get nature positive

From Concrete to Biodiversity

Get Nature Positive – Methodology

«Get Nature Positive» partially or fully offsets the biodiversity deficits of existing or new properties. Depending on the certificate, the sealed area of a property is offset by nature projects in Switzerland. In addition, existing green spaces – where present – must be of high ecological quality. Companies, private individuals and public authorities (investors) thereby make a concrete contribution to a nature-positive world.

Get Nature Positive offers three different certificates, depending on the initial situation and the level of ambition of the property:

- **«Get Nature Positive 100»** was developed for properties with less than 10% green space. It requires full offsetting of the sealed area.
- **«Get Nature Positive 30|30»** is the entry-level certificate for properties with at least 10% green space. It requires offsetting of 30% of the sealed area and high ecological quality on at least 30% of the green space.
- **«Get Nature Positive Premium»** is suitable for properties with a particularly high level of ambition. It requires full offsetting of the sealed area and very high ecological quality of the green space.

All three certificates can be awarded to new buildings and existing properties.

Requirements for the «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate

1. Defining the project perimeter

As a rule, the project perimeter corresponds to one building plot.

- The project perimeter may comprise several plots if a building or building complex extends over several plots.
- For very large plots, e.g. outside the building zone, the project perimeter may be reduced to the area affected by the project.
- If only some of the buildings within a plot are to be certified, the plot may be divided.

2. Review of the initial state (new buildings only)

For new buildings, including replacement buildings and buildings less than 10 years old, GNP checks whether the exclusion criteria apply. As a rule, a rough check based on the nature inventories, the most recent orthophoto available before the start of construction and photos is sufficient; the initial state is not mapped. Vegetation that has developed spontaneously after demolition is not taken into account.

Construction projects on nature areas that are protected and subject to replacement obligations under Annex 1 of the Ordinance on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage (NHV), or that have a biotope value of 6 (see Table 1), cannot be certified by GNP. GNP may grant exceptions for habitats that can be replaced within 25 years AND for which adequate replacement is provided in agreement with the municipality or canton. The review of the initial state is based on the relevant municipal or cantonal nature inventories as well as the most recent orthophoto available before the start of construction and photos. If the presence of valuable habitats cannot be ruled out, GNP carries out an on-site inspection.

In addition to the habitat, GNP checks where possible whether protected species such as bats or building-nesting birds have been recorded on the plot. The municipal or cantonal nature inventories

are consulted for this purpose. If no inventory is publicly accessible, the responsible municipal office is contacted. If species occurrences are known, certification is only possible if replacement or relocation measures have been carried out beforehand in agreement with the municipality and the canton.

3. Recording the sealed areas

All sealed areas within the project perimeter are recorded, measured and added up (unit: square meters). For new construction projects, the landscaping plan or planting plan serves as the basis for data collection. For existing sealed areas that are certified retrospectively, the actual area is recorded on the basis of the official cadastral survey (buildings) and current orthophotos.
According to the Federal Statistical Office, sealed areas include buildings (including greenhouses) as well as paved surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, artificially created gravel or stone surfaces, etc. According to the biotope type mapping method we use (2024, Quadra GmbH), these areas have a biotope value of 0 or 1. These areas must be offset.
Sealed areas covered by tree crowns or other vegetation do not need to be offset. This also includes tree crowns from the neighboring plot that overhang the plot. For these, the state at the time of certification is decisive; if they disappear later, no subsequent offsetting is required. For new buildings, the intended target state according to the landscaping or planting plan applies. The same applies to gravel areas or grass pavers that are to be greened.
Ecologically valuable areas on or attached to the buildings can be deducted from the sealed area in accordance with Table 2.

4. Recording the share of green space (eligibility criterion)

The project perimeter minus the sealed area gives the green space (including sealed areas covered by tree crowns, biotope type “tree grid”). The share of green space is calculated by dividing the green space by the project perimeter. This certificate can only be awarded to properties with less than 10% green space. For properties with a larger share of green space, the «Get Nature Positive 30|30» and «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificates are available.

5. Calculating the area to be offset, time factor

Sealed areas (Step 3) are permanently no longer available to nature as habitat. They are therefore offset by newly created, ecologically valuable nature areas. However, new habitats need time to reach their full ecological value. To account for this development time, a time factor of 1.2 is applied: 1.2 m² of nature area is created per square meter of sealed area. This corresponds to an average development period of 10–25 years (Table 3; Hintermann & Weber 2017).

6. Matching with a nature project

The offset area is measured in m^2. Eligible are newly created or enhanced nature areas in Switzerland with a biotope value of 4 to 6 (Table 3) that will exist in the long term, i.e. for at least 20 years. These are nature areas that are also suitable for ecological compensation in accordance with Art. 18b NHG.

The nature project must achieve a significant ecological improvement of at least one quality level. The following additional quality requirements also apply:

- Offsetting takes place through newly created nature areas (nature projects) in Switzerland, if possible in the same or a directly adjacent biogeographical region (division into 6 regions according to FOEN 2022). The exact location of the nature areas must be recorded.
- The minimum size of nature projects is 5,000 m^2. Justified exceptions are possible. Very large properties can be offset with several nature areas. Conversely, several smaller properties can be offset with a joint nature project.
- Ecologically meaningful habitats adapted to the site are created.

- Where appropriate, different habitats are created within one nature project.
- The nature projects shall contribute to better connectivity of habitats in the landscape.
- Isolated areas in settlement areas, areas in high mountain regions, projects on crop rotation areas that give rise to compensation requirements, projects requiring a permit but lacking one, etc. may be excluded by GNP.

Further habitat-specific quality requirements are set out in an agreement between GNP and the land manager or landowner.

7. Crediting of offset areas created by the investor

Offset areas with biotope values of 4–6 (see Table 3) created independently by investors can also be credited. The areas must be located outside the project perimeter and must not have been created more than 2 years ago. No minimum size is required.

8. Calculation of the area fee and quality assurance contribution

The fee for the «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate (2026 index) is calculated as a fixed amount in Swiss francs per square meter of sealed area to be offset. It amounts to CHF 15 per m^2 for pilot projects (2026 index). The fee finances advice from GNP, the planning and implementation of the project by the project partner, communication by GNP (website, social media) and the certification body. A maximum of 30% of the fee is used for GNP's administrative costs. At least 10% of the fee is allocated to a biodiversity and guarantee fund. This enables GNP to implement particularly complex nature areas and to create reserve areas in advance (ex-post projects), so that GNP can replace nature areas at any time and the certificates are always backed by natural assets.

An annual quality assurance contribution of CHF 0.20 per m^2 secures the quality of the area in the long term. As a rule, the quality assurance contribution is paid as a lump sum covering 20 to 25 years (CHF 4 to 5 per m^2). This contribution finances the monitoring, the validation of the monitoring report by the certification body and a success bonus for the project partner.

Individually determined fees are possible, particularly for very large projects.

Because sealed areas hardly change over time, no recertification is required for this certificate. It remains valid until the agreement with the project partner expires.

9. Conditions for issuing the «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate

The «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate can be issued if the following conditions are met:

- For new buildings, the requirements according to Step 2 are met (exclusion criteria, protected species).
- The property has a share of green space of less than 10%.
- The sealed areas of the property are fully offset by nature projects in accordance with the applicable requirements (Step 6).

10. Issuing of the Get Nature Positive certificate by the certification body

As soon as the investor has signed the certification agreement and paid the certificate fee, the certification body issues a certificate containing the following information:

> "**XY Ltd** has offset the sealed area of the residential development at **x Street** in **PLACE 1** totaling **x m^2** by creating new ecologically valuable nature areas in **PLACE 2**. The property is awarded the certificate **Get Nature Positive 100.**"

Special case: biodiversity offsetting carried out entirely by the investor
If the investor creates sufficiently large nature areas outside the project perimeter that meet the GNP criteria (Step 6), GNP does not need to create its own new nature areas. However, costs are incurred for the area calculation and certification. The certification fee is a flat CHF 5,000 and also covers the first two monitorings in the first and second year after certification. Further monitoring takes place 5 years after the contract is signed and every 5 years thereafter. A monitoring fee of CHF 3,000 is charged for each of these (2026 index). Additional advisory services are charged as required.

Upgrade from «Get Nature Positive 100» to «Get Nature Positive Premium»
Properties with a «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate can obtain a «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate at a later date. The condition is that the share of green space reaches at least 10% through unsealing projects and that the green space meets the minimum ecological quality requirements of the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate. Certification fees are charged.

Requirements for the «Get Nature Positive 30|30» certificate

1. Defining the project perimeter
As a rule, the project perimeter corresponds to one building plot.

- The project perimeter may comprise several plots if a building or building complex extends over several plots.
- For very large plots, e.g. outside the building zone, the project perimeter may be reduced to the area affected by the project.
- If only some of the buildings within a plot are to be certified, the plot may be divided.

2. Review of the initial state (for new buildings and green space renovations)
For new buildings, including replacement buildings and buildings less than 10 years old, GNP checks whether the exclusion criteria apply. As a rule, a rough check based on the nature inventories, the most recent orthophoto available before the start of construction and photos is sufficient; the initial state is not mapped. For new buildings and green space renovations, the no-deterioration rule also applies. Vegetation that has developed spontaneously after demolition is not taken into account. Construction projects on nature areas that are protected and subject to replacement obligations under Annex 1 of the Ordinance on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage (NHV), or that have a biotope value of 6 (see Table 1), cannot be certified by GNP. GNP may grant exceptions for habitats that can be replaced within 25 years AND for which adequate replacement is provided in agreement with the municipality or canton. The review of the initial state is based on the relevant municipal or cantonal nature inventories as well as the most recent orthophoto available before the start of construction and photos. If the presence of valuable habitats cannot be ruled out, GNP carries out an on-site inspection.

No-deterioration rule: The target state of the green space shall not be worse than the initial state. The initial state is not systematically surveyed for this purpose. If there are concrete indications that the green space will lose significant ecological value as a result of the project, e.g. through the felling of old trees or the removal of species-rich meadows, GNP assesses the initial state and may raise the minimum requirements for the green space, at most up to the value of the initial state. The raised requirements must be met at the time of certification.

In addition to the habitat, GNP checks where possible whether protected species such as bats or building-nesting birds have been recorded on the plot. The municipal or cantonal nature inventories are consulted for this purpose. If no inventory is publicly accessible, the responsible municipal office

is contacted. If species occurrences are known, certification is only possible if replacement or relocation measures have been carried out beforehand in agreement with the municipality and the canton.

3. Recording the sealed areas

All sealed areas within the project perimeter are recorded, measured and added up (unit: square meters). For new construction projects, the landscaping plan or planting plan serves as the basis for data collection. For existing sealed areas that are certified retrospectively, the actual area is recorded on the basis of the official cadastral survey (buildings) and current orthophotos.
According to the Federal Statistical Office, sealed areas include buildings (including greenhouses) as well as paved surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, artificially created gravel or stone surfaces, etc. According to the biotope type mapping method we use (2024, Quadra GmbH), these areas have a biotope value of 0 or 1. These areas must be offset.
Sealed areas covered by tree crowns or other vegetation do not need to be offset. This also includes tree crowns from the neighboring plot that overhang the plot. For these, the state at the time of certification is decisive; if they disappear later, no subsequent offsetting is required. For new buildings, the intended target state according to the landscaping or planting plan applies. The same applies to gravel areas or grass pavers that are to be greened.
Ecologically valuable areas on or attached to the buildings can be deducted from the sealed area in accordance with Table 2.

4. Recording the share of green space (eligibility criterion)

The project perimeter minus the sealed area gives the green space (including sealed areas covered by tree crowns, biotope type “tree grid”). The share of green space is calculated by dividing the green space by the project perimeter. This certificate can only be awarded to properties with at least 10% green space. For properties with a smaller share of green space, the «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate is available.

5. Calculating the area to be offset, time factor

30% of the sealed area (Step 3) shall be offset by newly created, ecologically valuable nature areas. The property thereby makes a concrete contribution to achieving the UN 30x30 target.
New habitats need time to reach their full ecological value. To account for this development time, a time factor of 1.2 is applied: 1.2 m² of nature area is created per square meter of sealed area. This corresponds to an average development period of 10–25 years (Table 3; Hintermann & Weber 2017).

6. Matching with a nature project

The offset area is measured in m^2. Eligible are newly created or enhanced nature areas in Switzerland with a biotope value of 4 to 6 (Table 3) that will exist in the long term, i.e. for at least 20 years. These are nature areas that are also suitable for ecological compensation in accordance with Art. 18b NHG.

The nature project must achieve a significant ecological improvement of at least one quality level. The following additional quality requirements also apply:

- Offsetting takes place through newly created nature areas (nature projects) in Switzerland, if possible in the same or a directly adjacent biogeographical region (division into 6 regions according to FOEN 2022). The exact location of the nature areas must be recorded.
- The minimum size of nature projects is 5,000 m^2. Justified exceptions are possible. Very large properties can be offset with several nature areas. Conversely, several smaller properties can be offset with a joint nature project.
- Ecologically meaningful habitats adapted to the site are created.
- Where appropriate, different habitats are created within one nature project.

- The nature projects shall contribute to better connectivity of habitats in the landscape.
- Isolated areas in settlement areas, areas in high mountain regions, projects on crop rotation areas that give rise to compensation requirements, projects requiring a permit but lacking one, etc. may be excluded by GNP.

Further habitat-specific quality requirements are set out in an agreement between GNP and the land manager or landowner.

7. Crediting of offset areas created by the investor

Offset areas with biotope values of 4–6 (see Table 3) created independently by investors can also be credited. The areas must be located outside the project perimeter and must not have been created more than 2 years ago. No minimum size is required.

8. Recording and assessment of green spaces

The green space within the project perimeter is classified into biotope types (Table 1). Ideally, this is done during an inspection after completion of the construction work or green space renovation. If required, however, a pre-certificate can already be issued on the basis of design and planting plans. The target state of the green space is defined individually for each sub-area and does not yet have to be achieved at the time of certification. For example, freshly sown flower meadows are assessed on the basis of the seed mixture used and the site conditions. For newly planted trees, the crown area specified in the planting plan is decisive. Newly planted trees are not assessed as old tree stock, even if they have a large crown area; the decisive factor is the biotope type corresponding to their age at the time of certification. In the monitoring, the assessment is readjusted on the basis of the established species and the actual development. Measures that help to achieve the target state can be set out in the certification agreement and in subsequent monitoring (see Monitoring Concept). Compliance with the minimum requirements is calculated from all assessed sub-areas. At the time of certification, a biotope value of at least 4 must be achieved on 30% of the green space. Together with the 30% of the sealed area offset by nature projects, a total of 30% of the property's total area thus contributes to promoting biodiversity. The property thereby makes a concrete contribution to achieving the UN 30x30 target.

9. Minimum requirements for issuing the «Get Nature Positive 30|30» certificate

The «Get Nature Positive 30|30» certificate can be issued if the following conditions are met:

- For new buildings and green space renovations, the requirements according to Step 2 are met (exclusion criteria, no-deterioration rule, protected species).
- The property has a share of green space of at least 10%.
- 30% of the sealed areas have been offset by nature projects in Switzerland.
- At the time of certification, a biotope value of at least 4 is achieved on 30% of the green space.

10. Calculation of certification fees

The fee for the «Get Nature Positive 30|30» certificate (2026 index) is calculated from a fixed amount in Swiss francs per square meter of sealed area to be offset, a quality assurance contribution and a recurring flat-rate certification fee.

- The area fee amounts to CHF 15 per m^2 for pilot projects (2026 index). The fee finances advice from GNP, the planning and implementation of the project by the project partner, communication by GNP (website, social media) and the certification body. A maximum of 30% of the fee is used for GNP's administrative costs. At least 10% of the fee is allocated to a biodiversity and guarantee fund. This enables GNP to implement particularly complex nature

areas and to create reserve areas in advance (ex-post projects), so that GNP can replace nature areas at any time and the certificates are always backed by natural assets.
An annual quality assurance contribution of CHF 0.20 per m^2 secures the quality of the area in the long term. As a rule, the quality assurance contribution is paid as a lump sum covering 20 to 25 years (CHF 4 to 5 per m^2). This contribution finances the monitoring, the validation of the monitoring report by the certification body and a success bonus for the project partner.

- In addition to the area fees, a one-time flat-rate certification fee of CHF 5,000 (2026 index) is charged per property. The flat-rate fee covers the analysis and assessment of the biodiversity of the green space (target state; initial state if required), advice within a limited scope, the report, the expenses of the certification body, the monitoring in the first and second year after certification, and communication by GNP (website, social media) relating to the certification.
- A flat fee of CHF 3,000 (2026 index) is charged for each recertification every five years. The amount covers the monitoring, consisting of an on-site inspection – if possible together with the person responsible for the surroundings – the monitoring report in text and images, the expenses of the certification body, and communication by GNP (website, social media) relating to the recertification.
- Individually determined fees and subscription models are possible, particularly for very large projects.

11. Issuing of the «Get Nature Positive 30|30» certificate by the certification body

As soon as the investor has signed the certification agreement and paid the certificate fee, the certification body issues a certificate containing the following information:

"30% of the green space created by **XY Ltd** at **y Street** in **PLACE** meets high ecological requirements and achieves an average **biotope value of x.x**. In addition, 30% of the sealed area, totaling **x m^2**, has been offset by creating new ecologically valuable nature areas in **PLACE 2**. The property is awarded the certificate **Get Nature Positive 30|30**."

Special case: biodiversity offsetting carried out entirely by the investor

If the investor creates sufficiently large nature areas outside the project perimeter that meet the GNP criteria (Step 6), GNP does not need to create its own new nature areas. However, costs are incurred for the area calculation and certification. The certification fee is a flat CHF 5,000 and also covers the first two monitorings in the first and second year after certification. Further monitoring takes place 5 years after the contract is signed and every 5 years thereafter. A monitoring fee of CHF 3,000 is charged for each of these (2026 index). Additional advisory services are charged as required.

Upgrade from «Get Nature Positive 30|30» to «Get Nature Positive Premium»

Properties with a «Get Nature Positive 30|30» certificate can obtain a «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate at a later date. The condition is that a further 70% of the sealed area is offset by nature projects and that the green space meets the minimum ecological quality requirements of the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate. Area and certification fees are charged.

Requirements for the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate

1. Defining the project perimeter

As a rule, the project perimeter corresponds to one building plot.

- The project perimeter may comprise several plots if a building or building complex extends over several plots.
- For very large plots, e.g. outside the building zone, the project perimeter may be reduced to the area affected by the project.
- If only some of the buildings within a plot are to be certified, the plot may be divided.

2. Review of the initial state (for new buildings and green space renovations)

For new buildings, including replacement buildings and buildings less than 10 years old, GNP checks whether the exclusion criteria apply. As a rule, a rough check based on the nature inventories, the most recent orthophoto available before the start of construction and photos is sufficient; the initial state is not mapped. For new buildings and green space renovations, the no-deterioration rule also applies. Vegetation that has developed spontaneously after demolition is not taken into account. Construction projects on nature areas that are protected and subject to replacement obligations under Annex 1 of the Ordinance on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage (NHV), or that have a biotope value of 6 (see Table 1), cannot be certified by GNP. GNP may grant exceptions for habitats that can be replaced within 25 years AND for which adequate replacement is provided in agreement with the municipality or canton. The review of the initial state is based on the relevant municipal or cantonal nature inventories as well as the most recent orthophoto available before the start of construction and photos. If the presence of valuable habitats cannot be ruled out, GNP carries out an on-site inspection.

No-deterioration rule: The target state of the green space shall not be worse than the initial state. The initial state is not systematically surveyed for this purpose. If there are concrete indications that the green space will lose significant ecological value as a result of the project, e.g. through the felling of old trees or the removal of species-rich meadows, GNP assesses the initial state and may raise the minimum requirements for the green space, at most up to the value of the initial state. The raised requirements must be met at the time of certification.

In addition to the habitat, GNP checks where possible whether protected species such as bats or building-nesting birds have been recorded on the plot. The municipal or cantonal nature inventories are consulted for this purpose. If no inventory is publicly accessible, the responsible municipal office is contacted. If species occurrences are known, certification is only possible if replacement or relocation measures have been carried out beforehand in agreement with the municipality and the canton.

3. Recording the sealed areas

All sealed areas within the project perimeter are recorded, measured and added up (unit: square meters). For new construction projects, the landscaping plan or planting plan serves as the basis for data collection. For existing sealed areas that are certified retrospectively, the actual area is recorded on the basis of the official cadastral survey (buildings) and current orthophotos.
According to the Federal Statistical Office, sealed areas include buildings (including greenhouses) as well as paved surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, artificially created gravel or stone surfaces, etc. According to the biotope type mapping method we use (2024, Quadra GmbH), these areas have a biotope value of 0 or 1. These areas must be offset.
Sealed areas covered by tree crowns or other vegetation do not need to be offset. This also includes tree crowns from the neighboring plot that overhang the plot. For these, the state at the time of

certification is decisive; if they disappear later, no subsequent offsetting is required. For new buildings, the intended target state according to the landscaping or planting plan applies. The same applies to gravel areas or grass pavers that are to be greened.
Ecologically valuable areas on or attached to the buildings can be deducted from the sealed area in accordance with Table 2.

4. Recording the share of green space (eligibility criterion)

The project perimeter minus the sealed area gives the green space (including sealed areas covered by tree crowns, biotope type “tree grid”). The share of green space is calculated by dividing the green space by the project perimeter. This certificate can only be awarded to properties with at least 10% green space. For properties with a smaller share of green space, the «Get Nature Positive 100» certificate is available.

5. Calculating the area to be offset, time factor

Sealed areas (Step 3) are permanently no longer available to nature as habitat. They are therefore offset by newly created, ecologically valuable nature areas. However, new habitats need time to reach their full ecological value. To account for this development time, a time factor of 1.2 is applied: 1.2 m² of nature area is created per square meter of sealed area. This corresponds to an average development period of 10–25 years (Table 3; Hintermann & Weber 2017).

6. Matching with a nature project

The offset area is measured in m^2. Eligible are newly created or enhanced nature areas in Switzerland with a biotope value of 4 to 6 (Table 3) that will exist in the long term, i.e. for at least 20 years. These are nature areas that are also suitable for ecological compensation.

The nature project must achieve a significant ecological improvement of at least one quality level. The following additional quality requirements also apply:

- Offsetting takes place through newly created nature areas (nature projects) in Switzerland, if possible in the same or a directly adjacent biogeographical region (division into 6 regions according to FOEN 2022). The exact location of the nature areas must be recorded.
- The minimum size of nature projects is 5,000 m^2. Justified exceptions are possible. Very large properties can be offset with several nature areas. Conversely, several smaller properties can be offset with a joint nature project.
- Ecologically meaningful habitats adapted to the site are created.
- Where appropriate, different habitats are created within one nature project.
- The nature projects shall contribute to better connectivity of habitats in the landscape.
- Isolated areas in settlement areas, areas in high mountain regions, projects on crop rotation areas that give rise to compensation requirements, projects requiring a permit but lacking one, etc. may be excluded by GNP.

Further habitat-specific quality requirements are set out in an agreement between GNP and the land manager or landowner.

7. Crediting of offset areas created by the investor

Offset areas with biotope values of 4–6 (see Table 3) created independently by investors can also be credited. The areas must be located outside the project perimeter and must not have been created more than 2 years ago. No minimum size is required.

8. Recording and assessment of green spaces

The green space within the project perimeter is classified into biotope types (Table 1). Ideally, this is done during an inspection after completion of the construction work or green space renovation. If required, however, a pre-certificate can already be issued on the basis of design and planting plans. The target state of the green space is defined individually for each sub-area and does not yet have to be achieved at the time of certification. For example, freshly sown flower meadows are assessed on the basis of the seed mixture used and the site conditions. For newly planted trees, the crown area specified in the planting plan is decisive. Newly planted trees are not assessed as old tree stock, even if they have a large crown area; the decisive factor is the biotope type corresponding to their age at the time of certification. In the monitoring, the assessment is readjusted on the basis of the established species and the actual development. Measures that help to achieve the target state can be set out in the certification agreement and in subsequent monitoring (see Monitoring Concept).

Compliance with the minimum requirements is calculated from all assessed sub-areas. At the time of certification, the green space must achieve an average biotope value of at least 3, and a biotope value of at least 4 must be achieved on 30% of the green space. The average is calculated as follows: each sub-area is multiplied by its biotope value, the products are added up and divided by the total green space.

9. Minimum requirements for issuing the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate

The «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate can be issued if the following conditions are met:

- For new buildings and green space renovations, the requirements according to Step 2 are met (exclusion criteria, no-deterioration rule, protected species).
- The property has a share of green space of at least 10%.
- All sealed areas have been offset by nature projects.
- The green space achieves an average biotope value of at least 3.
- A biotope value of at least 4 is achieved on at least 30% of the green space.

10. Certification fee for the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate

The fee for the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate (2026 index) is calculated from a fixed amount in Swiss francs per square meter of sealed area to be offset, a quality assurance contribution and a recurring flat-rate certification fee.

- The area fee amounts to CHF 15 per m^2 for pilot projects (2026 index). The fee finances advice from GNP, the planning and implementation of the project by the project partner, communication by GNP (website, social media) and the certification body. A maximum of 30% of the fee is used for GNP's administrative costs. At least 10% of the fee is allocated to a biodiversity and guarantee fund. This enables GNP to implement particularly complex nature areas and to create reserve areas in advance (ex-post projects), so that GNP can replace nature areas at any time and the certificates are always backed by natural assets.
- An annual quality assurance contribution of CHF 0.20 per m^2 secures the quality of the area in the long term. As a rule, the quality assurance contribution is paid as a lump sum covering 20 to 25 years (CHF 4 to 5 per m^2). This contribution finances the monitoring, the validation of the monitoring report by the certification body and a success bonus for the project partner.
- In addition to the area fees, a one-time flat-rate certification fee of CHF 5,000 (2026 index) is charged per property. The flat-rate fee covers the analysis and assessment of the biodiversity of the green space (target state; initial state if required), advice within a limited scope, the report, the expenses of the certification body, the monitoring in the first and second year after certification, and communication by GNP (website, social media) relating to the certification.

- A flat fee of CHF 3,000 (2026 index) is charged for each recertification every five years. The amount covers the monitoring, consisting of an on-site inspection – if possible together with the person responsible for the surroundings – the monitoring report in text and images, the expenses of the certification body, and communication by GNP (website, social media) relating to the recertification.
- Individually determined fees and subscription models are possible, particularly for very large projects.

11. Issuing of the «Get Nature Positive Premium» certificate by the certification body

After the certification agreement between the investor and GNP has been signed and the certificate fee has been paid by the investor, the certification body issues a certificate containing the following information:

> "The green space created by **XY Ltd** at **y Street** in **PLACE** meets high ecological requirements and achieves an average **biotope value of x.x**. In addition, all sealed areas of the property have been fully offset with xxxx m^2 of newly created nature areas in **PLACE**. The property is awarded the certificate **Get Nature Positive Premium.**"

Special case: biodiversity offsetting carried out entirely by the investor

If the investor creates sufficiently large nature areas outside the project perimeter that meet the GNP criteria (Step 6), GNP does not need to create its own new nature areas. However, costs are incurred for the area calculation and certification. The certification fee is a flat CHF 5,000 and also covers the first two monitorings in the first and second year after certification. Further monitoring takes place 5 years after the contract is signed and every 5 years thereafter. A monitoring fee of CHF 3,000 is charged for each of these (2026 index). Additional advisory services are charged as required.

Table 1: Biotope values and habitat types

Biotope value initial state	Nature areas (habitat types)
Without value (biotope value 0, 1)	Sealed areas Roads Buildings Stone paving Sports ground Construction site Animal enclosure Stand of invasive non-native plants
Low ecological value (biotope value 2)	Structurally poor forest edge Timber storage area Artificial/non-natural stream Artificial/non-natural river Ornamental pond, wastewater treatment plants, road runoff treatment systems (SABA) Fertilized meadow and pasture Arable land Vegetable and other horticultural area Flower horticultural area Tree nursery Espalier fruit plantation Berry bush plantation Vineyard without terraces Agricultural storage area Species-poor ruderal vegetation Species-poor mown lawn (utility lawn) Ornamental shrubbery/hedge of predominantly non-native woody species Ornamental hedge/clipped hedge Urban woodland of predominantly non-native tree species Tree grid without tree pits Tree grid with lawn Tree row/grid with gravel surface Flower bed/border Fruit and vegetable garden Species-poor ornamental garden Intensively maintained park Other sports, play and leisure facilities Structurally poor green space Species-poor sedum flat roof vegetation Intensive flat roof greening Area with unconsolidated pit gravel or sand Commercial area (small businesses and small-scale storage areas)
Medium ecological value (biotope value 3)	Structurally poor forest edge with enhancement potential Bramble thicket Successional scrub Heavily impaired stream Heavily impaired river Heavily impaired standing water of natural origin Tall-herb vegetation with goldenrod Bracken stand on nutrient-poor sites

	Structurally and species-poor nutrient-poor pasture Intensive grassland on fen sites Shaded nutrient-poor meadow Rotational wildflower fallow Terraced vineyard Ruderal vegetation on nutrient-rich, fresh to moist sites Ruderal vegetation on nutrient-rich, fresh to moist sites with woody plants Semi-ruderal grass and herb vegetation on moist sites Semi-ruderal grass and herb vegetation on mesic sites Species-rich mown lawn (flowering lawn) Structurally poor ornamental shrubbery/hedge of predominantly native woody species Structurally poor urban woodland of predominantly native tree species Tree grid with tree pits (incl. asphalt in between) Tree grid with old trees without tree pits Tree grid with ornamental hedge Tree grid with fertilized meadow Cottage garden Domestic garden Park cemetery Natural stone wall Species-rich sedum flat roof vegetation
Ecologically valuable (biotope value 4)	Intensively used forest Solitary tree Avenue High-stem orchard with fertilized meadow Watercourse Slightly impaired stream Slightly impaired river Meadow ditch Near-natural, nutrient-rich standing water Moist oat-grass meadow (Arrhenatherion) Species-poor oat-grass meadow Semi-ruderal grass and herb vegetation on sites with alternating moisture Wild perennial bed* Structurally rich ornamental shrubbery/hedge of predominantly native woody species Structurally rich urban woodland of predominantly native tree species Tree grid with ruderal undergrowth Tree grid with old trees and tree pits Tree grid with old trees and ornamental hedge Tree grid with old trees and lawn Tree row/grid with old trees and gravel surface Tree grid with oat-grass meadow Tree grid with old trees and fertilized meadow Tree grid with species-rich, semi-ruderal herb vegetation Species-rich garden with large trees Allotment gardens Structurally rich green space Ruderal flat roof vegetation (≥ 12 cm substrate) Meadow-like flat roof vegetation (≥ 20 cm substrate) Near-natural roof greening with woody plants and wild perennial undergrowth*

Ecologically very valuable (biotope value 5)	Stepped forest edge Scrub on dry, warm sites Mesophilic scrub Willow swamp scrub Shrub hedge Shrub-tree hedge Tree hedge Near-natural field copse High-stem orchard with BFF quality on oat-grass meadow Natural/near-natural stream Natural/near-natural river Near-natural small water body Near-natural, nutrient-poor standing water of natural origin Nutrient-rich swamp Stand of blunt-flowered rush Pioneer vegetation on muddy wet sites Natural limestone rock vegetation Natural conglomerate (Nagelfluh) rock vegetation Natural sandstone rock vegetation Oat-grass meadow with BFF quality Structurally rich nutrient-poor pasture Ruderal vegetation on dry, warm sites with woody plants Semi-ruderal grass and herb vegetation on dry sites Tree grid with old trees and ruderal undergrowth Tree grid with old trees and oat-grass meadow Tree row/grid with oat-grass meadow with BFF quality Tree grid with old trees and species-rich, semi-ruderal herb vegetation Natural garden Old landscape park
Excluded due to NHV replacement obligation (biotope value 5)	Marsh marigold meadow Typical willow floodplain scrub Ruderal vegetation on dry, warm sites Reed canary grass riverbank reed bed Sweet-grass stream reed bed Tall-herb vegetation with meadowsweet
Excluded because hardly or not at all replaceable (biotope value 6)	Forest types protected under the Federal Act on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage (NHG) South-facing stepped forest edge Shrub hedge with BFF quality Shrub-tree hedge with BFF quality High-stem orchard with old trees High-stem orchard with nutrient-poor meadow Tree row/grid with old trees on oat-grass meadow with BFF quality River gravel pioneer vegetation Terrestrialization zone of nutrient-poor standing water with submerged vegetation Floating-leaf communities Reed bed with terrestrialization zone Lake club-rush reed bed Bulrush (Typha) reed bed Terrestrial reed bed

	Tussocky large-sedge swamp Large-sedge swamp outside water level fluctuations Large-sedge swamp with lesser pond sedge Large-sedge swamp with saw-sedge Large-sedge swamp with hairy-fruited sedge Davall sedge fen Black bog-rush fen Small-sedge fen with yellow sedge Acidic small-sedge fen Purple moor-grass meadow, small-sedge form, moist Purple moor-grass meadow, small-sedge form, dry Pure purple moor-grass stand on peat Calcareous nutrient-poor grassland Other nutrient-poor grassland Nutrient-poor meadow on sites with alternating dryness Moderately dry nutrient-poor meadow Structurally rich, species-rich nutrient-poor pasture

Habitats: Quadra GmbH/Grün Stadt Zürich (link), biotope values of urban green spaces, City of St.Gallen 2024. Biotope types marked with * are a technical addition by GNP. BFF = biodiversity promotion area (Biodiversitätsförderfläche) under Swiss agricultural law.

Table 2: Eligibility of biodiversity promotion measures on or attached to buildings

Habitats and structures	**Unit**	**Eligibility**
Well-established, near-naturally greened flat roofs, balconies or terraces with a substrate depth of ≥ 12 cm (Zurich checklist)	Area in m^2	Half
Well-established, near-naturally greened flat roofs, balconies or terraces with a substrate depth of at least 20 cm	Area in m^2	Full
Greened façades or walls with at least one native species	Area in m^2	Full
Targeted species promotion: nest boxes for birds, bat boxes, etc.	per object	2 m^2

Table 3: Eligible ecologically valuable nature areas in nature projects

Habitats and structures	Unit	Ecol. quality	Regene-ration time*
Raised bogs	Area in m^2	6	> 200 years
Fens	Area in m^2	6	10–25 years
Purple moor-grass meadows	Area in m^2	6	10–25 years
Tall-herb vegetation, e.g. with meadowsweet	Area in m^2	5	5–10 years
Marsh marigold meadow	Area in m^2	4	5–10 years
Moist oat-grass meadow (Arrhenatherion)	Area in m^2	4	5–10 years
Species-poor oat-grass meadow	Area in m^2	4	5–10 years
Oat-grass meadow QII (typical hay meadow)	Area in m^2	4-5	10–25 years
Nutrient-poor meadow on sites with alternating dryness	Area in m^2	6	10–25 years
Moderately dry nutrient-poor meadow	Area in m^2	6	25–50 years
Structurally rich nutrient-poor pasture (5–20% structures)	Area in m^2	5	5–10 years
Structurally rich, species-rich nutrient-poor pasture QII (5–20% structures, 6 indicator plants)	Area in m^2	6	10–25 years
High-stem orchards (QII criteria, excluding allocated areas)	1 are per tree	5-6	25–50 years
Solitary trees, avenues or copses with native or climate-adapted species from Europe.	Potential crown area in m^2	4-5	50–100 years
Wild hedge with site-appropriate species in a diverse mix, incl. herbaceous fringe	Area in m^2	5	10–25 years
Floodplain willow scrub	Area in m^2	5	5–10 years
Near-natural standing water, small biotopes or ponds with buffer strip	Area in m^2 plus 2 m buffer	4-6	5–10 years
Near-natural streams	Area in m^2 incl. riparian zone	5	5–10 years
Ecologically valuable forest (e.g. wood pasture, natural or special forest reserves)	Area in m^2	5-6	25–200 years
Stepped forest edge	Linear meter	5-6	10–25 years
Unmortared dry stone walls	Vertical area of the wall face	Not assessed	< 5 years
Small structures	Area in m^2	Not assessed	< 5 years
Nesting aids for birds or bats	2 m^2 per nesting aid	Not assessed	< 5 years
Species-rich ruderal vegetation	Area in m^2	5	< 5 years
Wild perennial bed (semi-ruderal herb vegetation)	Area in m^2	4	< 5 years

* Regeneration times: Info Flora, Red List of Habitats of Switzerland 2016 (supplemented with less common habitats).