

Denver Water — From Forests to Faucets Watershed Protection Partnership (USA)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

After 1996 and 2002 wildfires choked Denver's reservoirs with sediment, Denver Water and the US Forest Service treated 120,000+ acres of watershed forest, investing nearly \$96M (2010–2027) to cut wildfire and erosion risk instead of costlier fixes downstream.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Denver Water](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Denver Water — Watershed Protection & Management](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Denver Water — Building a better forest](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Colorado Forest Restoration Institute — Forests to Faucets](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

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