



How can I help?

- Keep an eye out for pine martens and report any sightings to VWT
- Volunteer with field surveys (eg, monitoring camera traps or searching for pine marten droppings – known as scats)
- Attend a talk or training workshop
- Install a den box

For more information about the project, or to get involved, contact Kevin O'Hara, Pine Marten Project Officer.

Email: kevinohara@vwt.org.uk
Tel: 07377 993626

Events and volunteering opportunities will be advertised online.

Website: naturebftb.co.uk
Social media: @naturebftb



Vincent Wildlife Trust

Vincent Wildlife Trust is a mammal conservation charity that has spent over 40 years carrying out research and practical conservation. It focuses particularly on the needs of British and Irish mammals, including the otter, pine marten, polecat, stoat, weasel, water vole, dormouse and the bats.

Back from the Brink

Back from the Brink is the first time ever that so many conservation organisations have come together with one focus in mind – to bring back from the brink of extinction some of England's most threatened species of animal, plant and fungi. Natural England is working in partnership with Rethink Nature, and the entire project is made possible thanks to funding from the National Lottery.

Contact us

Vincent Wildlife Trust
3-4 Bronsil Courtyard, Eastnor, Ledbury HR8 1EP
www.vwt.org.uk
enquiries@vwt.org.uk
01531 636441

Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No. 05598716
Registered Charity No. 1112100 (England and Wales), SC043066 (Scotland),
20100841 (Republic of Ireland)
Cover photograph ©Robert Cruickshanks

Bringing the pine marten back from the brink

**BACK
FROM THE
BRINK**





© Robert Cruickshanks

What is a pine marten?

The pine marten is a native British mammal that belongs to the mustelid family. Mustelids include the weasel, stoat, otter and polecat.

Pine martens are the size of a small domestic cat, with rich brown fur, a creamy-yellow bib, prominent rounded ears and a long bushy tail. They are mainly nocturnal and eat a wide variety of food, including small mammals, fruit, birds, insects and carrion.

Pine martens prefer woodland habitats and use tree cavities as breeding and resting sites, but will also use craggy areas.

Where are they now?

Pine martens were once common and widespread across Britain, but the population declined significantly as a result of predator control and habitat loss.

Today, pine martens are recovering in Scotland and Wales, but are rare in England. As the population in Scotland spreads south, martens have started to re-colonise parts of northern England where the habitat is suitable.



Distribution of the pine marten in Britain.



Back from the Brink

The Back from the Brink project is facilitating and monitoring the natural recovery of the pine marten in northern England with help from the local community.

Working with volunteers, landowners and land managers, we are surveying woodlands in Northumberland and Cumbria to collect information on the presence and distribution of these elusive mammals.

We are also enhancing woodland habitat for martens by installing artificial den boxes to provide resting and breeding sites. In the long term, increased connectivity between woodlands will help pine martens re-colonise suitable areas.

