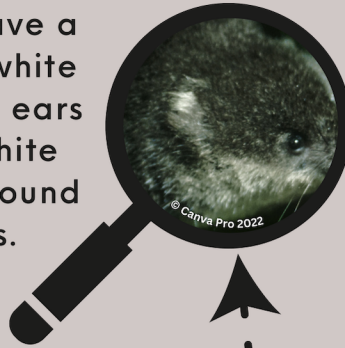


WATER SHREW IDENTIFICATION

The water shrew is found throughout mainland Britain, with patchy distribution in Scotland. They are present on many of our larger islands but absent from Ireland and the Channel Islands.

Most have a tuft of white hairs on ears and white hairs around eyes.



Largest of Britain's shrews with a body size of 7 - 9 cm.



Long pointed snout.



Fur is short, dense and velvety. Jet black on the upper part of the body and white-ish underneath.



If you find a water shrew jaw in an owl pellet it will look like this! The red tips are iron deposits in their enamel and can be easily identified.



Often found in and around rivers, wetlands and mixed woodland.



Distinctive stiff white hairs on margins of feet and underside of the tail forming a keel.



If you're located in Great Britain and think you've identified a Water Shrew then please record it! You can do this using the FREE Mammal Mapper app for ad-hoc sightings or owl pellet analysis, or at MammalWeb for trail camera footage and photographs.

