



# ROOTS-OF-LIFE

## Beach Colony

"sky above, sand below and peace within"

*Established on 9/11/2021*

@hawkthespork and @Aeternum

## About

### Name

Beach Colony

### Name meaning

Named for the colony's territory

### Description

*The colony of peace, the Beach Colony values tranquility and offers a place to stay for anyone needing a change of scenery. The inhabitants are non-violent, often pacifistic cats who appreciate nature and the beach that hosts them. They take care of each other - not a single cat is ill-looked over or ignored. The Beach Colony thinks of themselves as a crew and a family. All life is respected, and they believe in a cycle of rebirth and karma that effects all living things. Do good unto others, and good will come to you.*

### Territory

Aptly named after its territory, the Beach Colony resides along the coastline. Their camp is in a cove near the shore. They are somewhat secluded from other colonies, often preferring to keep to themselves to maintain their peace. They're mostly on a beach, but part of their territory includes the forest on the cliffs above. There's coarse shrubbery on the sand, and the forest is dense and green.

The diversity of their territory means there's rarely ever any shortage of prey. Along the coast, they can fish in the rock pools, hunt sea-life, catch waterbirds, and in the forest they hunt small rodents. However, there's always the risk of predators in albatrosses, hawks, coyotes, snakes, and foxes. There's even danger in the water itself: storms and rogue waves are always a concern, and the saltwater causes illness to drink.

Their camp is large enough for any cat to dig out or find their own den if they so choose, but the closeness of the colony means many decide to house together. The sand and rock keeps them cool in the summer and traps heat in the winter. Their territory is large, but many cats prefer to stay in the cove with each other. It's rare you'll see cats on their own - most prefer to be in pairs or groups.

## Customs

The Beach Colony has an emphasis on safety surrounding the water and the cliffs. They teach every cat early how to avoid rogue waves and currents, as well as when its safe go to out. On days where the sea fog makes it hard to even see their own paws, they're encouraged to stay in the cove. Cats are always encouraged to catch more prey to store in case of days like these. This is part of the reason why Weather Reporters are such an important part of the Colony: they play an integral role in keeping everyone safe.

The rogue tidal wave that hit the colony was a key factor in heightening these safety concerns. With half of the colony being washed away, Brook and Reef worked hard with the Weather Reporters to make sure something like that would never happen again. Every so often, they perform drills to practice evacuating quickly and getting the kittens and seniors to safety.

Violence or bullying is not tolerated on any ground. The first Chief, Brook, was careful to screen any cats for violent tendencies before welcoming them into camp (though his belief in second chances extended to subsequent Chiefs, and he was never one to judge someone who was willing to change). Cats who are seen to be bullying others are talked to and often punished or ostracized.

With how involved every cat is with each other, there's an emphasis on finding one's own role and seeing how they can be helpful. Once cats are old enough, they have to figure out how they can help out around camp! Whether that be hunting, fighting, weather reporting, caretaking, rebuilding, heartsoothing, advising - there's place for everyone to find what's best for them. There's always something somecat can do to find their place, but if they are too young, too old, or too sick, they will be well taken care of regardless.

When confessing feelings to a beloved, cats tend to find shells and gift them as an expression of their feelings. Dens are personalized with all sorts of shells, seaglass,



flowers, and other found decorations. For those who aren't aesthetically inclined, there's never any shortage of crew willing to lend a paw to help decorate, either!

### Common Traits

As a mismatch of travelers over the years, the Beach Colony thrives in body diversity. Many are stocky with long fur and short legs, making them strong swimmers, but others are lean and short-furred, prime to navigating the rocky cliffs and keeping sand out of their fur. Many cats have webbed paws however, and tough paw pads to resist the sand's heat. Most cats are active during the early evening or nighttime due to the scorching sun during the day.

Appearances are varied as well, but lighter fur colors (either in warm or cool tones) are helpful to combat the hot weather. Dark-colored cats have a hard time in the daytime with their pelt soaking up the sun's rays. However, plenty of cats have low to high white spotting.

### Questions for Joining

Unique to other colonies, if your cat is interested in joining the Beach Colony, they'll have to answer a few questions. On your character's application form, copy and paste these questions, along with your cat's answers.

- Where are you from?
- Why would you like to join the colony?
- Have you ever acted aggressively towards another cat? If yes, why?
- What could you bring to our colony?

For a chance to earn sprouts 🌱, you could also rp your response with the chief of the colony, Reef, but this is not necessary!

## Ranks

### Chief

The leader of the colony. They are dedicated to their colony and their duty is to keep their cats safe above all else. They are expected to act in the best interests of the group. The Chief dons a seaweed-seashell necklace that is passed onto future Chiefs.

### First-Mate

The Chief's advisor and successor. They help out in situations where the Chief is unable to attend or when a second opinion on a difficult matter is needed. The First-Mate wears a seaweed necklace with no shell.

### Weather Reporter

These cats hold a crucial role in the colony. They stand guard at high points in the territory to keep an eye on the skyline, ready to alert the Chief and the colony of incoming storms or rogue waves that may pose a threat to their home. There must be two cats on watch at all time.  
Gale is the current head weather reporter.

### Crew

The commoners, these cats are 12 months and older, making up the majority of the group. They are free to roam the entirety of the colony's territory, but are responsible to contribute to their group's wellbeing, whether that be through hunting, fighting, or training to be a weather reporter.

### Seniors

The retired of the colony - typically, these cats are 132+ months or ones who request to retire early. They are welcomed to the more comfortable and safe caves and tunnels underneath the cove. Seniors are suggested to stay within the Cove for guaranteed safety, but are welcome to go about every day as normal. Cats are not required to retire once they hit 132 months.

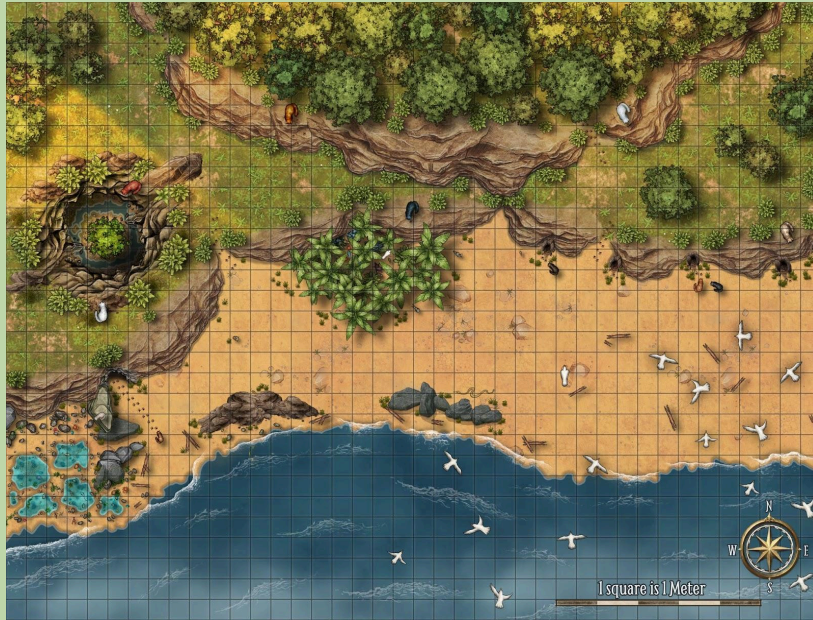
### **Fresh Meat**

Cats over the age of 6 months but under the age of 12 months. They are allowed to roam around the main cove of the colony—yet they aren't allowed to leave the cove or go to the rock pools without an adult. Adolescents can train with current Weather Reporters if they wish to request this role when they become old enough for it.

### **Youngling**

Kittens who are under the age of 6 months. They stay with their parents inside the Whistling Tunnels dens and the main Beech Cave until they are old enough to leave on their own.

### **Map**



Map by [Pandora Night](#)

## Landmarks

Art by Melontine

### Open Cove

*The Open Cove is the central hub of the colony's territory and connects to surrounding landmarks. This is where cats can access the main beach, rock pools, sand dens and the cove. Small prey such as crabs, sandlings, and other small birds are commonly found here.*

*In spring, cats can rarely find sea turtle eggs if they know where to look. This is where the Chief will find the seaweed for their neck-wrap as its often found washed up on shore.*

### Beech Cave

*Named for the large beech tree in the center of the cave. The Beech Cave is the large cave in the cove. The entrance to the cave is a small tunnel about 5 meters long which then opens to a larger area. An old beech tree sits in the middle of this grand cavern, a small fresh stream runs around the tree and the room, it seems to be flowing from an unexplored tunnel system. The cave dens are also where seniors are welcomed to make their home in the warmer dry dens within the tunnel system.*



### Whistling Tunnels

*The Whistling Tunnels are nurseries where the kittens are kept with no chances of flooding. They get their name for the sound of the kittens echoing and sounding like whistling. The*

*dens are softened with grass and feathers to help the new mothers and kits to feel comfortable.*



### Rock Pools

*The Rock Pools is where the colony can catch most of its prey such as sea slugs, shrimps, seaweed, small fish and crabs. The Rock Pools can also be very dangerous if cats aren't paying attention to where they're stepping, between the sharp rocks and poisonous sea urchins. Fresh meat/adolescents are not allowed anywhere near the rock pools without a crew member accompanying them.*



### Sand Dune Dens

*The Sand Dunes are where you can find the majority of the dens in the colony. The cats have dug out cozy dry dens in the hard sand/soil beneath the grassy plains and roots.*



### Dry Tops

*The Dry Tops is a safe place for the colony to gather if the dunes and cove are under threat of flooding. Weather Reporters would sit atop here to watch out for the warning signs of an oncoming storm or the signs of flooding. You can also catch small prey here in times of need such as small rodents & small nesting birds.*



### Old Lou's Lighthouse

*The old lighthouse that once stood proud against the horizon. Once the first safe home Brook knew, now it is forbidden to get close to the dilapidated structure. The crumbling walls that are still being beaten by waves makes it dangerous for anyone to approach.*





### Old Town

*A small, abandoned fishing town; this was Brook's first home. For a long time, it was too ruined to be explored, but is now stable enough. There's a worn out and overgrown cobblestone path leading to the lighthouse. It's found to be a good place to hunt due to small animals, like mice and birds, taking nest in the old homes.*

### Willow Lake

*A small lake with three isles branching across the water. These islands are connected by fallen logs, making for easy access. There is a large old willow tree in the middle isle. This lake is connected to the pond in the Old Town by a winding river, as well as neighboring the Creek Colony's Willowing Swamp. This is a prime freshwater fishing spot, as well as a home to waterfowl such as ducks. However, cats have to watch out for otters and herons.*

### Waterfall Chasm

*A chasm that was previously covered, now opened by the earthquake. It's not the easiest place to access, with its sheer walls and slippery holds from the waterfall's spray. It's best to visit this location with a friend - or not go at all. If scaled safely, it makes for a pretty view, but can be quite dangerous. Very young and very old cats are encouraged to stay away from here.*

#### Palm Beach Oasis

*Surrounded by palm trees and various dry foliage that provide lots of shade, the Palm Beach Oasis makes for an easy spot for cats to hang out and relax. Small fish and shellfish make their home here. It's easy to find shoreline birds such as gulls and swallows here as well. The oasis water is very shallow. It provides no challenge to those who wade across.*

### Leaders

#### Current Chief

Reef • Owned by @hawkthespork

Chocolate rufoused ticked tabby molly

#### Previous Chiefs

Brook • Owned by @Aeternum • Missing, presumed dead

Gray mackerel tabby tom

## History

### The Beginnings

Brook was a housecat who lived in the lighthouse with the keeper, Old Lou. As a terrible storm rolled in, shaking the lighthouse and sending waves crashing against the shore, Brook took in a young stray named Finch and her two kittens to keep them safe. When the storm finally passed, Brook emerged from the partially crumbling lighthouse to find the town had been washed away. No one was left save for Old Lou and the two kittens. Finch had passed away from sickness during the storm.

Brook cared for the two kittens, who he named Reef and Shore, but it was obvious they couldn't stay in the failing lighthouse for long with the limited rations that were left. He took the kittens and left, traveling down the cliffs to a large beach cove. This is where they met Gale, a young molly who had taken refuge in the cove. She invited the three of them back for food.

The four of them lived together for a few months before they met an old tom and a small kitten that accompanied him, Grandpa and Lavender respectively. Clearly, they weren't a threat, and Brook invited the pair to live with them. With their group growing, they decided to properly organize themselves into a colony, giving themselves the name "The Beach Colony." They were fairly secluded from the other colonies that they vaguely knew were days away.

### Rising Moon Arc

The distance between the Beach Colony and the majority of other colonies ensured that Beach never had a part in any dramatics that might be taking place. While the Web Colony and Fire Colony were locked in a struggle, Beach was too far away to know what was happening. It wasn't until a former Web Colony cat, Amber, showed up at Beach, that they learned about the war and Web's fall. She didn't share everything, and soon after her arrival came two other mollies, Chestnut and Reed, who had come from the same area. They told Beach about the power struggle between Web's former overlords, Spider and Lune, and how their incompetence and selfishness hurt many cats. The Beach Colony was sympathetic to their experiences and provided a safe space for them to open up and heal.

### The Tidal Wave

Following a region-wide earthquake, the head weather reporter Gale took note of storm clouds on the horizon. The Colony prepped for a few days in anticipation. As soon as they thought it was behind them, a huge storm struck in the middle of the night. The Colony rushed to the Dry Tops for shelter, but a tidal wave hit them as they were on their way. Several cats were washed away and their camp was heavily damaged. Once the wave had receded, Brook sent out search parties to look for the missing cats to no avail. At that point, they could do nothing but wait, and the cats who still remained began to repair the camp.

The lost cats who had been washed away in the storm finally returned after a while of hoping they were safe. Surprisingly, they were accompanied by two new cats - Midnight and Strawberry, Brook's half-brother and half-sister, respectively. Brook was shocked and angered to see his half-brother again, as they departed on bad terms, but surprised to learn he had a half-sister. After a long conversation with Midnight and vouching from the lost cats, Brook decided to let them join.

### Disappearance

Other colonies dealt with the Pyre Colony, but once again Beach was far enough away not to have to worry about

it. They had been visited by Sunlight and Aspen, but all of their inhabitants were content with where they were, and none went to visit the soothsayer Edna. It was a good thing they did since Edna was revealed to be a fake and an uprising was led against her that led in her death.

The arrival of three young sisters in the Colony proved more disruption than they were used to. Tallulah, Felicity, and Marceline were not the sort of cats that the Beach Colony usually housed. Tallulah's ferocity and anger concerned Brook, but he could not in good conscience turn away three kittens looking for a home. The sisters were lazy, loud, and annoying, and many of the residents who had tried to give them third and fourth chances were growing tired of them.

Brook and Gale took them out hunting to try and teach them, but the sisters were resistant as ever. Coyotes attacked them, and Gale had to retreat with the young cats to make sure they were safe. When she returned, Brook was gone, and there was no trace of him save for his blood and seaweed necklace. The tragedy lurched the colony into sadness, and after having to admit that he was likely dead, Reef stepped up as the new Chief of the colony.

In the distance, as more power-hungry cats rose into high positions, Beach still tried to keep to itself. They weren't too concerned with the politics of other colonies, though kept positive-neutral relations with its neighbors. However, as the Lignite Colony amassed more power, it sent out armies to take over the Ivy Colony, Meadow Colony, Builder Colony, and Flower Colony. The Beach Colony felt more nervous as they pushed closer and closer towards their territory, but tried to stay calm. Luckily, the Lignite Colony's leader was overthrown, and the armies in the surrounding colonies were released. Now, the Beach Colony is wary of Lignite, and still tries to keep to itself.

### Continuance

The Colony was blessed with new life: first, Cow having a litter of six kittens, closely followed by Chestnut having a litter of her own with the help of Willow and a wanderer. Odd tragedy befell the colonies, though: stories of cats being attacked and killed by strangers, and it came to Beach, too, when Egg returned from a patrol he had gone on with Tallulah - carrying her lifeless body. He was shaken, unsettled, and claimed they had been ambushed and he couldn't save her.

It was a hard death. Tallulah wasn't liked by most of the colony - for good reason - but she was still a cat who had died too young. The vigil was awkward and condolences were given but a little stiff. Felicity and Marceline mourned their sister's death deeply, angry at the colony and Reef for not protecting her better. As the months passed, things settled: new kittens were born, Shore left, and Reef gave out promotions to new weather reporters. Marceline and Felicity came to Reef one day citing Egg (now Swainson) had tried to kill Marceline, and maybe he had killed Tallulah, too. Reef met their accusations with sympathy but ultimately didn't believe them - Cow's little Swainson, a murderer? And then Marceline disappeared - leaving only Felicity of the three sisters who had come to the colony. Tensions were building in the surrounding areas. The Garden Colony had been taken over by the cats responsible for the mysterious attacks months prior. When the Creek Colony fell due to prey shortages, Beach and Sky split the remaining territory amongst themselves.

Flytrap sent out their cats to cause more destruction - evident when they found Willow killed in the shallows. He was mourned, but still, Reef wanted to remain neutral and keep the colony's non-violent stance. Much of the colony agreed - they were pacifists, after all. But not all of them - Swainson was caught by Reef while he tried to drown Felicity, and was promptly exiled. Reef promised to kill him herself if he ever came back.

A few months later, Felicity came to Reef demanding they did something about the Flytrap Colony, who continued

their reign of terror on the surrounding colonies. Reef denied action, saying it wasn't their colony's place to get involved, and most of the colony agreed with their chief. Felicity wasn't satisfied. On her own, she went to Ivy, Sky, and Cavern asking for help to break the Flytrap prisoners free. Although Cavern denied, they enlisted the Hidden Colony as mercenaries. The patrol ultimately failed - although they got a few prisoners out, one cat died, and others were captured. Reef was furious Felicity disobeyed and did something so dangerous, but she couldn't be angry for too long - the worst punishment for Felicity was seeing how she had failed.

Months later when the Colibri Colony fell, two of their cats Squeak and Calloway came to join the Beach Colony and were welcomed with open paws. They gained a few other cats over the next months, a notable one being Wyn, a single father with newborns looking for a safe place to raise them. By now, the Flytrap Colony had fallen, reclaimed by the former Garden leader and renamed to the Swift Colony.

Relations

Flower Colony	Sky Colony	Coastal Colony
Exchanges trade occasionally, swapping flowers for shells and whatnot. Positive-neutral.	Positive neutral	Although now disbanded, the Beach Colony had fond associations for their fellow coastline colony.

Ivy Colony

Lignite Colony

Neutral	Mostly neutral now, but the Beach Colony remains very wary after what the predecessor Warlord enacted.
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Trivia

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Application base created by @peeperonipip  
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