

Wild Trout Trust

- Dams
 - Built with mud, branches, sticks, vegetation, stones
 - Only build dams when they need to retain/manage water levels
- Habitat
 - Rivers, lakes, marshes, and ditches
 - Herbaceous and woody plants
 - Ideal – wooded valleys & slow moving water – lakes w/woodland
 - Build networks of canals to transport food and building materials
 - Prefer areas where the
- Food
 - Herbivores
 - Shoots, leaves, bark
 - Aquatic vegetation

National Wildlife Federation

- Range
 - Reside in ponds, lakes, rivers, and streams throughout the U.S.
 - Change surrounding environment by sometimes creating lakes, ponds, and floodplains

Western Beavers Cooperative

- Diet
 - Tree bark
 - Willow
 - Aspen
 - Cottonwood
 - Birch
 - Oak
 - Alder
 - Maple
 - Black cherry
 - Apple trees
 - Water lilies
 - Giant ragweed
 - Watercress
 - Cattails
 - Clover

- Grass
- Winter Diet
 - Collect food during the fall to store in their cache for the winter
 - Caches are typically used in colder climates
 - Create a muddy floor near their lodges and push sticks and branches into the mud for their food in the winter

Beaver Solutions:

- Diet
 - Tree bark
 - Aspen
 - Birch
 - Alder
 - Cottonwood
 - Maple
 - Poplar
 - Willow
 - Aquatic plants
 - Cattails
 - Water lilies
 - Sedges
 - Rushes
 - Create food cache to store food/sticks to eat during the winter when the ice freezes over the pond and traps them
- Dams
 - After dams are built, ponds are formed where they build their lodges
 - Their preference for being in the water is why they build dams to create ponds (beavers move slowly on land and are better swimmers)
- Canals
 - Create canals so they can easily retreat to the water in case of a predator
 - Use canals to transport branches back to the pond
 - Canals can be up to 100 ft long
- Lodges
 - Made of sticks, mud, and rocks
 - Provides protection from predators
 - Typically a cone shape built in the pond
 - Don't use mud at the top of the lodge to allow ventilation
 - Where they eat, sleep, and birth kit

One Earth:

- Dams
 - Dams slow the pace of the water
 - Dams create wetlands which becomes homes to a variety of species
 - Area between river and land (riparian zone) increases in vegetation near beaver dams
 - Dams act as a natural filtration system

National Park Service:

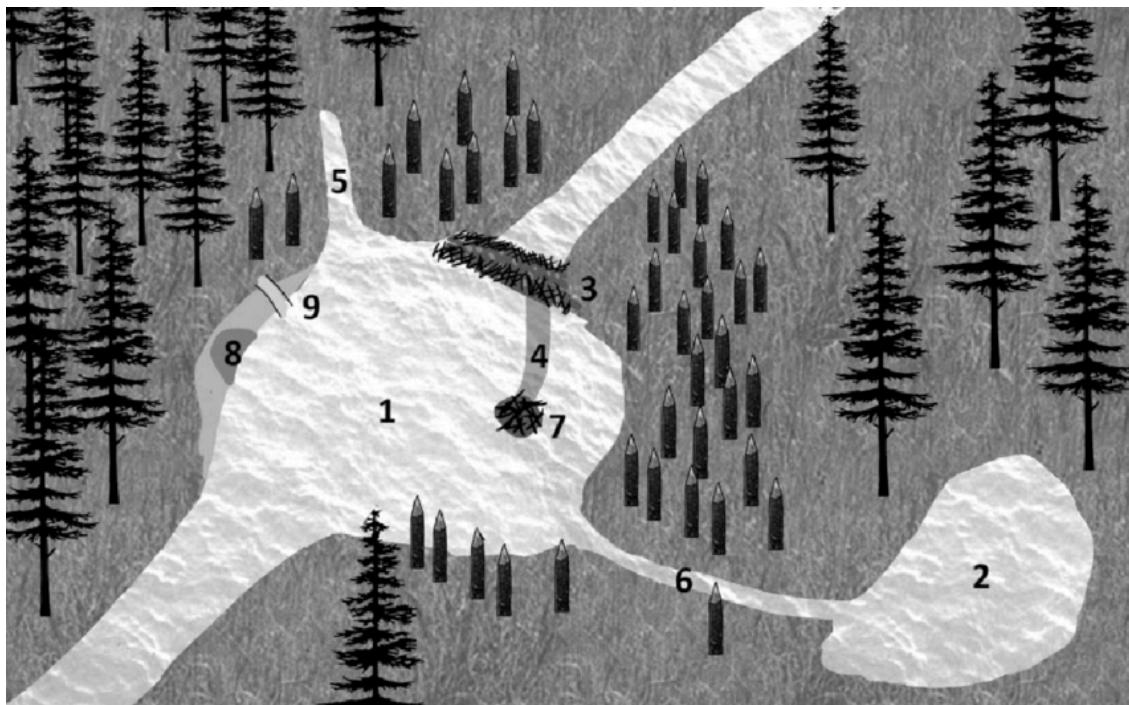
- Dams
 - Beavers have to maintain the dam to keep a consistent water level
 - Dams create ponds that allow beavers to safely travel to get food
 - Ponds flood surrounding area providing further food options for beavers
 - Create canals to transport branches for building and food
- Lodges
 - Made of mud, sticks, and rocks
 - Hollow out the inside, the floor is above water level
 - Two underwater entrances
 - Can be about 6 ft high
 - Airway at the top to allow beavers to breathe
 - In the winter, the mud plaster on the outer layer hardens and protects beavers from predators
 - House about 6 to 12 beavers
- Family
 - At around 3 years old, beavers leave their family in search of a mate and to start their own colony. Beavers will travel far and are often killed by predators during their travels.

New York State Parks:

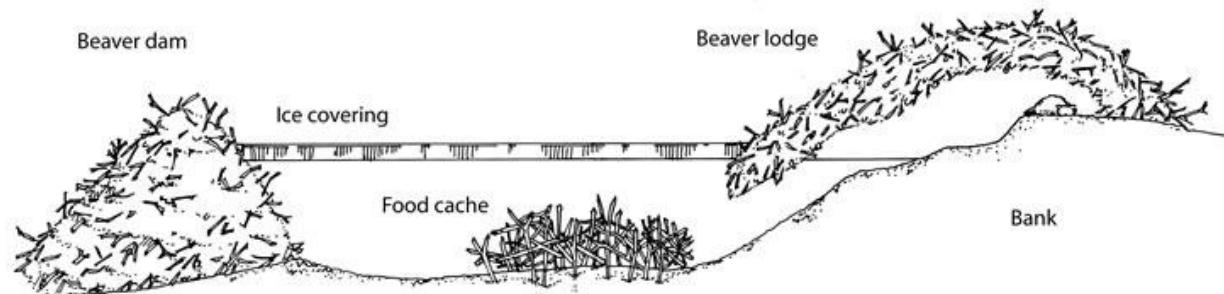
- Wetlands
 - Wetlands foster growth of aquatic food for beavers
 - Amphibians, fish, invertebrates, large herbivores enjoy wetlands created by beavers
 - Help filter water, benefiting animals further downstream
 - Store water in wet periods and release water in drier times

Visual Research:

Beaver Canals - [Research Gate](#)



Beaver Caches - [New York State Parks](#)



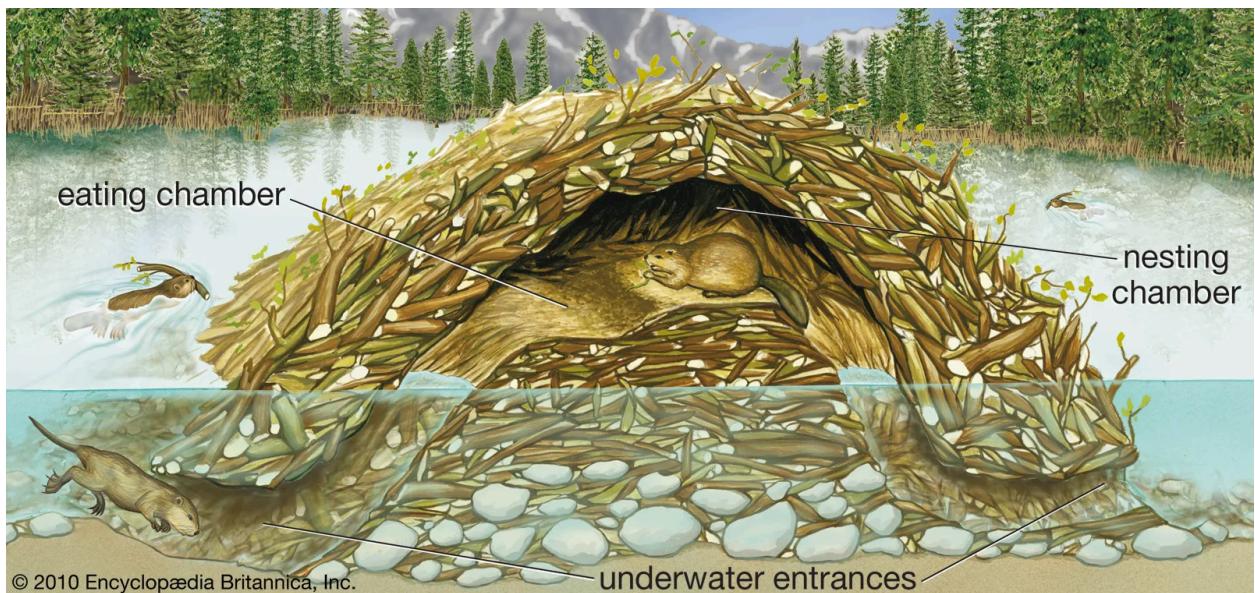
Beaver Wetlands - [New York State Parks](#)



Beaver Lodges - [National Park Service](#)



Beaver Lodges - [Britannica](#)



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Beaver Dams - [National Park Service](#)

