



QUOTE	ERROR	REFERENCE
<p><i>“Genetic Aberration Mason Beavers: Stone Dams”</i></p>	<p>Beavers build with whatever materials are available. Including Rocks. Including tires. Including anything.</p>	<p>NPR documentaries have shown footage of this happening. Most recently in <a href="#">Jari Osborne’s PBS documentary Leave it to Beavers</a>, 1:18</p>
<p><i>“Beavers are hardwired to build dams”</i></p>	<p>Beavers are actually ‘hard wired’ to stay alive, like every other species. Beavers in large bodies of water where they don’t need dams to survive do not build them.</p>	<p>The Beaver: Its life and its Impact. Dietland Muller Swarze; Cornell University Press.</p>
<p><i>“They do actually just eat wood”</i></p>	<p>Beaver varietal feeding changes by season. They eat lilies and aquatic plants, leaves, acorns, mushrooms, fruit, tubers and ferns.</p>	<p>The Beaver: Its life and its Impact. Dietland Muller Swarze; Cornell University Press.</p>
<p><i>“I’d love to play for you some beaver sounds here, but they don’t make many”.</i></p>	<p>Beaver vocalizations are quite frequent and common. The first trapper you interviewed mentioned them. Their nasal call sounds so childlike that often early tribes would present a beaver to care for as a comfort for a squaw who lost her child.</p>	<p>Here’s one of many PBS documentaries playing the sounds. in <a href="#">Jari Osborne’s PBS documentary Leave it to Beavers</a>, 1:23</p>
<p><i>“And they’ve been kicking around north America for 2 million years”</i></p>	<p><a href="#">A study of beaver mitochondrial genomes</a> showed that <i>Castor canadensis</i> branched off of <i>Castor fiber</i> about 7.5 million years ago when the animal migrated into the North American continent from Asia</p>	<p><a href="#">Mitochondrial Genomes Reveal Slow Rates of Molecular Evolution and the Timing of Speciation in Beavers (Castor), One of the Largest Rodent Species</a></p>
<p><i>“Beaver were going to be both a source of cash for these settlers and, of course, a problem for these settlers,”</i></p>	<p>This might have been true if they had happened at the same time. Beavers were trapped out in a cascading chorus line across the US from East to West and North to South. Gone from the East by the late 1700’s, the Midwest shortly thereafter, and lastly from California by 1835. There wasn’t much overlap.</p>	<p>“Fur, Fortune, and Empire: The Epic History of the Fur Trade in America”  Eric Jay Dolin</p>



HEIDI PERRYMAN, PH.D.  
 PRESIDENT & FOUNDER  
 WORTH A DAM  
[WWW.MARTINEZBEAVERS.ORG](http://WWW.MARTINEZBEAVERS.ORG)

<p><i>“Farmers started to create these beaver meadows by force”</i></p>	<p>The concept of Beaver Meadow contribution to agrarian richness was not known or proven until researched by Dr. Ellen Wohl 2011. There was no need for farmers to kill beavers to use their meadows, by the time a dam becomes a beaver meadow the animals are long, long gone.</p>	<p><u>The beaver meadow complex revisited – the role of beavers in post-glacial floodplain development</u></p>
<p><i>“By about 1830, I think, may of these populations were being seriously overharvested”</i></p>	<p>Eliminated. That’s why folks had already gone west looking for beaver. By the time that gold was discovered in California, ‘beaver gold’ was long gone.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>The Historical Range of Beaver in the Sierra Nevada, A review of the Evidence.</u></a></p>
<p><i>“While In Canada, they came through okay”</i></p>	<p>The Beaver Population was decimated in Canada, and beavers were reintroduced just like America.</p>	<p>Three Against The Wilderness by Eric Collier.  The Beaver Manifesto by Glynnis Hood</p>
<p><i>“All throughout the North East of the US the beaver were virtually wiped out”</i></p>	<p>All thought out the country. Leaving devastation for streams, fish and wildlife. This is why Fish and Game in several states began re-introducing them.</p>	<p>Every state would have their own record. This is ours. Hensley, A. . 1946. A progress report on beaver management in California. California Fish and Game 32:87-99.</p>
<p><i>“Our roads are built on natural pinchpoints”</i></p>	<p>True, which is why culvert protection should be built into them.</p>	<p>Did you know that in Grafton where your guest Skip Lisle is selectman, that is true? It saves the city tremendous money and manpower hours.</p>
<p><i>“The beaver’s health increases as I’ve removed beaver from the wetland”</i></p>	<p>Maybe. How does he know these two things are related? There could be fewer territory battles because there’s more food, or more battles because there’s LESS food. And obviously food is linked to landscaping, which is linked to human settlement which is linked to trapping.</p>	<p>In our town of Martinez CA where we lived with our beaver family for a decade, we saw 25 offspring born, all dispersed and there was never any sibling attacks.</p>



<p><i>“Are there so many beaver that they are flooding wells and roads?”</i></p>	<p>No fish and game in any state, or federal agency has counted the beaver population since the seventies. They have ZERO idea whether it’s getting larger or smaller or staying the same.</p>	<p>What they do count is human complaints. And those have gone UP. Big surprise. Because the human population has gone up. And we count those. So we don’t actually know whether there’s more beaver or more people complaining about the same number of beaver. Or even fewer beaver.</p>
<p><i>“We’re working with a glorified mouse trap”</i></p>	<p>Possibly. But a mousetrap used underwater. Every homeowner who has trapped mice knows firsthand they don’t always get killed the way they’re ‘supposed’ to.</p>	<p>A beaver can hold its breath for up to 15 minutes, so when its accidentally trapped the wrong way, it drowns painfully.</p>
<p><i>“Most people that trap do it because they want to connect with a tradition they identify with”</i></p>	<p>The vast majority of trapping in my state and yours is <b>depredation</b>. Meaning getting rid of a nuisance. And it pays. Very few people would do it if it didn’t pay.</p>	
<p><i>“As human beings can we manage this creature with moral wisdom”.</i></p>	<p>A better question is: since we know beaver dams save and purify water, augment fish population, increase bird and wildlife, remove nitrogen, prevent erosion and repair streams, what <b>VALUE</b> are we removing from the <b>community</b> by trapping them? And is the gain worth the cost?</p>	<p><a href="#">The Economic Value of Beaver Ecosystem Services.</a></p>
<p><i>“Gently direct beavers away from human habitats”</i></p>	<p>Most flow devices allow the beaver to safely <b>remain</b> in the area by letting them day in a way or area that isn’t problematic.</p>	<p>The advantage of these tools is that if beavers <b>STAY</b> their benefits remain, and they discourage other beavers with their naturally territorial behaviors. So the landowner pays <b>ONCE</b> for this instead of repeated trapping every year.</p>
<p><i>“That way when the little beaver babies grow up they’ll have to go elsewhere”</i></p>	<p>Beavers young need to find their own habitat when they reach 2-3 years. That needs to be at least 2 miles away. Whether there’s a flow device installed or not.</p>	<p>The Beaver: Its life and its Impact. Dietland Muller Schwarze; Cornell University Press.</p>



<p><i>“Cultural Carrying Capacity”</i></p>	<p><b>I wish your whole program had focused on this concept.</b> The cultural carrying capacity of a species is no more fixed than the biological capacity. Just like someone planting more trees can increase the biological capacity, someone educating the community about beavers (like Art did) can change the cultural capacity.</p>	<p>This was true for Wolves in Yellowstone, or Mountain Lions in LA and it was true for Beavers in Martinez CA. <a href="#">Look at the movement in the Ranching community</a>, starting to grow. The more places it becomes true for the better water and wildlife it will be for all of us. Including New Hampshire.</p>
<p><i>“After the Referendum passed the beaver population tripled.”</i></p>	<p>The truth is NO one knows how many beaver there were or are because no one, including MFW counts populations. In fact the paper station the population had tripled was written before it was mathematically/biologically possible to notice a difference,</p>	<p>Conibear and crush traps are outlawed in Colorado and you don’t hear that their beaver population tripled. In Oregon their illegal on public land and legal in private land. Go check if their beaver population rates are different. The truth is there are NINE exceptions to the MA restrictions. You could have spoken to Mike Callahan in Massachusetts who does what Skip does and who’s <b>wife happens to be a trapper</b>. That would have given you more information about the issue.</p>
<p><i>“How should beavers be controlled?”</i></p>	<p>However we answer that question, we are going to need to ecosystem services beavers provide. Especially as climate change threatens our drinking water more and more. We need beavers way more than they need us.</p>	
<p><i>“In my naiveté I said ‘we’ll try these beaver deceivers’</i></p>	<p>Concluding that these devices don’t work because you tried one and it failed is like saying heart surgery doesn’t work because you tried it on your husband and he still died. <b>They are tools that require training to use.</b></p>	<p>Skip Lisle installed our flow device in Martinez CA in January 2008. It controlled the water level since that time.</p>



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<p><i>“I’m going to learn how to trap them.”</i></p>	<p>I’m curious why Carole apprenticed herself to learn how to trap, but NOT to learn how to install a beaver deceiver.</p>	
<p><i>“When you start thinking about hunting...”</i></p>	<p>I think defense of beavers is often mistaken for a hatred of trapping or hunting or a general love of animals. This isn’t why I care about them. And it isn’t why NOAA or the Forestry Service or the Wetland society cares about them. It is PURE self interest.</p>	<p>Beavers truly are the cure we don’t want to take. And the more we depredate or trap the more we threaten the fragile balance we have. It won’t be long before we value clean water more than any other resource. Beavers can help us have more of that. Why wouldn’t we try a device to compromise with the animal if it’s in OUR self interest?</p>
<p><i>“And if you ever find that a family of them are eyeing the same spot as you, good luck!”</i></p>	<p>This is exactly what happened in Martinez 10 years ago, and why we hired Skip to install a flow device. The success of this prevented flooding, and allowed the beavers to remain.</p>	<p>As a result of the ponds and habitat they maintained we got new fish, new wildlife, otter, wood duck and even mink in our urban stream. Plus the community learned to value and teach other cities how and why to live with beaver. Our cultural capacity for beaver greatly improved. Yours should too.</p>