Catchment Sensitive Farming — England's Free Farm-Advice Programme to Cut Agricultural Water Pollution

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · United Kingdom

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Since 2006 Natural England, the Environment Agency and Defra have advised 19,776 farm holdings (34% of England's farmed area); the 2019 evaluation found monitored pollutant concentrations down 5-22% in target catchments, with modest modelled gains.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-09

Natural England / Environment Agency / Defra — accessed 2026-11-09

Natural England CSF Evaluation Report NE731 (2019) — accessed 2026-11-09

GOV.UK press release (14 Oct 2019) — accessed 2026-11-09

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