

Beavers: A Wildlife Handbook (Long, Kim. Johnson Nature Series.)

Kim Long

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A combination illustrated field guide, fact book, and folklore collection, "Beavers" is a unique and practical guide to these amazing creatures, one of the most prolific natural builders in the animal kingdom. Beavers are one of the great wildlife success stories of the twentieth century. Hunted to near extinction in most of their traditional range in North America, populations of these mammals are now thriving in many areas.

This concise handbook provides an accurate, informative portrait of beavers and their natural surroundings, making it a practical resource both for armchair naturalists and observers in the field. Included in this title are detailed guides to the behavior, biology, and ecological impact of this species. An important focus is placed on the reality of what beavers actually do compared to the myths that have been propagated for hundreds of years.

Topics covered include beavers' historic and contemporary range, their anatomy, fossil history, specialized body parts, reproduction, feeding habits, swimming skills, engineering skills, preferred habitats, food sources, year-round activities, identifying signs, predators, diseases, and survival instincts. "Beavers" also includes a fascinating study of the interrelation between these animals and human cultures, including world myths and legends and their significance to North American Indian tribes. Of special interest is their traditional importance as a food and fur source in the New World, one of the pivotal catalysts in the exploration of North America.



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