



AGENDA

MEETING TO ASSESS BEAVER ECOLOGY AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR REINTRODUCTION IN WALES

25th July 2005, Plas Dolerw Conference Center, Newtown, Powys

1.30 Arrivals – snacks

2.00 Welcome and Introductions

Toby Aykroyd, Coordinator Wild Wales Initiative

2.10 Presentations:

The European Beaver. Key characteristics, behaviour, life cycle, habitat requirements, ecological role. Historic background. Overview of the debate on reintroduction to date, including the context of other species (red kite, sea eagle).

Presenter: Roy Dennis MBE, Ecological Restoration Consultant

Experience from Introductions in Europe. Patterns of beaver recolonisation and population development. The impact on release locations over time – including ability to predict effects on protected habitats and species. Wider impact on biodiversity, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, hydrology. Management, exit strategy.

Presenter: Duncan Halley, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Trondheim, Norway

Impact of Beaver on the Local Economy. Tourism, multiplier effects, umbrella promotion, logo usage – examples from Europe. “Beavers Mean Business”. Market opportunities. Maximizing benefit for local communities & landholders.

Presenter: WildCRU Consultancy, Oxford University

Factors in Choice of Reintroduction Sites. Habitat, food supply, hydrology, exit strategy, cost estimates. Local and general views, land use and landholding patterns. Environmental Impact Assessment. Legal and consultation aspects. Experience from Scotland.

Presenter: Simon Milne MBE, Chief Executive, Scottish Wildlife Trust



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3.20 Open Forum - to include questions and discussion

4.00 TEA BREAK

4.15 Next Steps - including:

1. Consensus, consultation and involvement. Advisory Group
2. Action Sequence:
 - Working group to address information issues
 - Joint liaison group to draft plan
 - Advisory Group
 - Strategic Plan presentation
 - Socio-economic benefit appraisal
 - Environmental Impact Assessments
 - Other issues

5.15 Summary

5.20 Close



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PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Brecknockshire Wildlife Trust
Countryside Council for Wales
Country Land & Business Association, Wales
Environment Agency
Farmers Union of Wales
Fisheries Ecology & Recreational Advisory Committee
Forestry Commission Wales
Forestry & Timber Association
Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, Cymru
Gwent Wildlife Trust
Mammals Trust UK
Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust
National Farmers Union, Cymru
National Trust Wales
North Wales Wildlife Trust
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust
RSPB Wales
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Seven Trent Water PLC
Snowdonia National Park
Welsh Salmon & Trout Angling Association
Welsh Water
Wild Wales Initiative
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
Wildlife Conservation Research Unit
Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales

Plus individual specialists.