

Tren Maya Environmental Compensation Programme — Contested Deforestation Offset (Mexico)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Mexico

Quality score: 7/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Mexico's government built a railway across the Yucatán Peninsula and is now running a compensation programme — wildlife crossings, species relocation, reforestation — for forest it cleared; independent satellite analysis found most of that clearing lacked legal authorisation.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales \(SEMARNAT\) / Fondo Nacional de Fomento al Turismo \(Fonatur\) — Government of Mexico](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[CCMSS — Deforestación por el Tren Maya en Quintana Roo \(CartoCrítica satellite analysis\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Mongabay — Mexico groups say Maya Train construction has caused significant deforestation](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Mongabay — Mexican government looks to correct Tren Maya environmental damages](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

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