

River
Otter

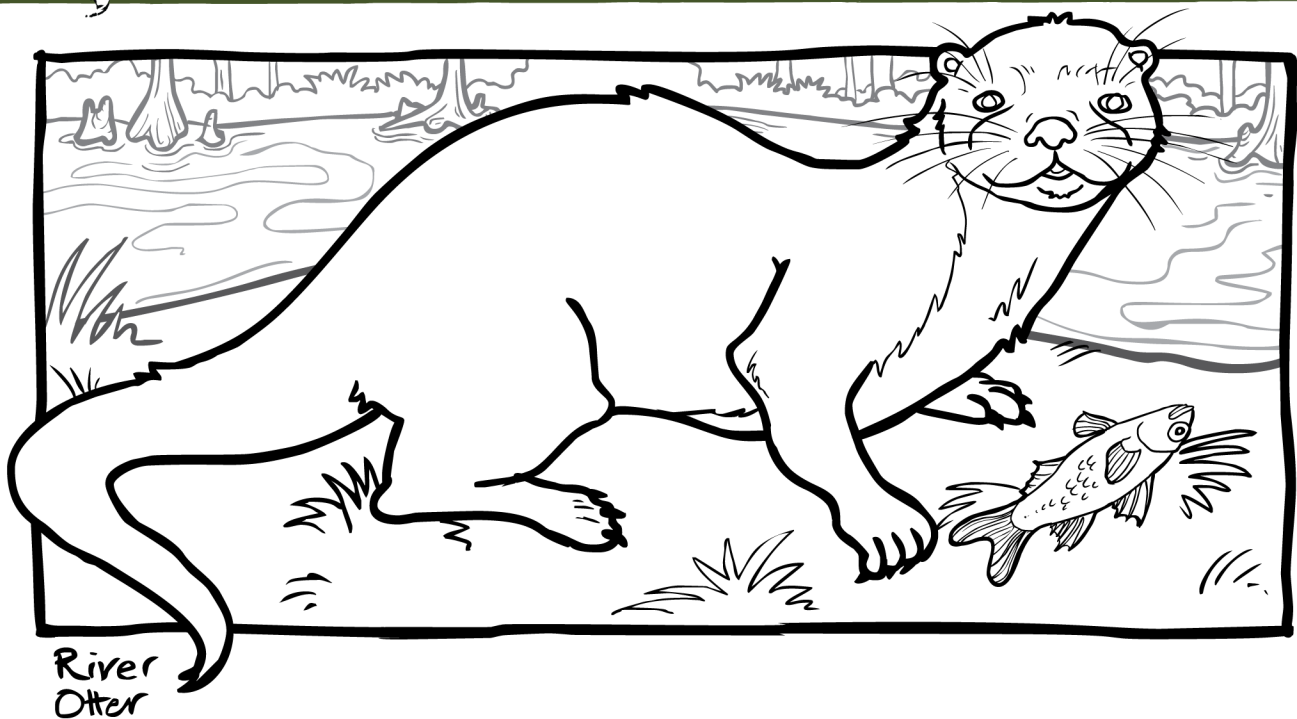
River Otter (*Lontra canadensis*)

Instant ID

- An aquatic mammal with a torpedo-shaped body covered in dark brown fur
- Body adapted for swimming with a flat head, webbed feet and muscular, tapering tail
- Fur color is lighter on chin and belly

Native Niches

- Found in freshwater areas with abundant fish
- Often found near banks and shores suitable for dens



River Otter *(Lontra canadensis)*

Favorite Foods

- Eats fish, crayfish, frogs and shellfish
- Also eats insects, rodents, reptiles and other vertebrates in or near water

Critter Characteristics

- Will use same points to enter and exit water, resulting in slides or hull-outs worn in the shore
- Can dive down to 55 feet and swim up to 1/4 mile under water
- Both males and females care for young
- Behavior often appears playful

Population Protection

- Pollution-free waterways are essential for healthy populations