

RIVER OTTERS



Agile Swimmers

Long streamlined body with cat-like tail

Vibrissae

Tactile whiskers to hunt, sense, and navigate

- ▶ Thick coat to stay warm
- ▶ Live alone or in small groups
- ▶ Are playful and gregarious!

weasels



badgers



wolverines



in the **MUSTELID** family with:

RIVER OTTER

NATURAL HISTORY



FUN FACT!

Otters have many vocalizations such as growls and chirps

DIET

Fish, reptiles, birds, crustaceans, rodents, and other small mammals



HABITAT

Marine, brackish, and freshwater environments

Utilize dens



REPRODUCTION

- ▶ Breeding: late winter to early spring
- ▶ Gestation: 58 days
- ▶ Birth: 1-3 pups in late spring



RIVER OTTERS

WHEN & WHY THEY NEED HELP

BABIES



ADULTS



Orphaned: No mother, crying or chirping, wandering around alone

Injured in any way

Injured in any way

SAFETY

Do not handle without speaking to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

If you must handle, use thick welding gloves.

Wear gloves

Welding gloves are best.

Keep in a dark, quiet, warm spot. **Do not** offer food or water. Keep until transport is arranged.

