

Singapore's Protected Water Catchments — Avoided-Cost Alternative to Desalination & Import

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Singapore

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Singapore treats two-thirds of its land as protected water catchment — including the 2,880 ha Central Catchment Nature Reserve — so local rainfall meets up to 40% of demand instead of relying on costlier desalination and imports, while sheltering primary rainforest remnants.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-11

[PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency / National Parks Board \(NParks\) — Central Catchment Nature Reserve](#) — accessed 2026-07-11

[PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency – Water Loop](#) — accessed 2026-07-11

[Wikipedia – Water supply and sanitation in Singapore](#) — accessed 2026-07-11

[Wikipedia – Central Catchment Nature Reserve](#) — accessed 2026-07-11

Cite this — Evidoria. *Singapore's Protected Water Catchments — Avoided-Cost Alternative to Desalination & Import*. Persistent ID: 0070da42-a27b-4ee7-9147-b2e676e8ccce.