Testimonials

Skip offers that rare combination of can-do competence, creativity, and courtesy.—Mark Ross, Vice Mayor. Martinez, CA

Incomparable in quality and value, Skip’s original and elegant flow devices are essentially landscape art. Highly effective, durable, and sensitive to the many ecological considerations involved, they are a reflection of his broad knowledge of construction, beavers, and wetland ecosystems.—Dr. Andrzej Czech, President, Natural Systems, Inc. Lesko, Poland

Skip is one of those rare people with a fine mechanical imagination and a profound understanding of animals. Tireless in his attention to detail, he tailors each flow device to perfectly match the unique characteristics of a given site. His devotion to high-quality workmanship is a pleasure to observe.—Elizabeth Nields, Landowner. Pottersville, NY

Because of his skill, knowledge, and level of commitment, in 20 years Skip has never had to kill a single beaver, even at the most difficult sites. In addition to providing an invaluable service, Skip is a great pleasure to work with, and to learn from. Take advantage of this opportunity!—Dr. Carol Richards, Anthropologist. Stonington, ME

Skip gave us a reliable, long-lasting remedy to a perpetual problem. His unparalleled flow devices have cost us a tiny fraction of what we previously poured into culvert cleaning and road repairs.—Vicki Mishcon, Selectman. Andover, NH

Skip has all the qualities one looks for in an individual and contractor. His integrity and incredible knowledge allow him to solve beaver management issues in a very professional manner.—Jack Gleason, Conservation Commissioner. Amherst, NH

With his skill, enthusiasm, and deep knowledge of beaver ecology, Skip has ended our costly flooding problems without the need to kill beavers. Wetlands are a very important tribal, state, and national resource, and beaver dams decay and wetlands drain when beavers are extirpating from ecosystems. Therefore, we are also indirectly creating these rich, native ecosystems.—Sharri Venno, Environmental Planner, Houlton Band of Maliseets. Houlton, ME

It takes a creative, dedicated scientist and engineer to successfully deceive beavers. Skip does this with passion, deep knowledge, and an exceptional knack for underwater engineering. As a regular speaker in my Wetlands class, he captivates students with a contagious enthusiasm that leaves them with a newfound respect for someone who would do so much for conservation. He’s a hero to the Wetland Ecology community.—Dr. Aram Calhoun, Director, Ecology and Environmental Sciences Program, U. of ME. Orono, ME

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Skip has perfected flow devices that work in virtually all circumstances, require little or no maintenance, and stand the test of time. There is no one who has done more to develop and implement reliable, ecosystem-friendly remedies for beaver-human conflicts. He’s an inventor and conservationist extraordinaire!—Patti Smith, Naturalist, Wildlife Rehabilitator, and Author of The Beavers of Popple’s Pond. Marlboro, VT
For over 20 years, Beaver Deceivers International has been a world-wide leader in resolving beaver-human conflicts. During that time our president, Skip Lisle, has developed all of the industry-leading techniques and products that our company employs. From the start, his mission has been to improve wildlife habitat while saving people money.

Without high-quality flow devices, the only effective way to protect properties like culverts and roads is to permanently extirpate all the beavers in the vicinity. The wetlands beavers create, maintain, and improve provide critical habitat for hundreds of other species including many important game animals. However, beaver dams don’t persist in the absence of beavers: They decay and the wetlands drain. Consequently, well-made flow devices may be the most valuable tool society has to protect, and dramatically improve, wildlife habitat.

In the long term, killing beavers is an ineffective, inefficient, and costly way to protect culverts and other properties. Tiny holes in pre-existing dams known as roads, culverts and small bridges are attractive damming sites that can be quickly clogged. Explorative and territorial, beavers constantly seek good, unoccupied habitat. Therefore, eliminating beavers creates a vacancy that guarantees the arrival of new beavers and a permanent conflict. Conversely, our flow devices may last 40 years, require little maintenance, and make the presence of beavers irrelevant. It’s a major challenge to sneak water away from beavers, control damming behavior, and build structures that hold up in an extremely harsh environment. To be truly effective, flow devices have to be of the highest possible quality while perfectly matching the unique, complex characteristics of each conflict site. This can only be achieved by highly skilled and experienced builders with a deep understanding of beavers and the environment. With these qualities, which are reflected in an unparalleled record of innovation and success, we can help you end these annoying conflicts in a long-lasting, non-lethal, and money-saving manner.

Cover) A Beaver Deceiver™ (BD) protecting a standpipe on the outlet of a man-made pond in Vermont.
1) A BD and painted turtle in Andover, NH. BDs eliminate the need to kill beavers; live beavers translate to habitat for hundreds of other species.
2) A beaver clearly demoralized by a well-made Beaver Deceiver™.
3) A common site—a beaver dam inside an unprotected culvert.
4) A previously dammed culvert now protected by a BD.
5) A beaver dam controlled, and Route 9 (north of Keene, NH) protected, by a Castor Master™ pipe system. The filter (beavers out, water in) on the end of the pipe is called a Square Fence™.
6) A Beaver Deceiver™ protecting a standpipe on a deep, steep-banked pond. It is covered with a deck and diving board.

Biography
Skip Lisle acquired his love of wildlife and improving wildlife habitat while growing up on a beaver pond in Grafton, Vermont. He later went to Plymouth State University in New Hampshire (B.S., Geography) and the University of Maine (M.S., Wildlife Conservation). After graduating from UMaine he worked for six years at the nearby Penobscot Indian Nation. It was here that his flow device career began. Since then, Skip has invented numerous types of flow devices and techniques used for building and installing them. He has also coined all the related terms, including “Beaver Deceiver.” These products are widely recognized as the best in the world. He has worked in half the states in the Union, a couple of Canadian provinces, and many European countries. In addition to flow devices, he has invented unique boardwalk and deck systems so people can more easily enjoy the beautiful places beavers create.

Again living in his childhood home, Skip has served six years on Grafton’s Select Board (governing body), and been on the Boards of many environmental organizations.