



The Cairngorms National Park Authority's Commitment to Beaver Mitigation in the National Park

The Park Authority is committed to supporting land managers in living alongside beavers. As the licence applicant we will provide additional resource and be the primary point of contact for mitigation and management in the National Park. The additional support being offered to businesses, landowners and the general public within the Park includes:

- Single, named point of contact within the Park Authority, the Beaver Project Manager
- Access to additional staff and volunteers to undertake monitoring
- Regular monitoring undertaken to detect the range and spread of beavers within the National Park boundary
- Dialogue with landowners / managers and the public the Park Authority to identify and map areas of high-impact
- Continued development of the list of potentially high-impact sites
- Extensive proactive monitoring will be undertaken on high-impact sites when beaver presence is detected
- Landowners / managers contacted when beaver signs are detected on their land
- Quick responses to requests for site visits
- The Park Authority will offer to make, on behalf of the landowner / manager, any European Protected Species licence application that is required for mitigation works
- Additional budget provided by the Park Authority, as the licence applicant, to fund small-scale mitigation activities and remedial works not covered by the national mitigation scheme, to be agreed between the landowner / manager and the Park Authority on a case-by-case basis

Note: All mitigation licence applications must pass the three European Protected Species [Licencing Tests](#) before they can be approved



Scenario	National mitigation scheme	Park Authority added resource
Individual tree protection using weldmesh	Some protection of high value trees will be supported by Mitigation Scheme. This excludes private gardens	Weldmesh provided and will be fitted by the Park Authority, if requested by the landowner, for a limited number of individual trees. Includes private gardens
Large-scale tree protection through fencing*	A limited set of circumstances where exclusion fencing is considered appropriate other than as a trial or demonstration	Support (materials and/or funding) for the installation of large-scale fencing will only be provided in exceptional circumstances
Dam identified within two weeks of it being built	Removal at the landowner's expense	Will remove the dam if requested to do so by the landowner
Dam identified after two weeks. Landowner does want that area dammed	Licence application by the land manager to NatureScot for dam removal. At the applicant's expense	Will apply for a licence on behalf of the landowner and if successful remove the dam, if requested to do so
Dam acceptable but the extent of flooding is not	Flow devices suggested. Licence application by the land manager. Installation carried out under licence by NatureScot	Will apply for a licence on behalf of the landowner and if successful will install the flow device, if requested to do so
Collapsed burrows affecting access	Normally carried out by land manager at own expense. Viewed as	A budget to fund some remedial works is available and this will be



	repair rather than mitigation	evaluated on a case-by-case basis
Destruction of burrow or lodge	Licence application by the land manager to NatureScot for destruction of burrow or lodge	Will apply for a licence on behalf of the landowner and if successful will seek specialist advice to deliver this
Beaver detected in high-impact area	Not mapped by NatureScot	High-impact sites mapped. If beavers are present close to these sites, monitoring frequency will be increased
Assessing and monitoring flood embankments	Not undertaken by Nature Scot	An initial survey of the flood banks will be completed in winter 2023/24 to provide a baseline of flood bank location and condition with periodic surveys thereafter
Impact on flood embankments	Landowner's responsibility to remediate	Grant assistance will be available for any breach in the flood banks in the National Park proven to be caused by beaver burrowing where the flood bank was shown previously to be in good condition. Time limited until March 2026



<p>The above mitigation techniques are not working</p>	<p>Licence application by the landowner / manager for translocation</p> <p>If successful, NatureScot trap and re-locate</p>	<p>Undertake translocation licence application on behalf of landowner / manager</p>
<p>Translocation is unsuccessful or there is no other satisfactory solution</p>	<p>The landowner / manager applies for a lethal control licence</p> <p>If a licence is approved the landowner / manager can cull the beaver and must return the cadaver to NatureScot</p>	<p>Undertake lethal control licence application on behalf of landowner / manager</p> <p>If a licence is approved and the landowner / manager would prefer, the Park Authority will arrange and pay for trained contractors to cull the beaver and will return the cadaver to NatureScot</p>

* Beaver specific exclusion fencing is available consisting of an upright and skirted section. This approach seeks to exclude beavers and hence its limited use is expected to protect high value public interests.