

Seattle's Cedar River Municipal Watershed — Filtration-Avoidance Water Source Protection (USA)

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

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Seattle's ~100,000-acre Cedar River Municipal Watershed programme won EPA's rare 'Limited Alternative to Filtration' status in 2004, saving over \$100 million in plant construction while a 50-year habitat plan protects five salmon and trout species.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
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 2026-07-10

[Seattle Public Utilities \(City of Seattle\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[Seattle Public Utilities — Cedar River Watershed](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[US Water Alliance — One Water Spotlight: Seattle Public Utilities](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

[NOAA Fisheries — City of Seattle Cedar River HCP](#) — accessed 2026-07-10

Cite this — Evidoria. *Seattle's Cedar River Municipal Watershed — Filtration-Avoidance Water Source Protection (USA)*.
Persistent ID: 3a61d989-7225-4290-9267-1e11ae5adf1f.