# Notable Otters



## **Special Encounters**

Sea otters are found in several places of the Northern Pacific Ocean, which include Russia and Japan! Next time you head out to the Land of the Rising Sun, make sure you book a trip to Cape Kiritappu in Hokkaido.



### The Neotropical otter... that wasn't!

In March 2024, an article was published proposing a new species: *Lontra annectens*. This new species has been accepted worldwide as the 14th species of extant otters and is present in various countries of Central America. Welcome!



### The smooth-coated otters of Mesopotamia

Between Iran and Iraq, the Mesopotamian marshes are a hotspot of biodiversity and breath-taking ecosystems, that host the subspecies of smooth-coated otter made famous by author Gavin Maxwell in his book "Ring of Bright Water". This subspecies is at great risk during droughts and water cuts.



#### **Urban otters in Singapore**

In the last decade, the canals, rivers and lakes of the bustling Singapore have become home to family groups of smooth-coated otters. Their presence was well documented by a variety of notable media outlets and groups of volunteers were born to protect this close human-otter coexistance.



#### Otters at the End of the World

The southern river otter is endemic to Patagonia, and in the southern-most part of Argentina it is critically endangered, presenting only two stable subpopulations in the Tierra del Fuego National Park and Staten Island Provincial Reserve. These delicate habitats need our support and protection!

