# Beaver caught on camera marking territory in Cornwall nature reserve



A recent and unusual piece of footage captured in Cornwall has brought attention to the natural behaviours of local wildlife, specifically beavers. The footage was recorded by a wildlife camera set up within the Helman Tor nature reserves, which are managed by the Cornwall Wildlife Trust. The video shows a beaver breaking wind as it climbs onto a bank after emerging from water.

This moment, while humorous to some, has been interpreted by experts as part of the beaver’s natural territorial behaviour. According to Lauren Jasper, a beaver officer, "Beavers have, near their tail, glands that can secrete this oil called castoreum, and that actually helps them to mark their territory." Castoreum is a secretion used by beavers for communication within their environment. This act of marking plays a key role in how beavers establish their presence and navigate their social structures.

The Cornwall Wildlife Trust has emphasised the importance of respecting these animals in their natural habitats. The beavers in Cornwall are primarily nocturnal, and members of the public are advised not to seek them out or disturb them during their active hours.

The Independent is reporting that this footage highlights not only the intricacies of beaver behaviour but also the ongoing efforts to monitor and protect wildlife populations in Cornwall’s nature reserves. Helman Tor is one of several reserves that provide a sanctuary for various species, and the use of wildlife cameras allows for non-intrusive observation and study.

Beavers have been the subject of reintroduction efforts in parts of the UK, contributing to the restoration of natural habitats. Observations like these help experts better understand how beavers adapt and interact with their environments, reinforcing the significance of continued wildlife monitoring in conservation areas.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.cornish-times.co.uk/news/wild-beavers-discovered-at-helman-tor-nature-reserve-671747> - This article reports the discovery of wild beavers at Helman Tor nature reserve, confirming their presence through wildlife camera footage.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-68567496> - The BBC article discusses the confirmation of at least one wild beaver at Helman Tor nature reserve, highlighting the use of wildlife cameras for monitoring.
* <https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/what-we-do/our-conservation-work/on-land/beavers/cornwall-beaver-project> - This page provides information about the Cornwall Beaver Project, detailing the monitoring and research efforts, including the use of wildlife cameras to study beaver behavior.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2021/nov/16/busy-beavers-up-close-with-cornwall-furry-eco-warriors> - The Guardian article explores the ecological benefits of reintroducing beavers in Cornwall, including their role in habitat creation and flood prevention.
* <https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/beavers-are-back-cornwall> - This news release from Cornwall Wildlife Trust announces the return of beavers to Cornwall, emphasizing their role in habitat creation and flood prevention.
* <https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife-explorer/mammals/beaver> - This page provides detailed information about beavers, including their natural behaviors and ecological significance.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/lifestyle/beaver-farting-video-cornwall-wildlife-trust-b2741604.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data