



# Beaver Subcommittee Report

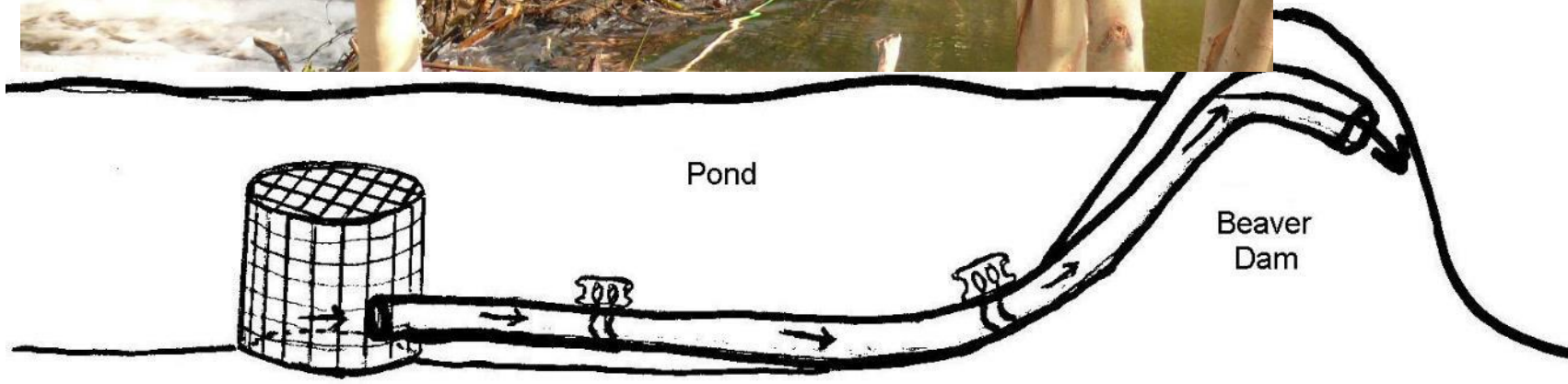






The original Dam height  
was assessed at 7 feet.

Skip Lisle was hired to install a flow device called to regulate pond height.





Since January the Dam has been successfully maintained at a lower height. During hard rains the dam has washed out naturally and the beavers have rebuilt.

The hydrology section of the report examines several possible solutions for maximizing flow through the creek. A combination of flood wall extension and bank overflow was agreed to be of greatest value in terms of cost and system benefit.



# Water Quality

Beaver dams act as a natural filter and have been shown to improve water quality.

Concerns remain about stagnation/oxygenation. The report outlines a proposal for vertical profile testing during the summer months in which there is low flow using volunteer and student effort.



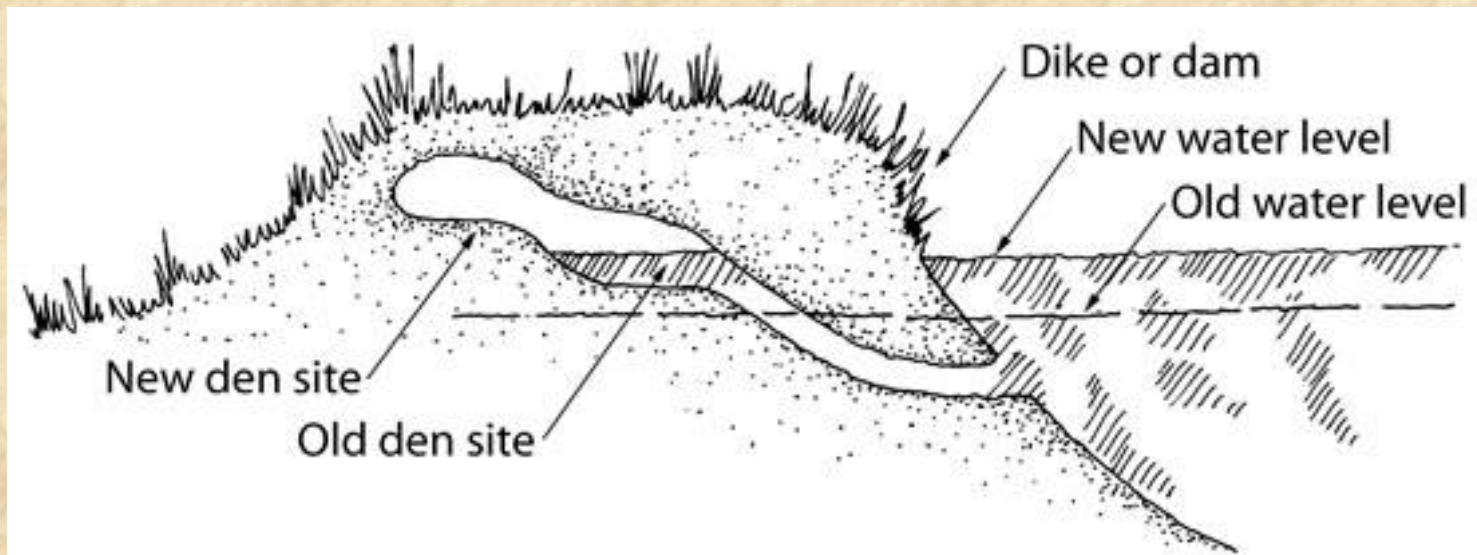
# Creek Walk



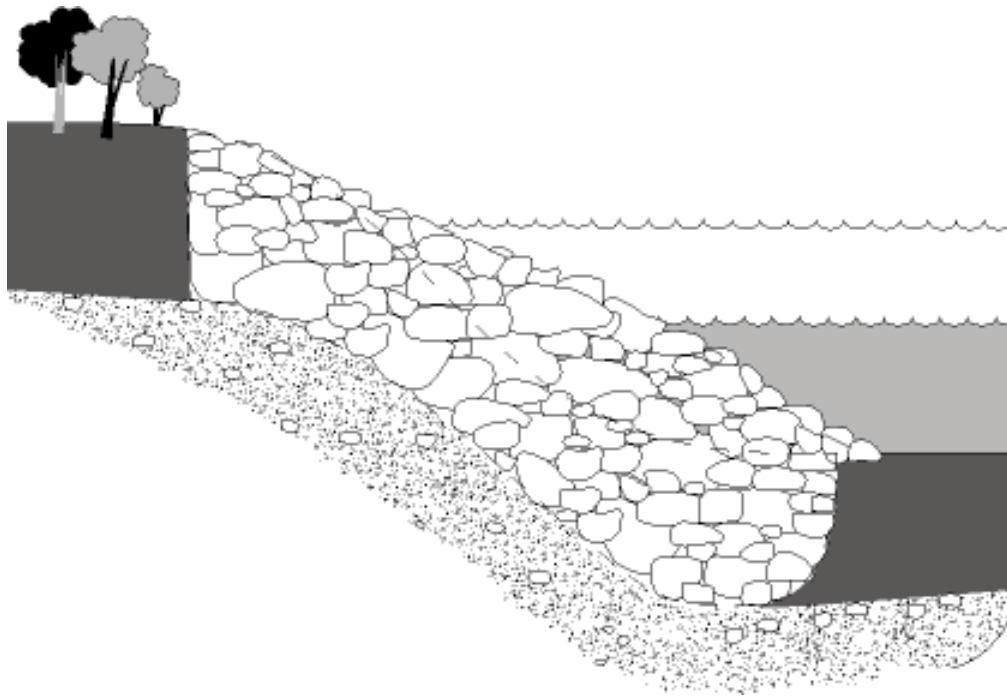


# Bank Stabilization/Burrowing

Concerns have been raised about beavers burrowing in the east bank. Muskrats also tunnel in banks and along dams. This is a drawing of a typical tunnel from a muskrat management article

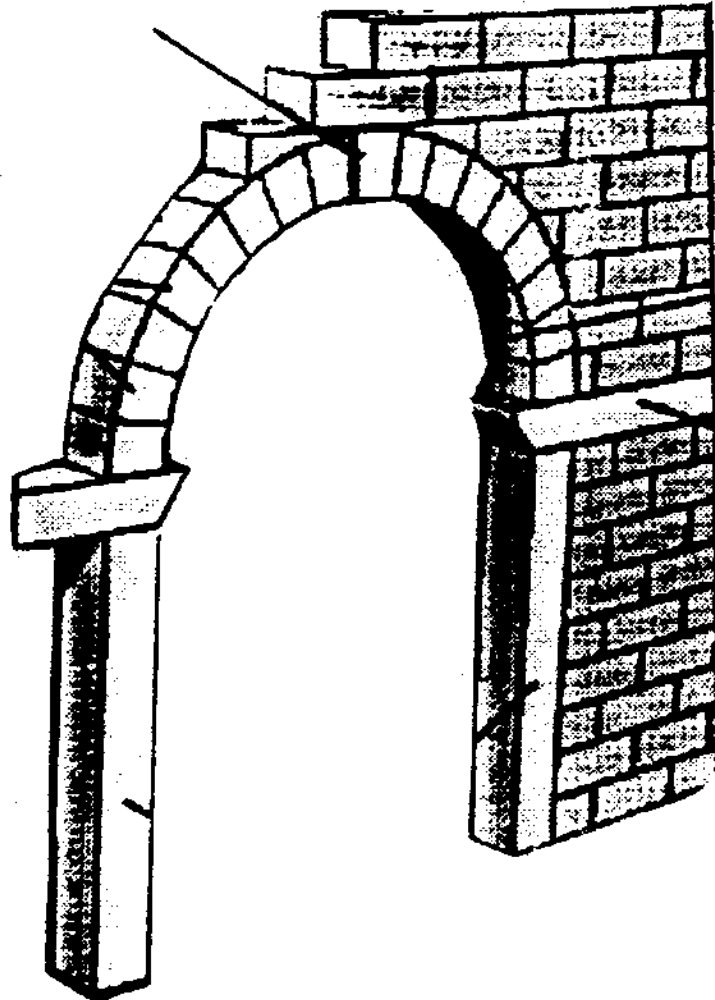


# Beaver or Muskrat: The solution is the Same

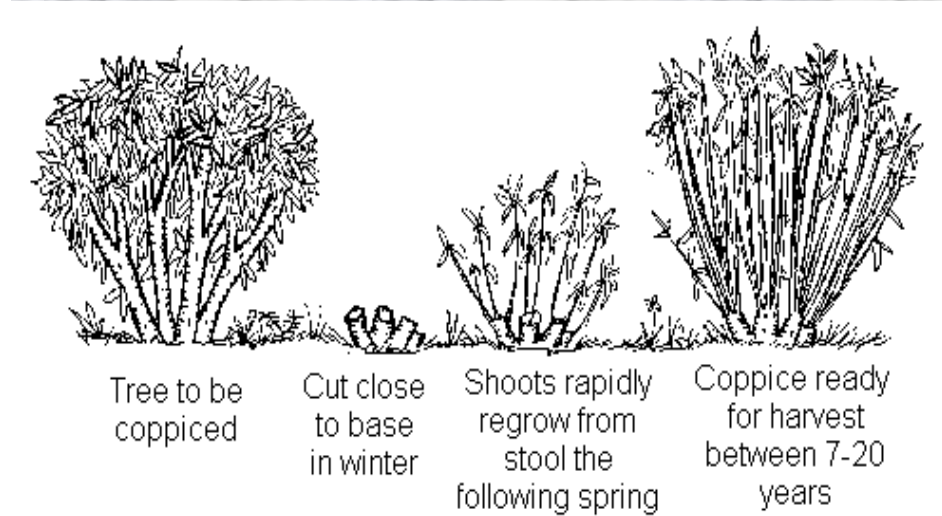


# Impacts on Other Species

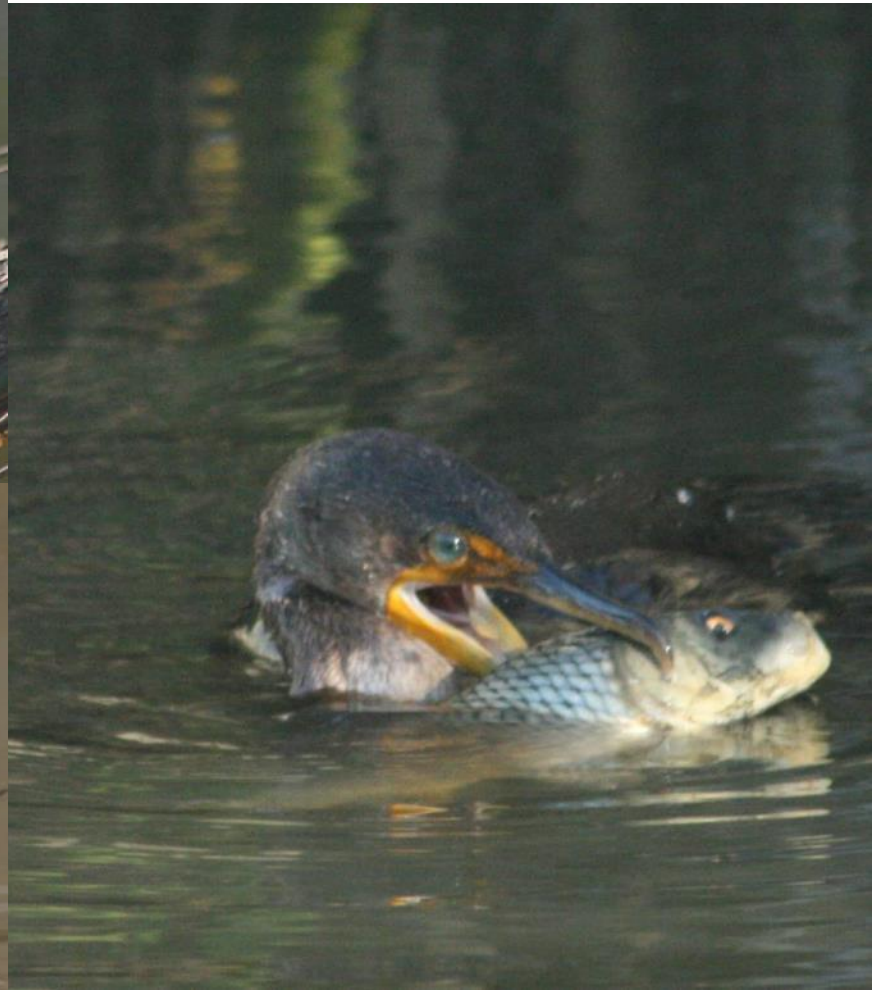
KEYSTONE SPECIES



# Trees & Vegetation



# Bird Species



Photos: Cheryl Reynolds

# Population & Dispersal

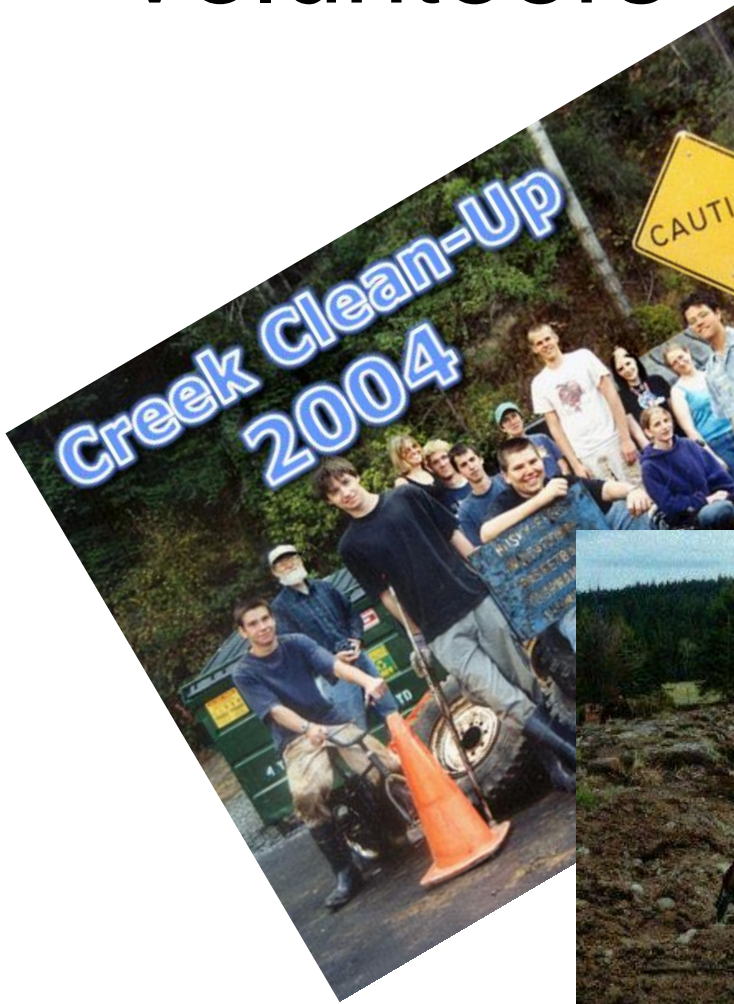
## Beaver Populations Grow Slowly

- Adults are monogamous; breed once per year
- Kits remain with parents for 2-3 years
- Highly Territorial: One colony/2-4 miles
- Dispersers travel 2-30 miles

# Educational Opportunities



# Volunteers

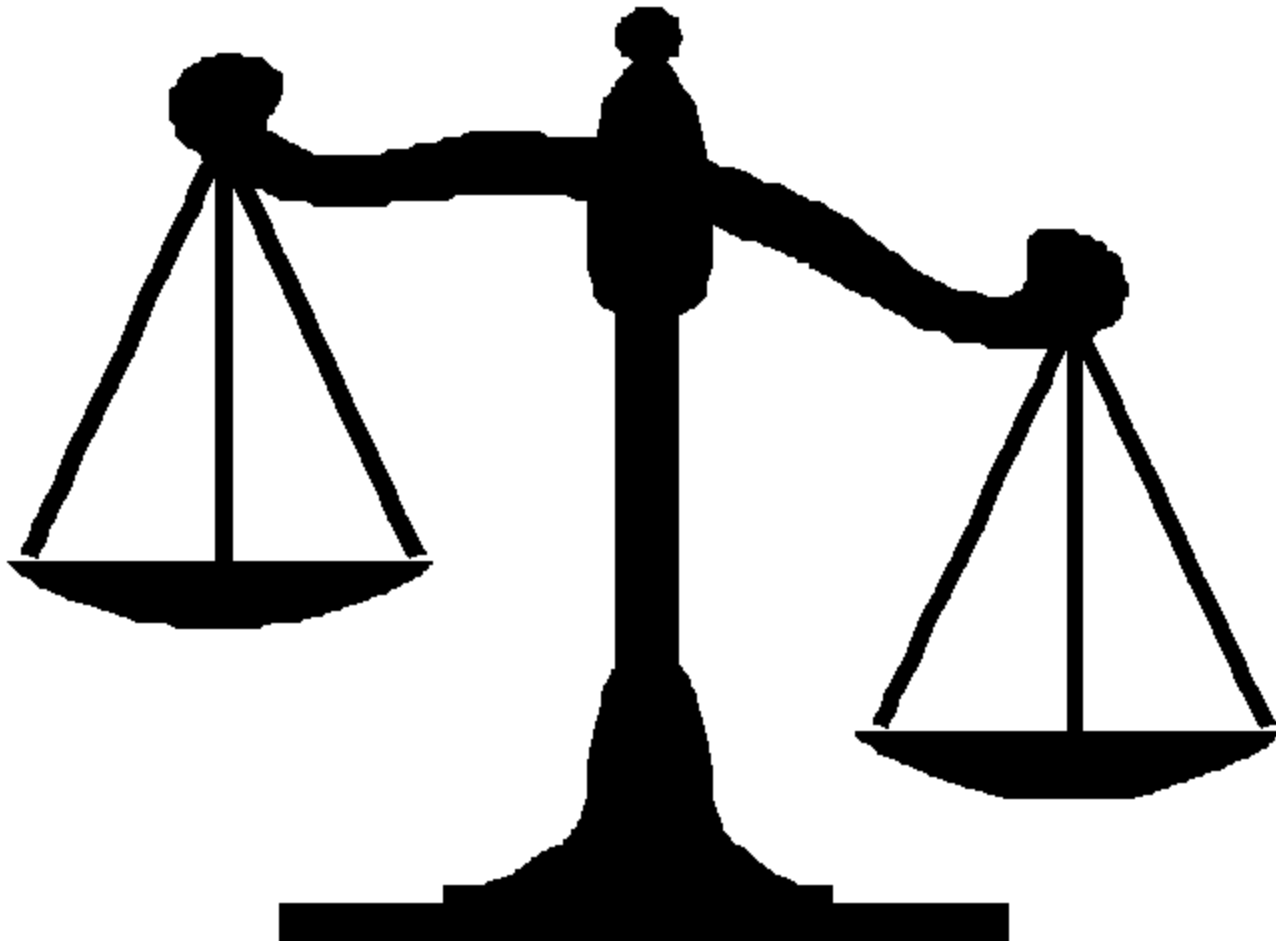


- Creek Cleanup
- Paddlers Cleanup
- Willow Planting
- Beaver Docents

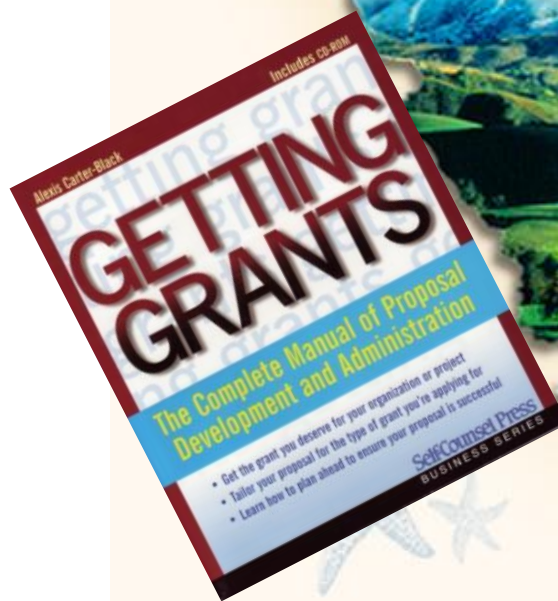




# Project Costs



# Grants & Funding

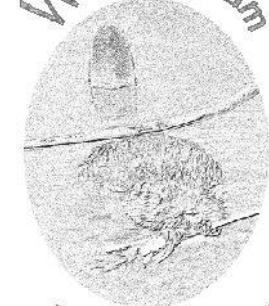


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*The mission of the Natural Reserve System is to contribute to the understanding and wise management of the Earth and its natural systems by supporting university-level teaching, research, and public service at protected natural areas throughout California.*

Worth a Dam

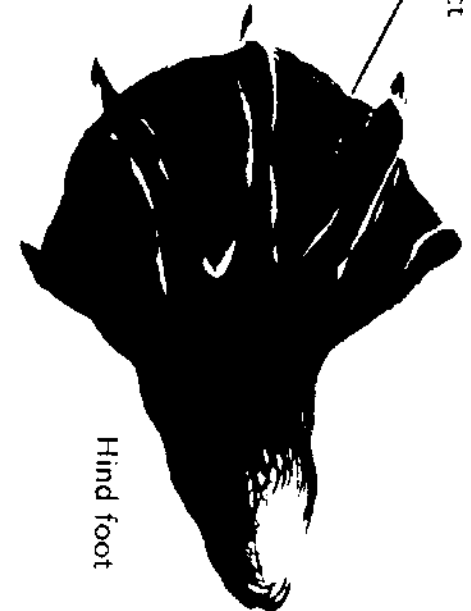


The Martinez Beavers

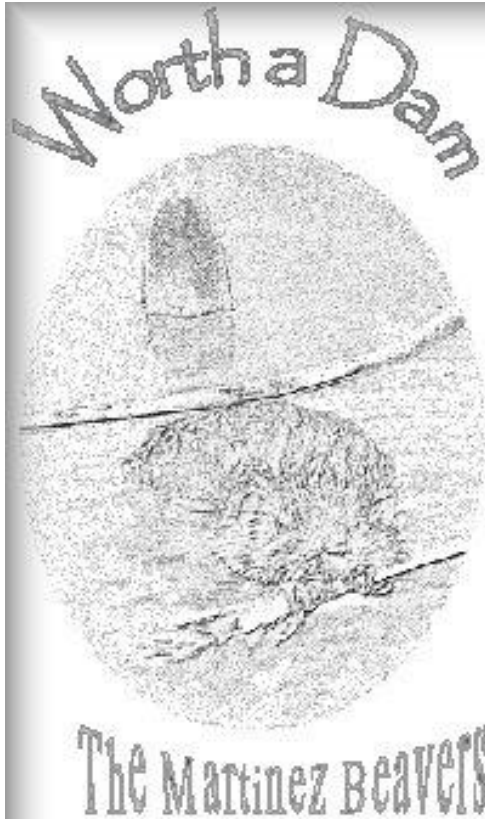
foot



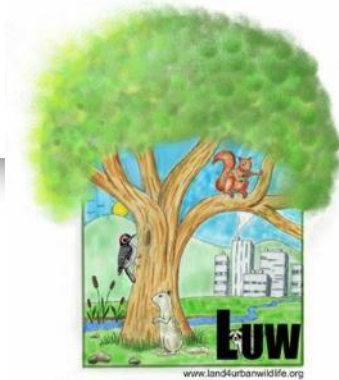
WEEDS NOT ALWAYS DISTINCT



Hind foot



Maintaining the  
Martinez beavers through  
responsible stewardship,  
creative problem-solving  
community involvement  
and education.



President: Heidi Perryman  
Vice President Public Relations: Linda Meza  
Vice President Wildlife: Cheryl Reynolds  
Treasurer: Donna Mahoney

# Liability



- Consult City Attorney
- Use knowledgeable Experts
- Protect Public
- Demonstrate good faith efforts
- Consider EIR

# Economic Impacts

FRIENDS OF THE  
MARTINEZ BEAVERS



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I made this purchase today  
while visiting the  
Beavers of Alhambra Creek

*Thank you!*

# Public Relations

## Martinez beavers saved from death, state agrees to relocate family

Oakland Tribune, CA - Nov 6, 2007

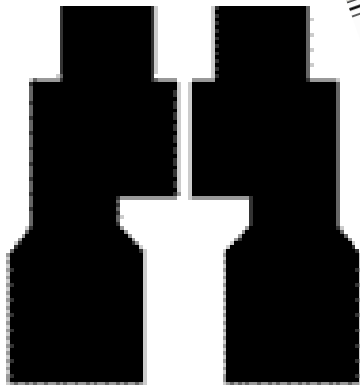
By Scott Marshall **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers spared a death sentence after the state agreed to issue a relocation permit, ...

## Martinez beavers saved amid public outcry relocate family

San Jose Mercury News, CA - Nov 8, 2007

By Scott Marshall

**Martinez beavers saved amid public outcry** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed to issue a relocation permit ...



**CALIFORNIA  
WATCHABLE  
WILDLIFE**

OUT OF TOWN Instead of ...

**MARTINEZ: UPDATE: ALHAMBRA CREEK BEAVERS**

## State agrees to relocate Martinez Beavers

Nov 6, 2007

By Scott Marshall **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers spared a death sentence after the state agreed to issue a relocation permit, ...

**Speakers give Martinez council an earful over beaver relocation** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
By Denis Cuff **MARTINEZ** - The day after city officials backed off of a proposal to kill a beaver family living in a flood-prone downtown creek, ...

**Northwest Digest** - Juneau Empire (Subscription) AK - Nov 7, 2007  
**MARTINEZ**, Calif. - City and state officials may have reached a solution to the gnawing problem of what to do about some urban

Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
The city of Martinez should also look at the economic impact of the beavers on the downtown area. I've met not just Martinez and county people watching the ...

**President sets wrong priorities** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
I'm not sure what the correct action is regarding the problem of the Martinez beavers, but murdering them is not the answer. Having lived in Martinez during ...

**Residents rally for beavers** - The Casper Star Tribune, WY - Nov 7, 2007  
The beavers showed up in Martinez, a suburb in the San Francisco

**Speakers give Martinez council an earful over beaver relocation** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
By Denis Cuff **MARTINEZ** - The day after city officials backed off of a proposal to kill a beaver family living in a flood-prone downtown creek, ...

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**MARTINEZ**, Calif. - City and state officials may have reached a solution to the gnawing problem of what to do about some urban beavers. The beavers showed up ...

**The beavers will be spared** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
(AP Photo/Noah Berger) **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed Tuesday to issue a relocation permit ...

**Residents rally for beavers** - Jackson Hole Star-Tribune, WY - Nov 7, 2007  
The beavers showed up in Martinez, a suburb in the San Francisco Bay area, about a year ago. They went to work, putting together an impressively solid dam ...

**The beavers will be spared: City officials decide to relocate animals** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
By Scott Marshall **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed Tuesday to issue a relocation permit ...

**Businesses may prosper from visitors to beaver dam** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 7, 2007  
By Scott Marshall **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed Tuesday to issue a relocation permit ...

**Right call on beavers** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
THE STORY OF THE Martinez beavers brought smiles when city officials announced this week that the state will let them relocate the animals. ...

**We're well-versed on rivalries** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
Martinez beavers vs. The Executioner: Not long after the Oregon State Beavers survived an East Bay showdown with Cal, Martinez's pesky beavers are spared ...

**Martinez beavers saved amid public outcry** - Tri-Valley Herald, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
By Scott Marshall **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed to issue a relocation permit ...

**Martinez beavers saved amid public outcry** - Inside Bay Area, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
By Scott Marshall, STAFF WRITER **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed to issue a relocation permit ...

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Martinez beavers vs. The Executioner: Not long after the Oregon State Beavers survived an East Bay showdown with Cal, Martinez's pesky beavers are spared ...

**Community sinks teeth into beaver-saving cause** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
Good job by everyone who worked together to make sure the Martinez beaver family won't get killed! Thanks to Martinez Mayor Rob Schroder who contacted Fish ...

**Alhambra Creek beavers saved amid public outcry** - Inside Bay Area, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
By Scott Marshall, STAFF WRITER **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed to issue a relocation permit ...

**beaver.** Get the latest news on beavers. Sign up for our free Google Alerts

**Martinez, amid an outcry from children** - Contra Costa Times, CA - Nov 8, 2007  
By Scott Marshall **MARTINEZ** - A family of Martinez beavers will be spared a death sentence after the state agreed Tuesday to issue a relocation permit ...

# Management Strategy

## Addressing the Problems

- Protection from flooding
- Control burrowing
- Prevent Erosion
- Monitor Water quality

## Reaping The Benefits

**L** ✦ for Learning

Learning about beavers will be an educationally useful for all ages. Environmental Studies Teacher Rena Zellinger can work with HSA students to help develop a beaver curriculum for the younger grades and this can be organized to study habitat ecology, science and nature. The adults class might even include a "Beginning photography" workshop for those interested in filming the beavers.

**O** ✦ for Opportunity

The beavers presence in Martinez offers a rare opportunity for the city to redefine its image and emphasize its natural resources and community spirit. Successful management of the beavers in such a prominent location will make this project the first of its kind on the west coast.

**D** ✦ for Downtown Dollars

Visitors to the ledge are often asking where's the best place to buy dinner, gas and sundries. The Chamber of Commerce should design a beaver map with information about the beaver and advertisement for local businesses.

**G** ✦ for Guests

Already people are coming from all over to see the beaver. Many visitors have never been to the town before and know no thing about the area. Information on the beaver should be made available at the train station and John Muir house.

**E** ✦ for Environment

Beavers are a keystone species and change their environment for the better. They make habitat for other species that follow, and have already increased our wildlife and birdlife significantly.

# Relocation

- Use only Hancock traps
- Hire skilled expert
- Assess relocation site
- Relocate in Fall
- Know risks





# Why live with beavers?



**ECOLOGICAL BENEFIT**



**EDUCATION**



**WILDLIFE VIEWING**



**TOURISM**

