



Beaver Update

October 2025

Jonathan Willet (3 November 2025)

Beaver Population Summary

Year 1 releases – 18

Year 2 releases – 15

2024 wild-born kits – 2 (from two families)

2025 wild-born kits – 18 (from eight families)

Total = 53 (including 1 beaver outwith the Park boundary)

Note

The 2025 beaver survey of the Spey is being finalised and will be circulated in November.

Activity

- Rothiemurchus (Lily Loch): Beavers still active on the site.
- Wildland 1: Further Aspen have been felled, around 10% of the total number of trees in this area (n=117) and a further 10% are being fed on. At the nearby loch, 2 mature trees have been felled and 2 are being fed on, there are approx 10 mature Aspen in this area.
- Wildland 1. The dam that has been built on outflow burn of a large loch. The dam has remained intact and has not been added to since it was first constructed. Normal winter water levels have been maintained. The rain of the final week in October has caused the dam to overtop, draining the loch.
- Wildland 2: No change on site.
- Insh Marshes. Beavers still active on the site and have explored nearly all of the reserve.
- Wildland 3: No change on site, no sign of a lodge or burrow.
- Wildland 4: Possible second burrow found, the beavers are still active on the site.
- Inshriach: Beavers are still active on the site.



- Loch Morlich: Beavers are still active on the site.
- Aviemore: Very few feeding fresh signs seen this month, downstream of the B970 bridge.
- Kingussie Grazings: Some fresh feedings signs, one beaver was seen on camera twice this month.

Sites outwith Kingussie to Aviemore

- Cromdale beaver kit. Seen in early October, more recent feeding signs recorded.
- Garmouth beaver. No new reports.
- Laggan Bridge. Fresh feeding signs found on 31/10/25, a beaver was also heard submerging.

Monitoring and Mitigation Plan Actions

- Monthly patrols of release sites undertaken.
- Weekly patrols of high impact areas have been undertaken.
- Beaver dam removal site. No recent activity.
- River Druie from The Spey to Coylumbridge: No beaver feeding signs were seen.

Raising Awareness and Understanding

- 27/10/25. 8 students, 3 teachers from Glen Urquhart High School, at the CNPA Office. Talk on benefits & challenges of beavers.
- 29/10/25. 12 folk. Lochaber Mor Group. Visited 3 beaver sites to talk about the opportunities and issues relating to beavers.