Wiltshire INNS Project Update
Thank you for listening

Any questions?

WWT Water Team

Work across all catchments in Wiltshire on various water projects.
2023

- American mink throughout Hampshire Avon and Wylye valley catchement
- Himalayan balsam across the county.
Mink

• Evident that there is a widespread population on the Wylye impacting water voles among other species.
• Coordinated survey effort to inform future control.
Mink

In 2022
• 12 rafts along Wylye
• 1km intervals
• Volunteer led monitoring
Thank you for listening
Any questions?
In 2023

- Water Team hosted a Keepers and Farmers Breakfast to engage in mink control and hand out traps and show correct use.
- Very successful event. – 15 given out at event and 7 on order.
- Recommendations from Waterlife Recovery Trust.
- Mink MAApp
Himalayan balsam

- **Hampshire Avon**
  - Continuing repeated survey and removal efforts for the last 6 years.
  - Focus on the Nadder, Wylye and Ebble.

- **Bristol Avon**
  - By Brook – 14 years and counting of balsam work, continue survey efforts and removal of individual plants.
  - Chippenham.
  - Melksham.
  - Trowbridge
  - Staverton.
  - Working with Water Guardians to increase survey effort.

- **Upper Thames**
  - Swindon, with a particular focus on the River Ray.
Himalayan balsam

- **Hampshire Avon**
  - Continuing repeated survey and removal efforts for the last 4 years.
  - Focus on the Nadder, Wylye and Ebble.

- **Bristol Avon**
  - By Brook – 14 years and counting of balsam work, continue survey efforts and removal of individual plants.
  - Chippenham.
  - Melksham.
  - Trowbridge
  - Taverton.
  - Working with Water Guardians to increase survey effort.

- **Upper Thames**
  - Swindon, with a particular focus on the River Ray.
Himalayan balsam

- **Hampshire Avon**
  - Continuing repeated survey and removal efforts for the last 4 years.
  - Focus on the Nadder, Wlye and Ebble.

- **Bristol Avon**
  - By Brook – 14 years and counting of balsam work, continue survey efforts and removal of individual plants.
  - Chippenham.
  - Melksham.
  - Trowbridge
  - Staverton.
  - Working with Water Guardians to increase survey effort.

- **Upper Thames**
  - Swindon, with a particular focus on the River Ray.
Volunteers

We would not be able to achieve nearly as much without the help of our amazing volunteers.
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Wish List

Funding for remote monitors for all mink traps and start to use mink scent to lure them in.

Crayfish – funding to map management of signal crayfish traps, with supervised education of the species

Simplified reporting techniques with a central INNS database
Particularly help with planning our Himalayan Balsam removal projects.

University research to find the best most cost-effective techniques to manage and eradicate

Increased education of INNS across general population

Support with better enforcement
Thank you for listening
Oonagh French
Water Team - Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
Water@wiltshirewildlife.org