

Why introduce beavers to Willington Wetlands?



Human maintenance of reedbed




- Labour intensive
- Repetitive and tiring
- Power tools
- Unable to get to all areas
- Slow
- Disturbance to wildlife



Beavers offer a nature-based approach

Beaver Release



-  October 2021 – 4 adult beavers released
-  Two pairs, 10 days apart
-  Separate areas of the reserve to allow space to establish territories before meeting



Beaver Signs







May 2021 – Lodge Discovered







Drone footage – impact on reedbeds

November 2022



February 2023



Beaver impacts at Willington Wetlands

Controlling willow keeps
reedbeds in optimum
condition for a wide
range of species









Derbyshire
Wildlife Trust



Reintroduction challenges

Reintroduction challenges



-  Illegal wild reintroductions – distrust and conflict
-  Differences of opinion – benefits, risks and costs
-  Impacts in the human landscape
 - dams inundate land
 - burrow collapse
 - grazing crops
 - felling trees personal significance
-  Wide benefits – inequal distribution of costs

Future of beavers in Derbyshire



- 🦫 A vision of beavers restoring the landscape
 - but how can we make this work for everyone?
- 🦫 Beavers - habitat suitability?
- 🦫 Humans - social and economic feasibility?
- 🦫 Collaborative and co-designed approach to catchment scale planning and decision-making

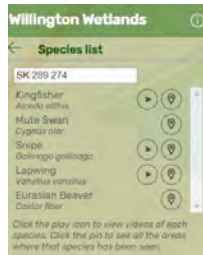
Future of beavers in Derbyshire



beavers_derbyshire



<https://www.youtube.com/@derbyshirewt>



<https://beavermap.org.uk/>