

### **Predicting cascading ecosystem effects of beavers on riparian vegetation and deer**

This PhD project is co-funded by Scottish Natural Heritage, the University of Stirling and the James Hutton Institute.

The project will utilise existing permanent plots on the Scottish Beaver Trial site at Knapdale, Argyll, established in 2009, in combination with newly established plots here and alongside water courses in Tayside, to monitor beaver and deer usage and their interactive effects, and record how these develop over time. Control plots will be established in riparian woodlands where beavers are currently absent. This approach will be complemented by experimental manipulation of patches of riparian woodland to: a) mimic beaver herbivory and monitor deer responses; b) measure woodland responses and nutrient dynamics in response to beavers when deer are either present, or excluded for experimental purposes by fencing.

Further information on the PhD is available [here](#).