



Mammals of Gaddon and Birnie Lochs

S.T. Buckland

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I have included just those species that I have photographed
at Gaddon or Birnie Loch.

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American mink

Introduced into the UK through escapes and/or releases from mink fur farms, the American mink has had a detrimental impact on many native species. This one was looking out from under the hide at Birnie Loch in February 2026.





European beaver

The most famous residents of Birnie Loch! Beavers were recently re-introduced to Tayside, and rapidly spreading out from there. These shots were taken at Birnie Loch in August 2024.





Grey squirrel

Both grey and red squirrels can sometimes be seen at Gaddon and Birnie Lochs. The above is my only squirrel photo from the lochs.



Otter

Otters have made a remarkable comeback, and are once again fairly widespread. This one was at Gaddon Loch.





Roe deer

Roe deer are common in the area around the lochs, and can sometimes be seen on the reserve. These two were between the railway and Gaddon Loch.





Wood mouse

Common. The wood mouse below lived less than two metres from a bench at Gaddon Loch, where people feed the birds. After dark, it would find plenty of left-overs. Using flash, I took this shot of it sitting at its burrow, while I was out mothing. The above mouse was at Birnie Loch.

