

Satellite & LiDAR Monitoring Replaces Routine Farm Visits for England's Environmental Land Management Payments

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

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

England's Rural Payments Agency verifies Sustainable Farming Incentive and Countryside Stewardship payments using near-daily Planet satellite imagery and LiDAR height data, delivered under a multi-year Earth-i contract since 2023, instead of routine farm visits.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
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 2026-09-27

[Rural Payments Agency \(Defra\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[RPA: How we use remote monitoring technology \(Nov 2025\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[Farming News: Earth-i and Planet partner with RPA \(Sept 2023\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

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