Beaver Benefits

The North American beaver, *Castor canadensis*, build dams and wetlands that are among the most biologically productive ecosystems in the world, comparable to coral reefs and rain forests.[i] Beaver benefits include: [ii]

Create diverse habitats and ecosystems [iii]
Increase biodiversity [iv]
Promote salmon/trout recovery [v]
Regulate stream flows [vi]
Improve water quality, acts as the "Earth's Kidneys" [vii]
Replenish drinking water aquifers [viii]
Stabilize the water table [ix]
Repair eroded stream channels [x]
Restore watershed health [xi]

Beavers do these AMAZING things, for FREE, saving us MILLIONS of dollars!

However, despite these valuable ecological services, beavers can cause significant damage. Fortunately though, cost-effective, long-term, environmentally-friendly and humane options exist to resolve most beaver conflicts and retain their benefits. Beaver trapping is legal, but to retain all the beaver benefits it should be a last resort.

Effective Nonlethal Tools Exist for Beaver Problems [xii]

For more information please see our website

Beaver Institute, Inc.
www.beaverinstitute.org

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References:

[i] U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Functions and Values of Wetlands, EPA 843-F-01-002c, September 2001.

[ii] U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pdf, 2016, https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/documents/wetlandfunctionsvalues.pdf

The Beaver Restoration Guidebook: Working with Beaver to Restore Streams, Wetlands, and Floodplains, Pollock, M.M., G.M. Lewallen, K. Woodruff, C.E. Jordan and J.M. Castro (Editors) Version 2.0, 2017. United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon**.** 2017, pp. 219 is a comprehensive manual of the beaver scientific literature. It can be downloaded in its entirety at: https://www.beaverinstitute.org/education/beaver-basics/

[iii] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, p 5.

[iv] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 13-19.

[v] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 15-17.

[vi] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 4-5.

[vii] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 7-10.

[viii] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 6 -7.

[ix] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 4-5.

[x] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 11-13.

[xi] The Beaver Restoration Guidebook, pp. 2-19.

[xii] https://www.beaverinstitute.org/management/flow-devices/dams/