

Northern Kenya Grassland Carbon Project — Satellite Data Exposed Over-Crediting, Triggering Two Verra Suspensions

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Kenya

Quality score: 13/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Kenya's Northern Rangelands Trust certified soil-carbon credits across 1.9M hectares of rangeland; when validators found grazing records didn't match satellite vegetation data, Verra suspended crediting in 2023 and again in 2025, after 6.2M credits had already sold.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-31

Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT); certified under Verra's Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) — accessed 2026-08-31

Survival International – Blood Carbon: how a carbon offset scheme makes millions from Indigenous land in Northern Kenya — accessed 2026-08-31

Verra – Program Notice: Update on the Northern Kenya Grassland Carbon Project — accessed 2026-08-31

Mongabay – Carbon credits from award-winning Kenyan offset suspended by Verra (2023) — accessed 2026-08-31

Mongabay – Kenyan soil carbon project suspended for a second time (2025) — accessed 2026-08-31

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