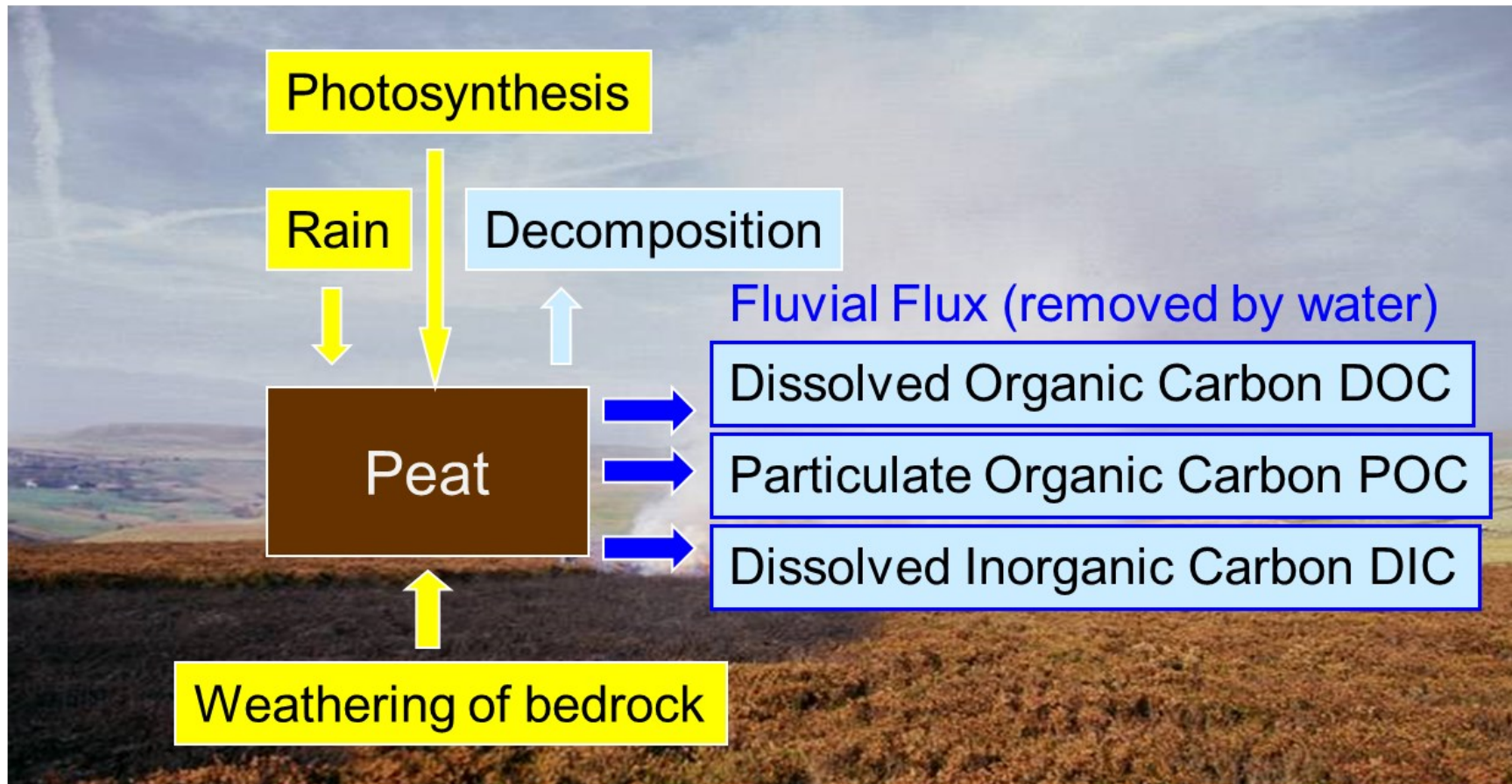
### Key Facts

- Peat absorbs CO<sup>2</sup> by photosynthesis, rain and weathering of bedrock.
- Peat loses CO<sup>2</sup> through decomposition and fluvial flux (water) see reverse. CH<sup>4</sup> and CO<sup>2</sup>
- Peatlands contain 50% of global soil carbon.
- Peat is 90-95% organic and 50% of that is carbon.
- Peat formation requires wet and cold climates so climate change is a real threat
- A healthy peatland landscape is essential to mitigate climate change.

### In the UK

- There is 15% of the worlds blanket peat but 80% of it is badly eroded.
- Badly eroded peatlands become a net carbon source. Not Good!
- There is 2X as much carbon in UK peat as in all the UK's vegetation, most of which is in Scotland.
- A 5% peat loss is equivalent to the UK annual greenhouse gas emissions.

# The Moorland Carbon Cycle



**CO2 INPUTS**

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