

What You Otter Know

SPECIES LIST

Otters are mammals and the most amphibious members of the weasel family which also includes badgers, skunks, and ferrets.

There are 13 different species of otters.

African Clawless Otter:



22-46 pounds and 4-5 feet in length

Partially webbed hind feet

Found in savannahs, lowland forests and coastal plains

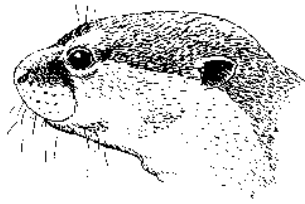
South Africa

Eat crustaceans and large fish

Endangered Status: Least Concern

Threats: Habitat alteration and pollution

Asian Small-clawed Otter:



Smallest of the world's otters-11 pounds and 3 feet in length

Partially webbed hind feet

Found in marshlands

Peninsular Malaysia and Thailand

Eat mollusks, crustaceans, and fish

Endangered Status: Vulnerable to extinction

Threats: Habitat destruction, pollution

Congo Clawless Otter:



44 pounds and 5 feet in length

Partially webbed hind feet

Found in rivers, streams and swamps

Congo River basin (Africa)

Eat crabs and giant earthworms

Endangered Status: Least concern

Threats: Killed as competitors for fish

Eurasian Otter:



17.5 pounds and 3 feet in length

Fully webbed feet

Found in rivers, lakes and sheltered coasts

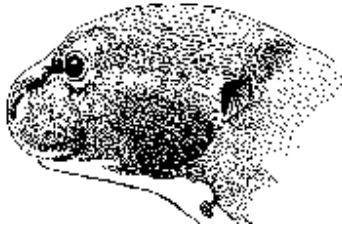
From the Europe, North Africa and Asia

Eat fish, water birds, crayfish, frogs and some rabbits

Endangered Status: Near-threatened

Threats: Water pollution

Giant Otter:



Largest of the world's otters- 48.5-70.5 pounds
5 feet in length
Fully webbed feet
Found in lowland rainforests
South America
Eat fish and crabs
Endangered Status: Endangered
Threats: Habitat destruction, poaching

Hairy-Nosed Otter:



15 pounds and 4 feet in length
Fully webbed feet
Found in peat swamp forests
Southern Asia
Eat fish and crustaceans
Endangered Status: Endangered
Threats: Habitat destruction

Marine Otter:



11 pounds and 3 feet in length
Partially webbed feet
Found along rocky coasts
Southwestern South America
Eat mollusks, crustaceans and fish
Endangered Status: Endangered
Threats: Poaching and pollution

Neo-Tropical Otter



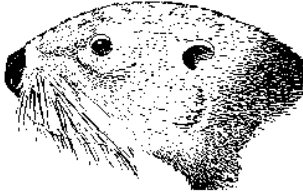
33-37 pounds and 5 feet in length
Fully webbed feet
Found in rivers, streams and evergreen forests
South America
Eat fish and crustaceans
Endangered Status: Data Deficient
Threats: Habitat destruction and water pollution

North American River Otter:



33 pounds and 5 feet in length
Fully webbed feet
Found in lakes, rivers, wetlands, marshes, and estuaries
North America
Eat fish, frogs, muskrats, birds, crayfish and mussels
Endangered Status: Least Concern
Threats: Water pollution

Sea Otter:



40-88 pounds and 4.5 feet in length

Fully webbed feet

Found in rocky shores, coastal wetlands, and kelp forests

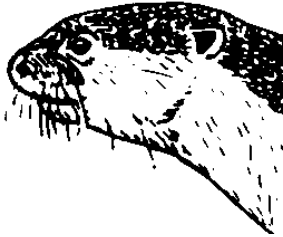
North Pacific Rim

Eat clams, urchins and crabs

Endangered Status: Endangered

Threats: Oil spills and boat strikes

Smooth-Coated Otter:



24 pounds and 4 feet in length

Partially webbed feet

Found in peat swamps, wetlands, rivers and lakes

India and surrounding islands

Eat fish, crustaceans, frogs, insects, birds and rats

Endangered Status: Vulnerable to extinction

Threats: Habitat destruction and pollution

South American River Otter:



22-44 pounds and 3 feet in length

Fully webbed feet

Found in rivers and lakes

South America

Eat fish, amphibians, crustaceans and mollusks

Endangered Status: Endangered

Threats: Habitat destruction

Spotted-Necked Otter:



12 pounds and 3.5 feet in length

Fully webbed feet

Found in rivers, lakes and swamps

Central Africa

Eat fish, crabs and frogs

Endangered Status: Least concern

Threats: Habitat destruction and pollution

Photos provided by www.otternet.com