

Skjern River Restoration — Denmark's Largest River Re-Meandering & Floodplain Rewetting

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Denmark

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Denmark re-meandered the channelised Skjern River from 19 to 26 km across 875 ha of rewetted floodplain (2001-2004), an EU LIFE-funded scheme that lifted breeding bittern from zero to four pairs and avocet to 85 pairs while retaining about 10% more nutrients.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
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 2026-08-27

[Danish Nature Agency \(Naturstyrelsen\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[EU LIFE Programme — Project LIFE00 NAT/DK/007116](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[ScienceDirect — 10 years after the largest river restoration project in Northern Europe](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[RESTORE Rivers — Skjern River Project case study](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

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