

Knepp Wildland — 20+ Years of Rewilding a 1,400-Hectare Former Arable Farm (West Sussex, England)

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

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Since 2000 the Knepp Estate has replaced intensive farming on 1,400 ha with free-roaming grazers and natural regeneration; surveys report breeding birds up from 55 to 559 individuals (2007–2025) and soil carbon doubling, with caveats on carbon methods.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-02

[Knepp Estate](#) — accessed 2026-10-02

[Knepp Estate — rewilding](#) — accessed 2026-10-02

[Wikipedia — Knepp Wildland](#) — accessed 2026-10-02

[Pates et al. 2025, Ecological Solutions and Evidence](#) — accessed 2026-10-02

[Burrell et al. 2024, Ecological Solutions and Evidence](#) — accessed 2026-10-02

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