

Medmerry Managed Realignment — Europe's Largest Open-Coast Setback, Sussex

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

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Completed in 2013–14, Medmerry replaced failing shingle defences with a 7 km set-back embankment and a deliberate breach, creating ~183 ha of intertidal habitat within a 400 ha mosaic now run by RSPB.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-04

[Environment Agency with RSPB, Jacobs and Team Van Oord](#) — accessed 2026-10-04

[Landscape Institute case study](#) — accessed 2026-10-04

[ICE: Managed realignment at Medmerry](#) — accessed 2026-10-04

[Solent Protection Society: official opening](#) — accessed 2026-10-04

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