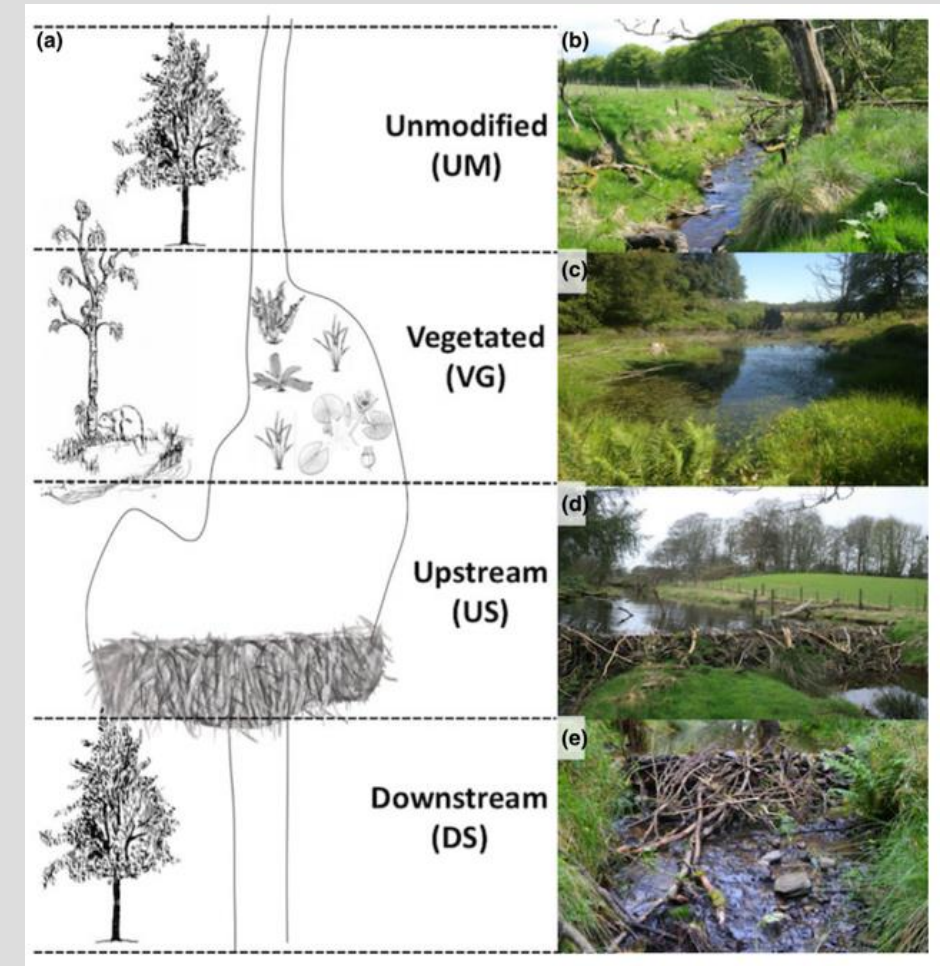


20 YEARS OF REWILDING: BEAVERS INCREASE BIODIVERSITY AT THE LANDSCAPE SCALE



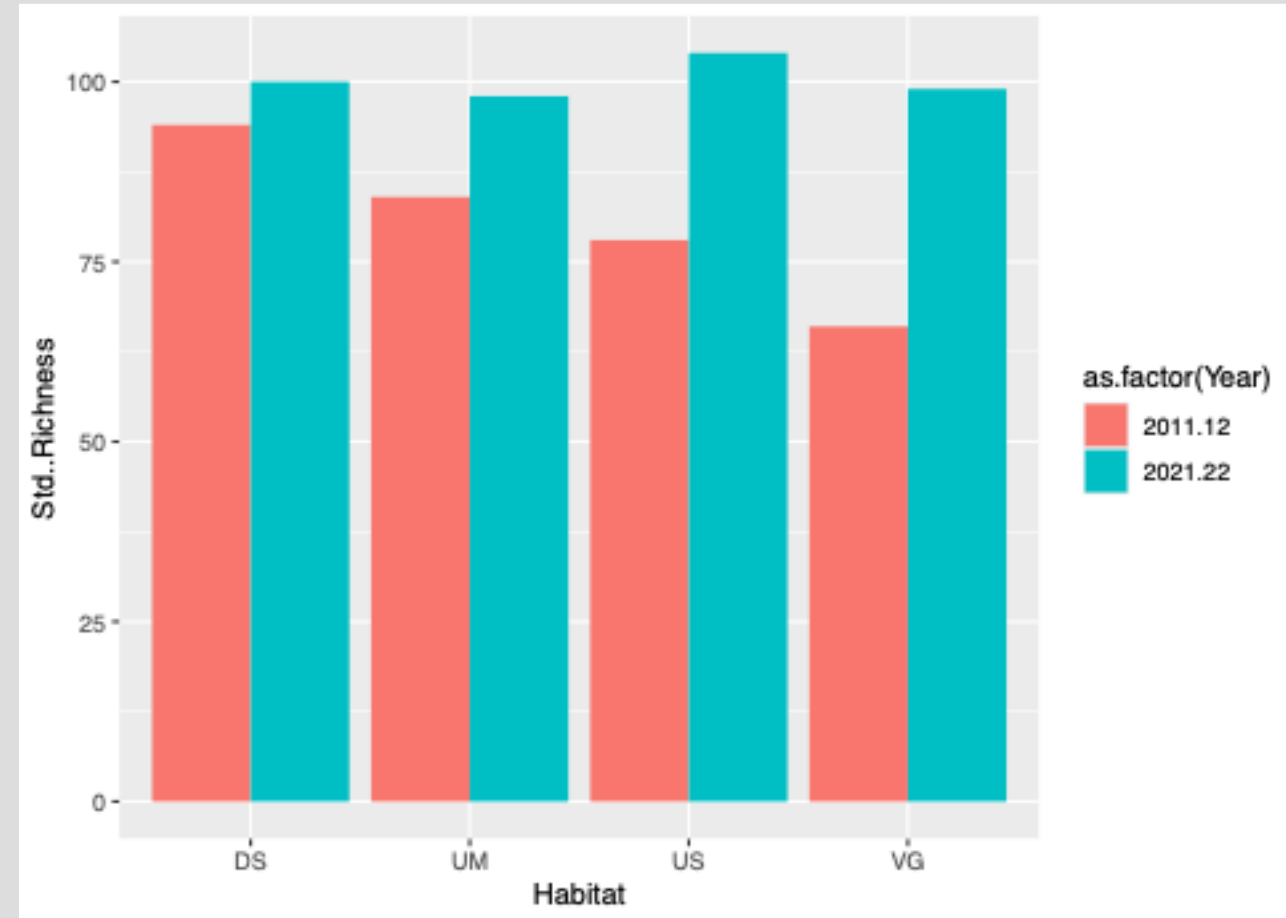
DESIGN AND METHODS

- ~60 dams across the site of various ages (3-18 years old)
- 4 key habitats
- Macroinvertebrates sampled in 2010/11 (n=109) and 2021/22 (n=203)
 - 1 minute sweep sample over a 2x2m area
- Samples were preserved and identified in the laboratory



RESULTS

- As we had more samples in 2022, we standardised the richness by a common number of invertebrates per habitat (17,000)
- Species richness increased across the site by 22% (110 to 134 species)
- Species richness increased across all habitat types



TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- Beaver-driven habitat change had a significant positive effect on macroinvertebrate biodiversity at patch and landscape scales
- Benefits are sustained over time (~20 years)
- Beavers are a key ally to address the biodiversity crisis

