

Han River Water Use Charge & Watershed Management Fund (South Korea)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · South Korea

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Since 1999, South Korea's Han River Law has charged downstream Seoul-area water users a use fee (KRW80 to KRW170/m³) to compensate 11 upstream districts for land-use restrictions, funding land purchases and water-quality programmes, though pollution disputes persist.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[Ministry of Environment - Han River Basin Environmental Office / Seoul Metropolitan Government](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[Seoul Solution: Han River Water Use Fee System](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[MDPI Water: Benefit Transfer for Water Management along the Han River in South Korea](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[MDPI Water: Water Policy Reforms in South Korea](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

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