

NORTH AMERICAN RIVER OTTER

Lontra canadensis

FUN FACTS

- Otters have nictitating membranes, specially adapted lenses in their eyes, which work like built-in goggles.
- New research indicates that otters can smell underwater by exhaling air bubbles then sniffing them back up again quickly.
- Otter vocalizations are classified as whistles, growls, or chuckles.

THREATS AND CONSERVATION

Historically hunted for their fur, unregulated trapping-in addition to habit loss and water quality issues-resulted in extirpations (localized extinction) or declines in otter populations across their range.



class <i>mammal</i>	biome <i>riparian</i>	diet <i>carnivore</i>	body temp <i>endotherm</i>
biorhythm <i>diurnal</i>	birth <i>viviparous</i>	interaction <i>social</i>	habitat <i>aquatic</i>