

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 74 (2008)
Heft: [9]

Artikel: Swiss aim to boost beaver count
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-943706>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

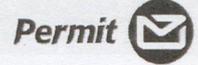
Download PDF: 22.02.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

Sender:

The Secretary of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc
Trudi Brühlmann
401 Marine Drive
Mahina Bay
Eastbourne
Lower Hutt 5013

New Zealand
Permit No. 93966



Mr A and Mrs M Drummond
Salisbury Road
R D 24
Stratford 4394

HELVEVIA

Magazine for Members of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc

FLORA/FAUNA IN SWITZERLAND

Swiss aim to boost beaver count

There are an estimated 900 beavers in Switzerland. Pro Natura, the country's leading conservation agency with an annual turnover of SFr 12 million, says beavers should once again feel at home in Switzerland, and wants to expand beaver-friendly habitats.



A beaver sunning itself

A new campaign aims to build up the network of natural rivers and streams, which will benefit not only the dam-building rodents but also many other species. The Hello Beaver! campaign is one of the most significant protection programmes in Switzerland. Places where beavers settle are seen as ecologically healthy and attractive for many other endangered species.

At present only one in ten Swiss waterways is natural - the rest have either been blocked up, dammed or turned into canals or artificial drains to deal with flooding.

The beaver went extinct in Switzerland in 1805 but returned in the middle of the 20th century.

There are estimated to be 700-900 beavers currently with Swiss residency.

Pro Natura wants to work with riverside power stations to open the so-called "beaver barriers" that such utilities often build. It seeks cooperation with cantonal authorities and communities to ensure that



Holding a twig in its claws, a beaver gnaws the bark with its sharp teeth

the beavers' habitat be preserved and riverbeds and sections of riverbank be restored to their natural state. It also aims at raising awareness of beavers through excursions, exhibitions and school trips.

More natural rivers would benefit not only beavers but also many other species of flora and fauna, including dragonflies, kingfishers and trout.

Beavers are best known for their natural trait of building dams in rivers and streams, and building their homes (lodges) in the resulting pond. Beavers continue to grow throughout life. Adults weighing over 25kg are not uncommon. Females are as large as or larger than males of the same age, which is uncommon among mammals. *swissinfo*