The North American River Otter is an elusive, semiaquatic member of the Mustelid family. They thrive in healthy watersheds where they can be found individually or in small social groups.

**Habitat:** A wide variety of aquatic environments, including rivers, lakes, estuaries, marshes and more.

**Diet:** Fish, fish fish! Crustaceans, insects, amphibians and occasionally birds and small mammals can be part of the diet as well. Small prey is eaten at the water’s surface, large prey is taken to shore.

**Reproduction:** Breeding takes place from December-April. 1-5 blind, helpless pups are born in an on-shore den between February and April. Pups are raised into adulthood by the mother. At two months old she teaches her playful pups to swim.

**Social Groups:**
- **Family Group (Female with offspring)**

**Range:**

Visit [www.riverotterecology.org](http://www.riverotterecology.org) for more information, to report your otter sightings and to support local River Otters!

© 2014. Created by Jouko van der Kruijssen for the River Otter Ecology Project