**BEAVER SURVEYS**

**Checklist & FAQ’s**

**Complete the following activities before you survey**:

* Save your survey date(s) on your personal & professional calendars.
* Communicate with your designated survey partner(s) and share your cell phone number and email address with them. Let them know how best to reach you.
* Decide on a time for your survey with your partner. Ensure you have a minimum of 3 hours to complete the activity.
* Decide if you want to carpool or meet at the survey site.
* Confirm which surveyor will be responsible for gear check-out/check-in, and for data entry.
* Pick up gear on a Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday before your survey. Coordinate with Alexis to schedule a time.
* Make sure you are in good physical health! Do not enter the water with injuries or open sores.

**Equipment needed:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bring your own** | **Provided by JCWC** |
| * Smartphone – for photos, GPS App
* Water bottle & snack
* Weather-appropriate clothing
* Wide-brimmed sun hat
* Change of clothes for after survey
* Backpack
 | * Waders
* Wading belt
* Life vest
* Wading poles
* Polarized sunglasses
* Field vests
* Hand Sanitizer
* Gloves
* Ziploc bag for electronics
 | * Data Sheets
* Map & directions to survey location
* Letter Point ID cards
* Checklist & FAQ’s (this page)
 |

**Complete the following activities after you survey**:

* Enter your data at <jcwc.org/beaver-surveyor-data-form>. Your data is so valuable to us for future projects.
* Bring in your paper data sheets with gear return, and email in photos.
* Please return your gear on Monday or Tuesday following your survey so gear is available for next weeks’ surveyors to check out. Schedule a time with Alexis.
* Please give us feedback on the Beaver Surveys and your volunteer experience: <jcwc.org/volunteer-survey>

**What if…?**

**Question:** **I cannot get a hold of my partner.**

If your group numbers are low, contact a substitute, then update Alexis. If they do not respond, send Alexis an email and she will ensure you can survey again. If this happens the day of the survey, do not survey in the water by yourself!

**Question:** **I need to cancel/ my partner notifies me that they are not able to do the planned survey date.**

We are counting on you to show up for your survey. However, if this happens and your group numbers are low, contact your substitute as soon as you find out. If a substitute is unavailable, notify Alexis.

**Question: You are approached and asked what you are doing.**

Take a moment to help do some valuable community outreach! Let them know about our effort to better understand the distribution of beaver activity in the watershed and direct them to JCWC if they have any further questions or comments. You can hand out Alexis’ business card.

**Question: There is an injury during our survey.**

If the person is responsive and able to communicate, they decide their own course of treatment. If a person is unconscious, call 911. When you are able, notify Alexis.

**Question: My waders have a leak.**

You do not have to complete your stretch if you become too cold or uncomfortable. Please notify us when you return the equipment so they can be repaired before lending them out again.

**Question: We see people living along the creek.**

It’s possible you’ll encounter people living along the creek. If creek residents are friendly or indifferent, feel free to say hello or smile; they may know a lot about the creek. If you feel unsafe or have a negative interaction, do not engage and leave immediately

**Question: We meet an upset landowner.**

Reaches of the creek are owned by adjacent landowners. Landowners have been notified. If you encounter someone who accuses you of trespassing, simply apologize, tell them to contact JCWC, and leave.

**Question: I didn’t have the best time with my partner, and we’ve been scheduled to survey again together….**

We want you to have an enjoyable experience. Let Alexis know and she can reassign you, with discretion.