



# THE BENEFITS OF BEAVERS

## WHY BEAVERS?

Beavers are considered ecosystem engineers because of their ability to drastically create, alter and maintain wetland ecosystems. By constructing dams, beavers transform the landscape into beautiful wetlands and ponds. Beavers live throughout North America where many plants and animals depend on wetland ecosystems to thrive. More beavers means more wildlife, better water management, and improved climate resilience.



### WILDLIFE

Beavers alter plant and invertebrate communities and increase riparian habitat for waterfowl, amphibians, mammals, and fish. Beaver ponds provide critical rearing habitat for juvenile salmon- especially coho.



### WATER

The dams that beavers build add complexity to streams and rivers while slowing water velocity. The ponds behind these dams store water, helping to reduce flooding downstream during high water events and slowly release water during low flow conditions. They also store sediment and filter pollutants.



### PEOPLE AND CLIMATE

Beaver ponds build resilience in our waterways. Beavers spread water out on the landscape, support groundwater recharge and retention, and combat drought. Beaver ponds also provide natural fire breaks in dry ecosystems.



**QUESTIONS?**  
**CONTACT US AT [INFO@BEAVERSNW.ORG](mailto:info@beaversnw.org)**  
**OR VISIT [WWW.BEAVERSNW.ORG](http://www.beaversnw.org)**

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