

Water Hyacinth Weevil Biocontrol on Lake Victoria — Restoring Uganda's Owen Falls Dam and Fisheries

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Uganda

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Neochetina weevils released from 1995 cut Lake Victoria's 20,000-hectare water hyacinth mat to about 500 hectares by 2000, freeing Uganda's Owen Falls dam intake and boosting fish catches — though nutrient-driven regrowth returned in 2006, showing biocontrol's limits.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-13

[Uganda National Agricultural Research Organisation \(NARO\); Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project \(LVEMP\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-13

[SciDev.net: Lake Victorious — weevils defeat water hyacinths](#) — accessed 2026-09-13

[NASA Earth Observatory: Water Hyacinth Re-invades Lake Victoria](#) — accessed 2026-09-13

[ResearchGate: Biological Control of Water Hyacinth — A Case Study of Lake Victoria, Kenya](#) — accessed 2026-09-13

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