



THINKING LIKE A POND:

Beavers and Watershed Management in the Western Great Lakes

A presentation in the SFEC & UMN Extension 2020 Forestry Webinar Series

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

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Beavers are well-known as ecosystem engineers, capable of altering landscapes on a scale rivaled only by humans and elephants. Beaver activities are generally considered to be positive, as their dams and ponds create water storage capacity, reduce downstream nutrient flows, and increase biodiversity across a wide range of taxa. However, they also create conflicts with human societies, including flooding and damage to roads, trees, and agricultural areas, or with real or perceived impacts to recreational fisheries. Much as Aldo Leopold's seminal essay "Thinking Like a Mountain" asked us to rethink carnivore management, understanding the relative contributions, both positive and negative, of beavers to various ecological, economic, and social systems is critical to watershed management, or management of beaver populations themselves.

Date: Tuesday January 21, 2020 noon-1pm central time

Location: Watch online or attend a broadcast site

Cost: Free at a broadcast location, \$50 for the entire 2020 webinar series, or \$20 each

Details and registration: z.umn.edu/20web

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