

“Gnawing concerns are not going away” - a media analysis of beaver reintroductions to the Scottish Cairngorms National Park

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Village of the dammed? A Highland community is fighting plans to bring beavers to their doorstep...

Farmers fear 'devastating' impact as Cairngorms eye beaver release

Farmers skeptical about beaver release in River Spey

Farmers upset over absence of beaver release consultation

Gnawing concerns remain amongst farmers after return of beavers to Cairngorms

Crofters and farmers in Cairngorms park protest

Cairngorm farmers blame 'carbon clearances' on rewilding

Farmers' fury as beavers head for Cairngorms!

Highland MSP slates 'forcing' of beavers into Badenoch and Strathspey

Lorna Slater's beaver release in Cairngorms enrages farmers who say they've been stonewalled

Highlands farmers in tractor demo over rewilding of Cairngorms

Farmers raise concerns over Cairngorms beavers



Why did this happen?

- The Cairngorms has a long history of land use conflict
- Farmers drew evocative parallels with the infamous and historic Highland Clearances – this successfully engaged national and even international media
- Beavers were a cause célèbre for wider concerns and conflict

Insights

- Beavers are agents of change
 - Environmental and ecological
 - Societal, cultural and emotive
- Unique place identities must especially be considered in ecological engineer / keystone species reintroductions
 - These may lead to novel forms of consultation, collaboration and mitigation
- Engagement is best achieved through both sharing information and making connections between groups and people
- Media and public often engage best through narratives and stories