

Eddleston Water Project — Whole-Catchment Natural Flood Management Trial in the Scottish Borders

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

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

A decade-plus monitored NFM experiment across 24 farms: 300,000+ native trees, ~40 leaky ponds and ~136 flow restrictors; reported ~30% lower upper-catchment 2-year flood peaks and up to 7 h delay, but limited effect in major floods.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[Tweed Forum / University of Dundee / Scottish Government](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[Tweed Forum — Eddleston Water progress](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[Scotland's NFM Handbook — Eddleston case study](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[RRC — 2025 UK River Prize finalist](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

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