



Photo: Moss Dubb, one of the proposed beaver release sites

Beaver Public Engagement Events

We held two online Zoom presentations and one public drop-in event at The Gather in Ennerdale Bridge during October and November 2021. If you missed these, you can watch a recording of the online presentation on [YouTube](#) or you can join us as we continue these events this year. Please see below for more dates and locations.

Thurs 17th Feb: online [Zoom evening presentation](#) starting at 7pm no zoom account needed.

Wed 16th March: Drop-in public engagement event 2-7pm Cleator Moor Parish Hall

Wed 17th March: Drop-in public engagement event 2-7pm Egremont Parish hall

Wed 18th March: Drop-in public engagement event 2-7pm Whitehaven Parish Community Centre

Wed 23rd March: online [Zoom evening presentation](#) starting at 7pm no zoom account needed.

Thurs 31st March: Drop-in public engagement event 2-7pm: ([The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge](#))

If you have any questions about joining these events, get in touch at beavers@wildennerdale.co.uk, or contact Heather Devey (Wild Intrigue) on 07484 214610

You can also now subscribe to our quarterly newsletter and beaver updates on our homepage.

'So a beaver surfaced from the gloom into daylight and lay where it surfaced, floating and idle, at least in the sense that it was still, but even in stillness it was up and doing, it's eyes, ears and nose examining the evening, assessing its possibilities'. Extract from *Nature's Architect; the beaver's return to our wild landscapes* by Jim Crumley.

New Tree Planting

We were really pleased to find that so many of the trees and shrubs we planted in Silver Cove in early 2021 have survived and grown.

Species planted included Rowan, Downy Birch, Sessile Oak, Eared Willow and Juniper. To stop the young trees being smothered by falling bracken we've had contractors 'bashing' the bracken down with their booted feet, creating more space and light for the trees to thrive.



Aerial view of dead larch trees (brown) infected with Phytophthora Ramorum in the Smithy beck area.



Phytophthora Larch Disease

Every year Forest Research survey for Phytophthora larch disease by flying across the larch woodlands.

Sadly, during Summer and Autumn 2021, Phytophthora Ramorum was identified across 60 hectares of larch forest at the west end of the Ennerdale valley. To help control the spread of the disease and reduce the risk of a variant jumping into another tree species, Forestry England is required to fell or 'kill standing' the infected trees.

Given this is a significant change from the Wild Ennerdale Stewardship Plan we have been engaging with people and organisations interested in Ennerdale to make them aware of the action Forestry England intends to carry out in response to this outbreak. This formal engagement finishes on the 8th February. If you want to find out more about the plans to deal with this disease visit our [Citizen Space web page](#).

We hope to start harvesting works to fell and extract the infected larch in March 2022. Work will start at the west end of the valley and work eastwards. The car park at Bowness Knott will be closed for a period and unfortunately due to lack of suitable sites there will be no alternative parking available. The Smithy Beck trail will be closed for period and there will be restrictions and delays getting up and down the main forest road to Gillerthwaite. Visitor information will be provided on the Wild Ennerdale website, social media, The Gather in Ennerdale Bridge and other main valley entrances.

New Valley Guide Map

Our new valley guide map is now available and ready to be distributed to local visitor/tourism outlets. This new style map cleverly folds into a pocket size and brings together all our previous guides. There will be a fee of £1.50 for the printed guide and a free downloadable pdf version will also be available on the Wild Ennerdale website. Thank you to Cumbria County Council Community Grant support.



Wild Ennerdale is a partnership of people and organisations led by the Forestry England, National Trust, United Utilities and Natural England. The Wild Ennerdale Partners are allowing the landscape to evolve naturally with reducing human intervention and invite you to explore this unique valley and experience its special sense of wildness. wildennerdale.co.uk