

# SEA LIFE Trust Cornish Seal Sanctuary PRESS RELEASE



#### **Beaver Kit Graduation Day!**

The Seal Sanctuary are thrilled to share that their three beaver kits have successfully graduated from the beaver nursery enclosure to a fantastic new four-acre habitat.

With the help of the specialist site teams, a lot of perseverance (and a huge net) all three beavers have been safely moved to their new home.

The new four-acre habitat is full of all the natural resources that the beavers need, including several variations of tree species and a stream that runs through the area, adjoining the Helford River. This environment will naturally encourage the kits named Aspen, Sorrell and Buttercup, to start building new dams, beaver ponds and felling trees.

### **Orphaned beaver kits**

The orphaned kits, who joined the Cornish Seal Sanctuary from The Beaver Trust in Scotland last November were originally found on private land in an area where the beaver family would have been subject to human disturbance and conflict. For their welfare it was decided that they would be humanely trapped and moved to a location where they could be safely monitored.

After spending four months in the Beaver nursery, all three kits are showing brilliant beaver behaviour and are ready to explore their bigger enclosure. In just a few days they are already showing signs of construction in their new home, with trees being felled and new dams being started.

Aspen, Sorrell and Buttercup will stay in this four-acre habitat at the Seal Sanctuary for around two years; leaving just before they hit sexual maturity, this will enable them to be introduced into a breeding programme by the Beaver Trust, either in a long-term facility or out in the wild.

#### Conservation Coordinator at the Seal Sanctuary Grace Jones comments;

"It was fantastic to see our three beaver kits being transported to their new larger habitat at the sanctuary. Watching them adapt and grow up over the past few months has been a real pleasure for our teams. All three kits are showing signs of brilliant beaver behaviour, and we can't wait to see how they get on in their new surroundings. Our beaver project makes up a vital part of our conservation work here at the sanctuary, and to see this wonderful success from our rehabilitation project has been incredible.

#### **Book a Beaver Tour**

From May 1<sup>st</sup>- Sept 1<sup>st</sup> you can book a Beaver Tour with the Seal Sanctuary team where you'll be able to see how busy the beavers have been.

Join the Education Team at the Cornish Seal Sanctuary for a guided walk to discover the incredible work being undertaken by our latest residents at Secret Creek.

In a 2-3 hour intimate experience we venture into the beaver enclosure where you can witness the work and benefits these engineers are having on our woodland ecosystem. We will explain the importance to biodiversity and the health of our countryside these long extinct species have and the reasons their presence is missed.

Beaver Tours - <a href="https://bit.ly/3vg4YS3">https://bit.ly/3vg4YS3</a>

**ENDS** 

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

For interviews, images and more information, please contact Helene Weston (Marketing Manager) on helene.weston@sealifetrust.com or call 01326 221361

## **About the Cornish Seal Sanctuary**

The SEA LIFE TRUST Cornish Seal Sanctuary is a charity that rescues and rehabilitates grey seal pups from around the Cornish coastline.

Each season (September - March), the Sanctuary rehabilitates more 70 seal pups that have been rescued for various reasons, from malnourishment to being separated from their mum.

The Sanctuary also provides a permanent home to animals that need special care from our team of marine animal experts, including common and grey seals and beavers.

You can find out more about our mission and vital conservation work, right here.