

Kissimmee River Restoration — Reversing a Flood-Control Canal Back Into 44 Miles of Meandering River

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

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

A 50/50 USACE-SFWMD project backfilled 22 miles of the C-38 flood-control canal and re-carved 44 miles of the Kissimmee River's original meanders, rehydrating nearly 20,000 acres of Florida wetlands and lifting wading-bird density to 57.9 ± 31.7 birds/km² by 2014-15.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
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 2026-08-27

[U.S. Army Corps of Engineers & South Florida Water Management District](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[South Florida Water Management District — Kissimmee River Restoration](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[National Geographic — The Kissimmee River has been brought back to life](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[SFWMD 2016 South Florida Environmental Report, Chapter 9 — Kissimmee River Restoration and Basin Initiatives](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

Cite this — Evidoria. *Kissimmee River Restoration — Reversing a Flood-Control Canal Back Into 44 Miles of Meandering River*. Persistent ID: c16b2123-3dce-498b-a8e3-14a2147fd225.