

Sentinel Satellite “Checks by Monitoring” Replace On-Farm CAP Inspections — Lithuania’s CAPCON Service

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Lithuania

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Lithuania's Paying Agency replaced most on-farm EU subsidy inspections with continuous Sentinel-1/2 monitoring (CAPCON, ~94% classification accuracy), cutting required field checks to under 1% of parcels; the EU made this Area Monitoring System mandatory EU-wide from 2024.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

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

Lithuania National Paying Agency (NMA); Geomatrix UAB (CAPCON service); Sen4CAP consortium (KU Leuven-led, ESA-funded) — accessed 2026-08-31

European Court of Auditors – Special Report 4/2020: New technologies in agricultural monitoring — accessed 2026-08-31

ESA eo4society – Cultivated: Sentinel-1 CAP monitoring service from Lithuania — accessed 2026-08-31

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