

Scan the QR code to access a simplified version of the app (note: design is not adapted to phone display) or:
naturalandenvironmentalscience.shinyapps.io/BeaverApp_tryit

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WHY THIS APP?

Living with beavers means we need to understand how beavers will interact with the landscape and people. New release sites should be assessed for potential **conflicts** as part of the **licensing process**.

This app allows **practitioners** to use a validated model of beaver dynamics to simulate where populations can expand in space and time.

BEAVERS

...are a **keystone species**. Dams can release water during droughts, reduce damaging peak flood flows, and capture organic sediments, reducing the effects of agricultural and pesticides runoff. Beaver activities improve water quality and benefit wetland wildlife.

BRITISH POPULATIONS

Beavers are **native** to Great Britain, they were once widespread in England, Wales and Scotland but became **extinct** during the 16th century.

STATUS

Castor fiber is a European protected species. Wild populations are **protected** in Scotland (2019) and England (2022).

TRENDS

Free-ranging beaver populations are well established at Knapdale, the Tay and the Otter where surveys have shown expanding distributions and territory number. Further **releases** are being carried out **under license** at multiple locations across Great Britain both into fenced enclosures and into the wild.

BEING READY

Beavers are coming back to Great Britain but we haven't lived with them for centuries. If we can simulate the future of translocated beavers populations, we can select release sites to **optimise beaver settlement** while **minimising potential future conflicts**.

PLANNING FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF BEAVER POPULATIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN

CONFLICTS

Beavers can change their environment. Modification to habitats can create conflict with existing land uses such as farming, fisheries or built infrastructure.

TRANSLLOCATION

Mitigation techniques can resolve acute conflict issues but where problems persist translocation is necessary.

CHALLENGES

Potential translocation sites must be assessed to ensure beaver populations can thrive while avoiding conflict with existing environment.

EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING USING THE APP

