



Resolving Conflicts with Roadside Beaver

Friday September 29, 2023 – A program for wildlife and forestry students on resolving roadside conflicts with beaver. This is associated with the class *Wetland Ecology and Conservation*. In addition to their intrinsic values, beaver have a multiplying positive impact on wetland ecosystems. Speakers will share cost-effective, time-tested methods and devices to co-exist with beavers residing along Maine's roads.

Presented by: Chuck Hulsey – Wildlife Resource Supervisor/Habitat Biologist– MDIFW
Scott Lindsay – Regional Wildlife Biologist - MDIFW
Ben Nugent - District Supervisor-Wildlife Biologist - USDA – Wildlife Services
Jack Houtz – Forest Technician – University Forests - School of Forest Resources

Location: Nutting Hall - University of Maine at Orono & the University Forest - Bradley, Maine.

Registration: Sign-up is required for wildlife and forestry students not enrolled in *Wetland Ecology and Conservation*. **To register contact :** Dr. Erik Blomberg, Associate Professor and Chair, 5755 Nutting Hall (email) erik.blomberg@maine.edu (phone) 581-3794

Agenda

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| 10:00 - 10:15 | Refreshments and meet the presenters. Introductions. Chuck Hulsey |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | Assessing Sites and Identifying Solutions - Experiences from the Field Ben Nugent |
| 10:45 - 11:15 | <i>Know Your Adversary: Beaver Biology and Behavior</i> Chuck Hulsey |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | <i>Geronimo! A Wildlife Restoration Success Story</i> Scott Lindsay |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Beaver/Human Conflict Resolution in Maine Scott Lindsay |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Safety and Introduction to Field Exercise Scott Lindsay and Jack Houtz |
| 12:00 – 12:20 | BAG LUNCH – Bring your own |
| 12:20 – 1:15 | Travel to Training Site, Unload, Organize into Groups |
| 1:15 – 3:45 | Group Activity – Construction and installation of beaver enclosure and water-leveling structure |
| 3:45 – 4:00 | Wrap-Up, Discussion, Feedback – Return to campus |

What to bring: Chest waders (best) or hip boots if you want to help with the installation. Recommended: hard hat, work gloves, eye protection, a bag lunch, water/drinks, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Getting in the water is not required if you only want to observe or assemble exclosures from the roadside.

On-site Field Session

Participants will be separated into groups. It is okay if all you want to do is observe. For those who want to participate, tasks will be done concurrently, but feel free to rotate between workstations.

Phase 1: One group will construct an intake cage ("filter"). The other group will construct the enclosure cage for the culvert. Both are constructed on land at the site.

Phase 2: Each group brings their cage to the installation point; the intake cage will be floated. Each cage will be secured in place by hand with steel posts. Members from both groups will install the 20-foot plastic culvert which is used as a water leveler and connect to cage. The water is warm and shallow. It is rocky/mucky and may be a bit slippery. Many participants can get by with just hip boots, depending on height. All work will be done by hand.

Afternoon field training site on the University Forest, Bradley, Maine.

