

Watercare's Hānua and Waitākere Native Forest Catchment Protection (Auckland, New Zealand)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · New Zealand

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Auckland's water utility Watercare is regenerating 2,000+ hectares of native forest in the Hānua and Waitākere Ranges — source of ~84% of the city's water — spending at least NZ\$15 million on planting over 30 years to protect water quality and defer costly treatment upgrades.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
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 2026-07-16

[Watercare Services Limited](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Watercare — Half a million native trees planted](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[NZ Herald — Native trees in the path of \\$400m water treatment plant](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Watercare — Sustainability and community](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

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