



Do beavers cause problems?

Beavers may cut down the wrong tree, such as a garden or orchard tree. They may cause floods in the wrong place, such as by a gate where a tractor needs to go.

What can be done?

Trees can be wrapped with rabbit wire. A range of mitigation techniques are available for other problems. SWBG can advise.

What about beavers and fish?

Beavers are herbivores and don't eat fish. They don't dam big rivers. In smaller streams and ditches they may build dams and make excellent habitat for salmonid parr. Most beaver dams can be negotiated by migrating fish, but if on a rare occasion a beaver dam is blocking access for salmon it can be breached. **On balance beavers vastly benefit salmon** and they are used in USA to help bring salmon back to rivers ruined by logging.

For more information or advice, or to join, contact: Scottish Wild Beaver Group via our website: www.scottishwildbeavers.org.

Scottish Wild Beaver Group

here to help everyone understand and enjoy Scotland's wild beavers
(SCIO) Charity No. SCO 42626

Membership Subscription Form

I would like to join Scottish Wild Beaver Group and enclose:

Annual Subscription: £15
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Donation. £.....
Name:.....
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Enclosed: £..... (We will not

pass your information on to anyone) Please make all **cheques** payable to **Scottish Wild Beaver Group** and return this form with payment to **SWBG Membership Secretary, Gilmore House, Perth Road, Blairgowrie, PH10 6EJ.** For **general membership enquiries** email: j@gilmorehouse.co.uk.

Gift Aid: this will enable us to claim up to 25p for every £1 donated or paid through subscriptions. "I want Scottish Wild Beaver Group to treat my subscription/donation and all donations from this date as Gift Aid donations."

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Beavers in Tayside



Hunted to extinction for their fur about 400 years ago, beavers are back in the wild in Tayside.

What's all this about beavers?

EU countries are required to consider reintroducing animals that are locally extinct. Reintroducing beavers has been under consideration in Scotland for 15 years. In 1998 a poll showed that the majority of Scots were in favour.

Where are they all?

A small trial reintroduction was initiated in Knapdale, Argyll, in 2009, but in the meantime a group of beavers had begun establishing themselves in the vast network of waterways in the Tay. This population has been building since 2001 and is now thought to number 120 individuals.

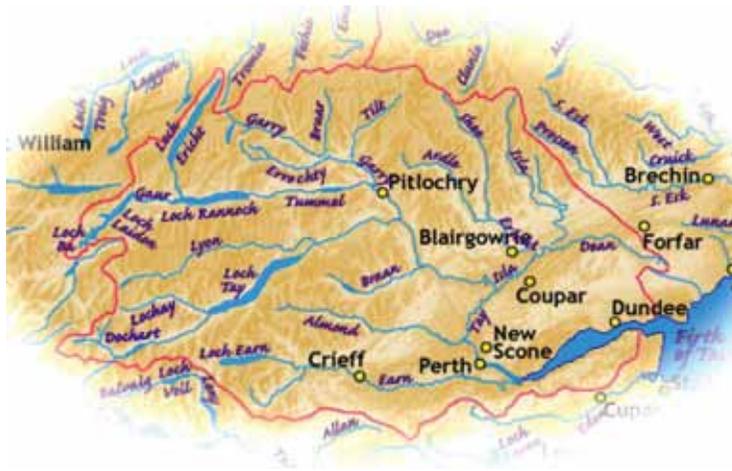


Is anyone against the beavers?

In 2010 SNH, with the backing of certain bodies with an interest in the countryside announced its intention to trap and remove the Tay beavers but a Facebook campaign was set up to save them: "Save the Free Beavers of the Tay". No official trapping happened after March 2011. In March 2012 the Environment Minister announced a new policy to monitor the population until 2015. SWBG welcomes this step but believes that the Tay Beavers are legally protected under EU law as they are established in the wild in their natural range.

The Tay Catchment

- home of the free beavers -



What do beavers do?

They chop down trees near water – often willow which coppice abundantly the following year. They build dams & lodges and dig canals.

What is the result?

They create wonderful wetland habitat that benefits thousands of other species, which evolved with beavers and have suffered from habitat loss that resulted from beaver extinction. Beaver coppice stabilises riverbanks. Their dams improve water purity and slow down floodwaters.

Few creatures on the planet can create such profound positive changes to their environment.

How do I know if there are beavers in my area?

You will see small trees and branches that are cut to a pencil point. There may be wood chips lying near them.



You may see woody debris dams across small streams and ditches.



If you're lucky you might see a beaver.