

Thank you



Wildlife Trust for
**Beds, Cambs
& Northants**

This is to certify that you have **adopted a beaver**

Eurasian beaver. Scientific name: *Castor fiber*. Family: Castoridae.

The Eurasian beaver, a native species to the UK, is an industrious architect of the natural world with a unique set of skills. With powerful jaws and sharp teeth, they can cut down trees, construct intricate dams, and manipulate waterways.

Beavers vanished in the 16th century due to hunting for fur, meat, and scent glands. Their disappearance also meant losing the remarkable landscapes they shaped, including lakes, meres, mires, tarns, and bogs. The Wildlife Trusts are committed to bringing these fantastic mammals back to Britain.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. I. Jackson".

Matt Jackson, Director of Conservation



We need your help

In order to get Delta Pit ready for the new beaver arrivals, we have to do some serious preparation.

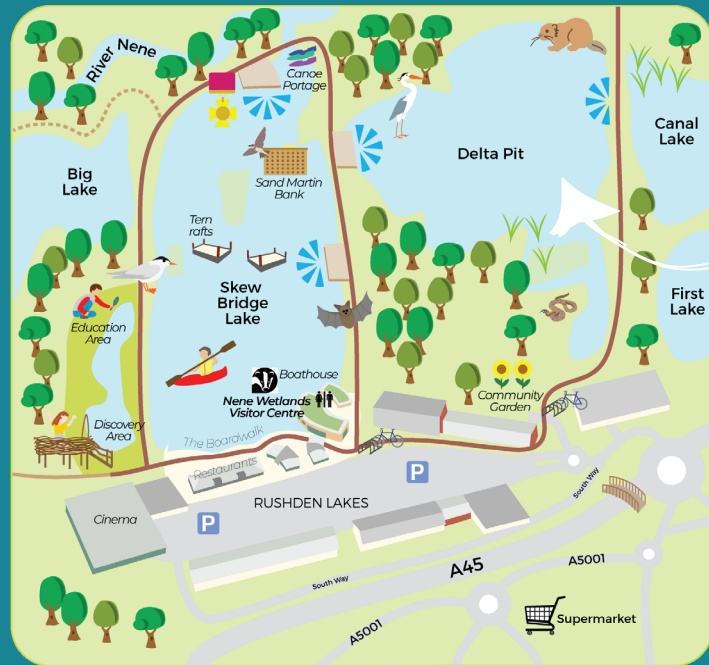
Under current legislation, beavers can only be released into an enclosure. This means fencing all of Delta Pit – that's 1,650 metres of beaver-proof fencing to install, plus two gates. We also need to undertake some work to prepare the area for the fences.

Once they are here, the health and welfare of the beavers is paramount, and we aim to monitor them regularly

via trail cameras at feeding points, and carrying out regular health checks. We will be constantly assessing how good a job they are doing by surveying the area and recording how the habitat and other wildlife is changing.

We will also be installing plenty of opportunities for visitors to engage with, and learn about, the project, including viewing platforms, bespoke artwork and interpretation.

It's a lot of work, but it's worth it. Can you help us cover the costs?



Find out more and donate online:



wildlifebcn.org/beaver-appeal



The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants, The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne CB23 6DH. Email: cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org | Registered charity no.: 1000412



Wildlife Trust for
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& Northants**

Factsheet

David Parkyn/Cornwall WT



BEAVERS back in Northamptonshire

Why bring beavers back?

This is more than just bringing back a species; it's about restoring an entire lost ecosystem. Beavers, known as 'ecosystem engineers,' reshape their environments by building canals, dams, and maintaining plant species. These changes create diverse wetlands, benefiting otters, water shrews, water voles, birds, dragonflies, and breeding fish.

Where did they go?

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The Wildlife Trusts are committed to bringing these fantastic mammals back to Britain.

Find out more:
wildlifebcn.org/beavers



Beaver Factfile



Diet: Aquatic plants, tree bark and leaves.

Habitat: Streams, rivers and lakes next to woodland.

Size: Beavers are among the largest rodents and can weigh up to 30kg. They measure well over a meter from head to tail.

Predators: Adults have no natural predators.

Did you know...
Beaver teeth are bright orange because they contain iron to strengthen them, which oxidises in the air.

Appearance: Beavers have brown fur, a flat, broad tail and huge orange teeth.

Common names: Beaver, European beaver
Origin: Native to Britain
Scientific name: *Castor fiber*
Family: *Castoridae*

The Benefits of Beavers



More Wildlife:

Beavers create diverse wetland habitats that become home to a wide range of wildlife including water voles, amphibians and especially aquatic invertebrates, which serve as a food source for various other species.



Engagement with Wildlife:

The presence of beavers in an area fascinates people and offers an opportunity for wildlife engagement. We have exciting plans to engage people from all walks of life at the Nene Wetlands, which is right next to Rushden Lakes shopping centre.



Improved Water Quality:

Beaver dams slow and filter water, leading to the deposition of sediment and nutrients. This, in turn, enhances the quality of water flowing from areas where beavers are present.



Enhanced Water Management:

Beaver construction of dams, ponds and channels boosts land's water storage capacity, leading to steadier water flow, reduced stormwater release, and increased water availability during droughts.

Image by wirestock on Freepik



David Parkyn/Corbis/WT

BEAVERS

@ Delta Pit at the Nene Wetlands

We will be releasing a pair of beavers into a 17 hectare enclosure at Delta Pit at our Nene Wetlands nature reserve. We are excited that our project will be the first in our area, and being so close to the Rushden Lakes shopping centre means that we will also be able to share their progress with a large local population and a significant number of visitors, making our beavers the most accessible anywhere in the UK.

At Delta Pit, a body of water without any running water, they will act as natural management tools, reducing scrub growth, managing willow cover and helping to increase and maintain the area of reedbed.

We hope they will replace and improve upon the current manual labour-intensive management of this difficult

area. Even though they will not be re-flooding any area of this site with a dam due to a lack of running water, they will still need to build and maintain a lodge.

The project takes a lot of planning, collaboration and preparation, and our beaver working group has been hard at work combining the efforts of staff right across our organisation. All the necessary permissions have been obtained, and we have worked with the Beaver Trust to ensure we can source the beavers themselves and provide for all aspects of their welfare.

The site at the Nene Wetlands has been identified and is being carefully mapped and surveyed to ensure we can record all the changes that will happen once the beavers get to work.



Josh Heilon