



**Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
Virginia Reid Moore
Marine Research Library**



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LIBRARY PATHFINDERS

SEA OTTER

The largest member of the weasel family, the sea otter, *Enhydra lutris* is also the second smallest marine mammal. According to the Defenders of Wildlife organization, there are less than 2,750 Southern sea otters off the coast of California. This pathfinder can assist you in educating yourself more about this fascinating creature.

BOOKS

The Amazing Sea Otter/ Victor B. Scheffer. **QL737 .C25 S27**

This is the story of a sea otter called Barney, and it is fiction based on fact. It tries to answer the question *What might it be like to be a sea otter?*

Wild About Otters/Marianne Riedman. **QL737 .C25 R54 2007**

This title explores the complex lives of sea otters and their freshwater kin, with stunning photographs that give us a glimpse of their watery habitats worldwide. Updated from the 1990 Sea Otters title by the same author. Marianne Riedman directed the sea otter field research program at the Monterey Bay Aquarium for 10 years.

Encyclopedia of Marine Mammals/William F. Perrin, [et al.] **QL713.2 .E53 2002**

There's even a photograph of an otter on the cover of this huge tome! You can find a wealth of details on sea otters by looking in the index under "sea otter". There are entries including anatomy, communication, conservation, migration and reproduction, among other topics.

Guide to Marine Mammals of the World/National Audubon Society. **QL713.2 .N37 2002**

This is a wonderful synthesis of illustrations and text that is more than a field identification guide. Information specifically on sea otters can be found on pages 27-42. There are more choices in the index under "otter" and "otters".

Marine Mammals/Delphine Haley. **QL713.2 .M36 1986**

The sea otter is represented in an article by Karl W. Kenyon on pages 254-263. More information can be located from searching the index under "sea otter".

Sea Otters/John A. Love **QL737 .C25 L68 1992**

This book traces the problems and perseverance of the North American sea otter.

The World of the Sea Otter/Stefani Paine. **QL737 .C25 P24**

Text and photographs combine to capture the beauty and power of the coastal seas and to emphasize that we must take part to help ensure the continued prosperity of the sea otter.

Children's Books

Creatures of the Sea: Sea Otters/Kris Hirschmann. **QL737 .C25 H57 2005**

Full color photos, a glossary and an annotated bibliography enhance this imprint from KidHaven Press. Chapters include "Protecting sea otters" and "The cycle of life".

Children's Books

Pup's Supper/Victoria Miles. PZ10.3 .M5785 Pu 1999

Mother Sea Otter forages in the sea, plucking a snail, a purple sea urchin and other goodies to feed her pup.

VIDEOS

California's Gold: Kelp (C-California's Kelp)

Huell Howser visits the kelp forest in the Monterey Bay Aquarium and observes one of the natural inhabitants of kelp beds: sea otters.

Educational Favorites: Penguins and Otters. (E- Educational Favorites, Peng)

This video includes "Sea Otters - clowns of the sea".

ASSOCIATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of the Sea Otter (FSO)

<http://www.seaotters.org/>

Friends of the Sea Otter (FSO) is an advocacy group dedicated to actively working with state and federal agencies to maintain the current protections for sea otters and increase preservation efforts. If you click on "Sea Otter Information" on the left side of the page, there are archived articles on topics such as behavior, effect of oil spills, vocalizations, etc. There is also a list of books and a range map.

Monterey Bay Aquarium

Sea Otter Cam

http://www.mbayaq.org/efc/efc_otter/otter_cam.asp

A live web camera features sea otters at the aquarium. There's also a "Sea Otter Spotting Guide" you can select.

The Otter Project

<http://www.otterproject.org/site/pp.asp?c=8pIKIYMIG&b=28098>

Dedicated to protecting the California sea otter, this website features a "community center" where you can read the latest news, take action or donate to the cause. You can click on "About Sea Otters" and find facts, figures and charts. There's also an area you can select that will advise you exactly HOW you can save the sea otter, including tools to write your congressman and tips to stop pollution.

FEATURED WEBSITE

Defenders of Wildlife

www.defenders.org/seaotter/awareness

This organization developed Sea Otter Awareness Week in 2003 to provide the opportunity to broadly educate the public about sea otters. By accessing this site you can get the latest updates and other information on this topic.