



The Lucky 13

There are 13 otter species worldwide and each one impacts their ecosystem and surrounding communities. You would be lucky to have them in a habitat near you! See if you can match each otter to its description.

Location: Central to South America, from Venezuela to Argentina.

Fun Fact: The largest otter and known for "periscoping" to show off white throat patches.

IUCN Status: Endangered

Location: Widespread throughout Central and South America.

Fun Fact: They have the longest tail of any otter, which gives them their scientific name.

IUCN Status: Near Threatened

Location: Along the coasts of Chile and Peru.

Fun Fact: This is the smallest marine mammal and in Spanish called **gato marino**, "marine cat".

IUCN Status: Endangered

Location: Southern Chile and Western Argentina.

Fun Fact: They have the smallest geographical range and live a mostly solitary life.

IUCN Status: Endangered

Location: Southern and Southeast Asia.

Fun Fact: The smallest otter species, will grab food with paws instead of their teeth.

IUCN Status: Vulnerable

Location: Throughout Africa south of the Sahara.

Fun Fact: White spots on neck can identify individuals, locally known as **fisi maji**, "water hyena".

IUCN Status: Near Threatened

Location: Wide distribution throughout Asia.

Fun Fact: Has short, smooth fur and large, webbed feet; known to hunt together in a V-pattern.

IUCN Status: Vulnerable

Location: Southeast Asia.

Fun Fact: The black part of its nose is hairy where in most mammals, it is moist and naked.

IUCN Status: Endangered

Location: Throughout Europe and Asia, also found in North Africa.

Fun Fact: A good swimmer but cannot hold its breath for long. Average dive is only 30 seconds.

IUCN Status: Near Threatened

Location: Central to Southern Africa.

Fun Fact: Born with tiny claws but loses most of these, no webbing so uses paws to catch food.

IUCN Status: Near Threatened

Location: Throughout Canada and much of the United States.

Fun Fact: Will commonly slide, or toboggan, over snow or mud.

IUCN Status: Least Concern

Location: Found along coastlines throughout North Pacific Ocean.

Fun Fact: Truly marine, will use their tummy as a table when cracking open clams and other prey.

IUCN Status: Endangered

Location: Found in Central Africa in the Congo River basin.

Fun Fact: Eat a lot of worms which they dig out of the mud with their flexible forepaws, also known as swamp otters.

IUCN Status: Near Threatened



Otter Education
Advisory Group

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