

Scotland's Missing Mammals

Targets & Visions for their return

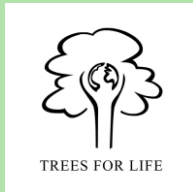
Alan Watson Featherstone

Executive Director, Trees for Life

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“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

Proverbs

**“Vision without action is a daydream.
Action without vision is a nightmare.”**

Japanese Proverb

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TREES FOR LIFE

Stretch Goals, Milestones & Backcasting

Stretch Goals

Ambitious long-term goals that inspire creativity & challenge people to achieve what currently seems impossible

Milestones

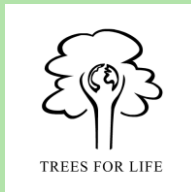
Specific events or achievements that are inspiring, and can form focal points for action

Backcasting

Working backwards from a desired goal, and determining how to get there

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Sample scenarios



Immediate prospect

Beaver

Large predator

Lynx



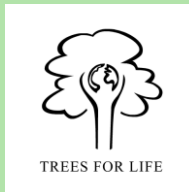
Tougher challenge

Wolf

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Sample scenario: Beaver



Stretch Goal

Beavers living successfully in numerous widespread locations throughout Scotland, in healthy balance with riparian ecosystems.

Milestone

2020

Wild beaver populations are flourishing at 20 separate sites throughout Scotland – the '20-20' Vision!

Backcasting

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2016 -
20

Further releases take place in southern Scotland, Angus & Fife, and Highlands. Beavers spread naturally in Argyll, Spey & Ness areas.

2015

Beavers are released into the wild at Inch Marshes, Glen Moriston, Tay and Lomond catchments, in 2nd phase of reintroduction.

2014

Trial re-introduction project declared a success. Approval given for reintroductions to take place at other sites.

2012

Beaver Festival held in Argyll – later becomes an annual event.

2010

Riparian woodland expansion & restoration begins at key 2nd phase sites, funded in part by tourism income from visits to Knapdale project.

2009

Priority sites identified for 2nd phase of reintroduction project.

2009

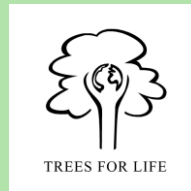
Beavers released at Knapdale for the trial re-introduction project.

2008

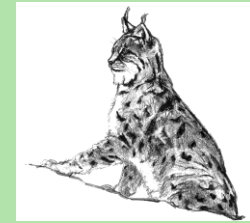
Wider-scale beaver reintroduction planning group set up at 'Wild, Free & Coming Back' conference.

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Sample scenario: Lynx



Stretch Goal

Lynx are successfully re-established in the wild in Scotland, fulfilling the ecological function of large terrestrial predators.

Milestone

2025

Lynx reintroduction takes place at a carefully-selected site in the Highlands, with the support of local people & farmers.

Backcasting

2024

Source animals identified, captured & quarantined prior to release.

2022

Reintroduction site selected. Key people local to site visit other lynx projects in Europe. Planning for tourism initiatives begins.

2018

Detailed surveys & evaluation of potential reintroduction sites begins.

2015

Two biologists funded to take part in field studies and practical training in Europe, as preparation to manage the reintroduction project in Scotland.

2014

Study tours to lynx reintroduction sites in Switzerland, France & Germany.

2013

'The Last Lynx', a fictional story about the loss of lynx in Scotland, is published. It is later made into an animated film & a children's play.

2012

Multi-year funding obtained from 'Lynx Express' delivery company and 'Lynx' deodorants to finance the reintroduction project.

2010

Lynx Education Initiative launched, to inform people about the species & lay the groundwork for the future acceptance of a lynx reintroduction.

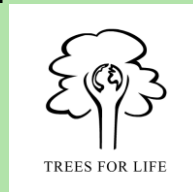
2008

Lynx reintroduction planning group set up at 'Wild, Free & Coming Back' conference.

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Sample scenario: Wolf



Stretch Goal

Wolves are returned to the wild in Scotland, taking their place as apex predators in terrestrial ecosystems, & welcomed by local people.

Milestone

2043

Wolves are reintroduced into the wild in Scotland, exactly 300 years after their extirpation.

Backcastin

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2042

Source animals identified, captured & quarantined prior to release.

2038-43

Education, information, liaison with local people; tourism preparation work undertaken; compensation programme prepared for livestock owners.

2040

Study tours for local people to see wolf habitat & meet people in Europe.

2038

Identification & selection of reintroduction site.

2037

Lessons & experience from the successful lynx reintroduction to Scotland incorporated into planning for the wolf's return.

2036

Trials with guard dogs begin, to provide experience in protecting sheep, which by now are concentrated in areas of lower, more productive ground.

2035

Source population identified for wolves. Studies begin on pack behaviour, feeding etc for later comparison with reintroduced Scottish population.

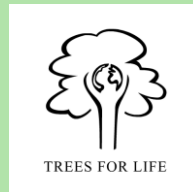
2033

SNH & Scottish Executive support the principle of reintroducing wolves, & provide funding for the project.

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Milestone

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Backcasting

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2030

Modelling & detailed field studies done to evaluate potential release sites.

2028

Study tours to see wolf habitat & meet local people in European countries.

2024

Widespread programme of fence removal begins, as native forest regeneration is well-established, to reduce barriers to future wolf movements.

2020

Specialist courses are established at Scottish universities to train wolf biologists, who will prepare and implement the reintroduction project.

2018

Tame wolves from the Wolf Information Centre are taken on school visits.

2015

A coordinated programme of sheep reduction in the Highlands begins.

2013

Wolf Information Centre established in the Highlands.

2012 on

Steady stream of artistic & creative events such as plays, exhibitions & books are produced, highlighting the real nature of the wolf.

2010

Education about wolves is added to the curriculum of all Scottish schools.

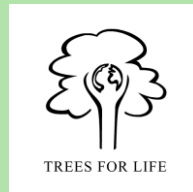
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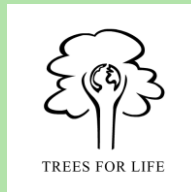
It's up to us to make it happen!

Year	Wildland Network Events	Outcome
2006	“Scary or What?” Cirencester, England	Discussions of reintroductions Articles in ECOS
2008	“Wild, Free & Coming Back?” Findhorn, Scotland	Establishment of planning groups for reintroductions
2010	Next Wildland Event Location?	Planning groups present detailed, costed proposals & revised timelines
2012	Another Wildland Event Location?	Funding obtained for reintros. Wild boar reintroduced to wild in Scotland

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“To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only plan but also believe.”

Anatole France

“Some people see things as they are and ask why. I dream of things that never were and ask why not.”

George Bernard Shaw

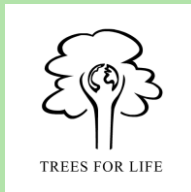
“The only limits are, as always, those of vision.”

James Broughton

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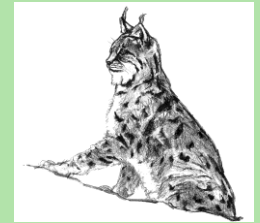
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**“The future belongs to those who believe
in the beauty of their dreams.”**



Eleanor Roosevelt



**“Never doubt that a small group of
thoughtful committed citizens can change
the world: indeed, it’s the only thing which
ever has.”**

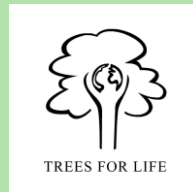


Margaret Mead

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