

Soufrière Marine Management Area — User-Financed Co-Managed Reserve Network

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Saint Lucia

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

St Lucia's Soufrière Marine Management Area (est. 1994/95) is a self-financing, multi-zoned reserve network. Studies found fish biomass quadrupled in its no-take reserves and adjacent catches rose 46-90% in five years, though a 2020 review found the model increasingly challenged.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-22

[Soufrière Marine Management Association \(SMMA\) / Government of Saint Lucia Department of Fisheries](#) — accessed 2026-07-22

[SMMA — official site](#) — accessed 2026-07-22

[Hawkins et al. 2006, Biological Conservation \(ScienceDirect\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-22

[Roberts et al. 2001, Science \(PubMed\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-22

[ScienceDirect — governance analysis of SMMA \(2020\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-22

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