



Health screen	Type of pathogen	Biological sample	Outcome	Comments
Tularemia Rabies	Bacterial disease Viral disease	Blood	All animals tested were negative	No clinical symptoms observed after 6 month quarantine period.
Zoonotic disease				
Giardia Cryptosporidium Salmonella Campylobacter	Parasite Parasite Gut bacteria Gut bacteria	Faeces Faeces Faeces Faeces	All animals tested were negative	
Rodent pathogens				
Leptospirosis Yersinia Rickettsia	Bacteria Bacteria Bacteria	Blood Blood Blood	Previously exposed* All animals tested were negative	*Several beavers had antibodies to leptospirosis either from contact with rodents in Norway or later in the UK. Leptospirosis is a common bacterium of rodents in Europe. None of the beavers showed any signs of clinical disease related to leptospirosis.

Additional health screening

All beavers arriving from Norway were subjected to the statutory rabies quarantine of 6 months. This is a DEFRA requirement for all mammals entering the UK. During this time all the beavers were monitored and blood and faeces were collected for additional veterinary tests. Faecal samples were tested for general parasite loads while blood samples were obtained where possible to assess blood biochemistry, haematology and white blood cell counts.



Blood results were compared to reference ranges for *Castor fiber* and *Castor canadensis*, although some blood values were outside the reference range none were deemed as prohibitive for release.

Faecal samples submitted for parasitology found that the beavers do carry nematodes and animals tested positive for the beaver fluke *Stichorchis subtriquetrus*. This fluke or trematode is a parasite that occurs naturally in beavers and is host specific to the genus *Castor*.

Prior to release all beavers were subjected to a visual inspection or clinical examination to assess skin and body condition as well as dental and skeletal abnormalities.