

Kristen Werpy

Take Care of Young: For the first six to eight weeks of their life, a newborn mountain beaver is helpless. After that, they are able to function on their own, without the support of a mother.

Mate: The Point Arena Mountain Beaver doesn't mate until they are about two years of age. It appears that the partner doesn't really matter in it, mainly in the fact that they could mate with any male beaver and produce baby mountain beavers.

Warm/Cold Blooded: The Point Arena Mountain Beavers are warm blooded.

Migrate: The Point Arena Mountain Beaver does not migrate.

Hibernate: The Point Arena Mountain Beavers are more active at night and they do not hibernate in the winter.

Lifespan: The lifespan for the Point Arena Mountain Beaver ranges from anywhere between six and ten years.

Habitat: They'll live in any forested area, from sea level to mountain.

World: The Point Arena Mountain Beaver Lives Only in California.

Predators: Cats & Dogs if they are near human populations; other (natural) predators include: Bobcats, Coyotes, Great Horned Owls, Minks, and Long-Tailed Weasels.

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Point Arena Mountain Beaver

Genus: Aplodontia

Species: Rufa

Subspecies: Nigra

Size: Medium Sized Rodent; Average Adults Weigh 2.3 Pounds, Though the Weight Can Range From 1.8 to 3.5 Pounds; Average Length is 13.5 Inches; Including Tail About 1 Inch in Length

Looks Like: Stout/Compact Body; Large/ Wide Head; Long, Silver Whiskers; Hind Feet=Two Inches Long & Slightly Longer Than the Front Feet; Feet Are Slightly Furred

Special Features: Blackish Coloration & Certain Cranial Characteristics Separate the Point Arena Mountain Beaver From the Six Other Subspecies of Mountain Beavers.

Reproduce: Gestation usually lasts six to eight weeks (generally 29 days) and litters of two to three young are common. The weight of the young beavers is generally around 25.5g. At birth, the beavers are pink, helpless, blind, and do not have a considerable covering fur.

Live in Group or Alone: The Point Arena Mountain Beaver lives in populations. There are ten populations in existence, with a total of around a hundred of the beavers, so there are estimated to be about ten per population, but some with more and some with less.

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What Does It Eat?: They eat plants such as forbs, grasses, and ferns (sword & bracken).

Carnivore/Herbivore/Omnivore/Detritivore: Herbivore

Impact Humans Have Made On It: It is considered a pest in its range in coastal areas of California (Northern), Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, mainly due to damage to gardening. Most of the areas it lives in are not visited by humans, though. It is rare in some areas in California.

Population: There are ten populations in the range it lives in, totaling 100 individual Point Arena Mountain Beavers.

Why is it Endangered/Threats: Wildfire; Livestock Grazing; Expansion of Exotic Plant Species; Rodent Control Measures; Alteration of Stream Flow; Housing Development; Highway Construction; Predators