

Scottish Invasive Species Initiative — American Mink Control for Water Vole Recovery (UK)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · United Kingdom

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Since 2011, NatureScot-led partnerships have run volunteer mink trapping across up to 3M ha of north Scotland (£3.34M invested 2017–23, plus £2.08M for 2023–26) to protect water voles, the UK's fastest-declining mammal, though recovery evidence stays largely anecdotal.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[NatureScot / Scottish Invasive Species Initiative partnership \(formerly Scottish Mink Initiative\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Scottish Invasive Species Initiative — Mink Control Project](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Scottish Wildlife Trust: New initiative to remove mink in north Scotland](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[University of Aberdeen: Eradicating American mink](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Peer-reviewed: Mink control and water vole persistence, River Monnow \(PMC\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

Cite this — Evidoria. *Scottish Invasive Species Initiative — American Mink Control for Water Vole Recovery (UK)*. Persistent ID: 13dc1d32-ef76-481d-8cdf-dd44aa4efbad.