



Beaver Update

July 2026

Pete Short and Jonathan Willet (13 August 2026)

Beaver Population Summary

Year 1 releases – 18

Year 2 releases – 15

Year 3 releases – 7

Total = 40

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

2025 wild-born kits – 18 (from 8 families)

2026 wild-born kits – 12* (from 7 families)

Total = 32

*running total, population monitoring is still underway to confirm final 2026 breeding

Total of 72 (including, possibly, 2 beavers outwith the National Park boundary – Fochabers/ Spey Mouth).

Activity

- Rothiemurchus (Lochan Mor/ Lily Loch): Beavers still active on the site. No kits seen during the kit watch period. We will keep watching this site until the end of the month.
- Kinrara 1: Beavers are still active on this site. 3 kits this year.
- Kinrara 2: Beavers are still active on this site. 2 kits this year.
- Kinrara 3: Limited activity on site. No beavers seen on site this month
- Kinrara 4: Limited activity on site. No beavers seen on site this month
- Glen Tromie: Fresh feeding activity upstream from the release site on the Tromie, almost all Rowan trees.
- Insh Marshes: Beavers still active on site and have explored nearly all of the reserve. Single kit seen on camera from two territories and two kits at the third territory.
- Inshriach: Beavers are still active on the site. Two, well-grown kits seen.



- Loch Morlich 1: Beavers are still active on the site. Ten reports of a single kit since late May. The kit was filmed by a local resident at the beginning of August and both parents and last year's kits were seen on site.
- Loch Morlich 2: Beavers not seen this month. There has been a willow felled at the very top of the Luineag, which may have been done by one of these beavers.
- Aviemore area: Recent feeding signs seen by the No.3 green on the golf course.
- Kingussie Grazings: No fresh feeding activity, lots of coppice regrowth from the felled willows.

Sites outwith Kingussie to Aviemore

- Cromdale beaver: Site presumed abandoned.
- Garmouth beaver: One report of two beavers in Fochabers/ Spey Mouth area – still to be confirmed.
- Laggan Bridge: Little fresh feeding but a scent mound was found.
- Boat of Garten: No activity seen this month.
- Grantown between the A95 bridge and the Cairn Distillery: Fresh activity signs seen.
- River Nethy (below the Telford bridge): Single beaver seen on camera. Scent mound and grazing signs found. Activity in the Spey, close to Broomhill bridge, seen by fishermen.

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 activity.

Raising Awareness and Understanding

- Outside In, beaver walk and talk, Glenmore. 9 July.

N.B. If beavers are found in an area where the landowner was not previously aware of their presence, the Park Authority will contact that landowner. The Park Authority does not routinely contact landowners with general updates; this monthly update does that. There are WhatsApp Groups for landowners around releases sites and also in any high impact areas, which have beavers present e.g. Laggan.