



Getting to know Chilliwack's Species at Risk

Species at risk profile: Mountain Beaver, *Aplodontia rufa*

What it looks like:

A large rodent (up to 28 cm long) with small eyes and ears, compact round body, short tail, and large curved front claws. Colour ranges from grey to brown. [Click here for more identification details.](#)

Where it lives:

Builds burrow systems in forests with deep moist soils and abundant vegetation. Must live near a freshwater source. [Visit this map for location details.](#)

What it eats:

Searches above ground for a range of vegetation, including ferns, grasses, bark, needles, buds and twigs.

What are its main threats in the Fraser Valley?

Loss of suitable forested habitat.

Did you know?

- Initially called a beaver due to its behaviour of chewing plants and bark.
- Is primarily nocturnal and spends most of its time underground.
- Needs to live near water as its inefficient kidneys require it to drink 1/3 of its body weight daily to survive.
- Click [here for more facts.](#)

How you can help:

Check out this [guide](#) for Mountain Beaver land management recommendations.

Join the [Nature Stewards](#) program for personalized property advice.

Spot a Mountain Beaver? – take a photo, record the location, and send it to outreach@fraservalleyconservancy.ca.

For any questions about this or other species at risk, contact the [Fraser Valley Conservancy](#).