

## News!

1. Listen to the recording. The accent you'll hear is Christine from South Africa. Really try and focus and concentrate on what you are listening to. Don't panic if you can't understand every word. Try and see if you can understand the general idea. Feel free to take notes and then after you've heard it once, tell me about what you have heard.
  
2. Now listen again for more specific details and be ready to answer questions about what you have heard.
  - a. What animal was hunted to extinction in Britain 400 years ago?
  - b. What do beavers love?
  - c. Where are they being reintroduced?
  - d. What habits does a British Government study show that beavers have?
  - e. What two things might this prevent?
  - f. Where are the beavers to be used in the trail from?
  - g. How long ago were they reintroduced?
  - h. How did the Ecologist describe these animals?
  - i. What can these animals do for the landscapes?
  - j. Now let's review some of the vocabulary:
    - to hunt
    - extinction
    - enclosures
    - herbivore
    - rodent
    - dams
    - flood
    - species

**Recording No. 10 – Christine – South Africa:**

Hunted to extinction in Britain 400 years ago, the water-loving beaver is being reintroduced in “trial” enclosures across England.

A British government study suggests the herbivorous rodent’s habit of building dams in rivers could help prevent flooding by drastically slowing the flow of water as well as purifying water polluted by agricultural fertilizer.

The beavers are being sourced from the wild population in Scotland, where they were re-established as a native species four years ago.

Ecologist Derek Gow hails beavers as “ecosystem engineers”. He says, “They turn landscapes that are largely dead into environments that wildlife can recolonize.”