

River Otters of South Florida

ROSF



Otters and People

The NA Zoos & Aquariums with Otters UNDER CONSTRUCTION

An update of the “Otters in Zoos and Aquariums in North America: 2017” (below) is being developed for 2023. This update did not include information from the Mexican zoos, wildlife centers and aquariums, as a viable link with these institutions did not appear to exist at the time the 2017 database was compiled. It is the intent of this author to investigate if there is an otter data base, held by a Mexican institution, containing the species, sexes, and numbers of otters in the respective institutions. If no database exists an attempt will be made by this author, with help of the Mexican institutions and otter scientists in Mexico, Canada, the United States, as well as members of the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums(AZA) to aid in the development and support the Mexican institutions’ management of this database for the long-term. The 2017 compilation (below) is derived from the River Otters of South Florida website where it was originally presented in 2018.

Otters in Zoos and Aquariums in North America: 2017

by

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Where to Find Otters in North American Zoological Parks, Aquariums and Wild Life Conservation and Nature Centers

by Victor L. Camp

Introduction: This is a revision of Janice Reed-Smith’s 1999 compilation of When and Where to See Otters in Zoological Parks, Aquariums and Conservation Centers. (Reed-Smith, J. 1999). More than

likely several smaller institutions holding otters were not determined, by this author, during an online search for institutions holding otters. The information presented here is current as of August 2017. The institutions indicated by an asterisk may not have recorded their information in or are not members of ZIMS (Zoological Information Management System). Those institutions that are new to this listing are indicated by a "bullet." These latter two institutions were contacted directly to confirm the presence of otter species in their collections.

Janice Reed-Smith's compilation offered some excellent suggestions when you visit a zoo. These are those suggestions: "When you are going to a zoo to see otters, there are a few things you can do to increase your chances of actually "seeing" them. After all, they are generally most active in the morning or early evening, not the times when most of us visit a zoo. First, go when the zoo opens or go later in the afternoon and plan on staying until it closes. Second, if you don't see them at first, look around-especially under trees, bushes, logs, etc. Third, if you still do not see them, go and see some of the other animals and try again later. Fourth, ask an employee (or keeper if you can find one) when the animals might be active. Animals frequently have typical activity patterns, and the animal you see sleeping at 11:00 a.m. may often be up and swimming at noon."

NOTE: The abbreviation NA refers to North American.

CANADA

Alberta

Calgary, Calgary Zoo - NA river otter

*Edmonton, Edmonton Valley Zoo - NA river otter

Granby, Zoo de Granby/Granby Park Zoo - spotted-necked otter

British Columbia

Vancouver Aquarium - sea otter

Newfoundland

*St. Johns, Salmonier Nature Park - NA river otter

Ontario

Toronto, Toronto Zoo - NA river otter

Quebec

Montreal, Montreal Biodome - NA river otter

UNITED STATES

Alabama

Birmingham, Birmingham Zoo - giant otter and NA river otter

Alaska

Seward, Alaska Sea Life Center - sea otter

Arizona

Phoenix, Phoenix Zoo - spotted-necked otter

Tucson, Arizona Sonora Desert Museum - NA river otter

Tucson, Reid Park Zoo - NA river otter and spotted-necked otter

Arkansas

Little Rock, Little Rock Zoo - NA river otter and spotted-necked otter

California

Eureka, Sequoia Park Zoo - NA river otter

Fresno, Fresno Chaffee Zoo/Chaffee Zoo - spotted-necked otter

Long Beach, Aquarium of the Pacific - sea otter

Los Angeles, Los Angeles Zoo - giant otter

Monterey, Monterey Bay Aquarium - sea otter
Oakland, Oakland Zoo - NA river otter
Sacramento, Sacramento Zoo - NA river otter
San Diego, San Diego Aquarium - sea otter
San Diego, San Diego Zoo – African(Cape) clawless otter
San Francisco, Aquarium of the Bay - NA river otter
San Francisco, San Francisco Zoo - NA river otter
San Mateo, CuriOdyessy - NA river otter
Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens - Asian small-clawed otter

Connecticut

Bridgeport, Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo - NA river otter
Norwalk, Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk - NA river otter

Colorado

Colorado Springs, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo - NA river otter
Denver, Denver Zoo - NA river otter
Denver, Downton Aquarium Denver - NA river otter
Pueblo, Pueblo Zoo - NA river otter

Delaware

Wilmington, Brandywine Zoo - NA river otter

District of Columbia

Washington D.C., Smithsonian National Zoological Park - Asian small-clawed otter and NA river otter

Florida

*Clearwater, Clearwater Marine Aquarium - NA river otter
*Ft. Lauderdale, Flamingo Gardens - NA river otter
•Ft. Lauderdale, Museum of Discovery and Science – NA river otter
Gainesville, Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter
*Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter
*Homosassa Springs, Homosassa Springs State Park - NA river otter
Jacksonville, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens - Asian small-clawed otter and giant otter
Melbourne, Brevard Zoo - NA river otter
Miami, Zoo Miami - Asian small-clawed otter, giant otter, and NA river otter
Orlando, Disney's Animal Kingdom - Asian small-clawed otter
*Panama City Beach, ZooWorld Zoological and Botanical Conservatory - NA river otter
Sanford, Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens - NA river otter
•Sarasota, Mote Marine Aquarium - NA river otter
*Tallahassee, Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science - NA river otter
Tampa, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo - NA river otter
Tampa, The Florida Aquarium - NA river otter
West Palm Beach, Palm Beach Zoo at Dreher Park - NA river otter

Georgia

Atlanta, Atlanta Georgia Aquarium - Asian small-clawed otter and sea otter
Atlanta, Zoo Atlanta/Atlanta Zoo - giant otter (0.0.2)

Idaho

Idaho Falls, Tautphaus Park Zoo - NA river otter

Illinois

Bloomington, Miller Park Zoo - NA river otter
Chicago, Brookfield Zoo/Chicago Zoological Park - Asian small-clawed otter and NA river otter
Chicago, John G. Shedd Aquarium - sea otter
Chicago, Lincoln Park Zoo - NA river otter
*Peoria, Wildlife Prairie Park - NA river otter
*Springfield, Henson Robinson Zoo - NA river otter

Indiana

Evansville, Mesker Park Zoo and Botanical Garden - NA river otter
Fort Wayne, Ft. Wayne Children's Zoo - NA river otter
South Bend, Potawatomi Zoo - NA river otter

Iowa

Des Moines, Blank Park Zoo - NA river otter
Dubuque, National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium - NA river otter

Kansas

Hutchinson, Hutchinson Zoo - NA river otter
Kansas City, Kansas City Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter and NA river otter
Manhattan, Sunset Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter
Topeka, Topeka Zoo - NA river otter
Wichita, Sedgwick County Zoo - NA river otter

Kentucky: None

Louisiana

Alexandria, Alexandria Zoological Park - NA river otter
Baton Rouge, BREC's Baton Rouge - Zoo NA river otter
*Broussard, Zoo of Acadiana - NA river otter
New Orleans, Audubon Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter and NA river otter
New Orleans, Audubon Aquarium of the Americas - sea otter

Maryland

Baltimore, Maryland Zoo - NA river otter
Salisbury, Salisbury Zoological Park - NA river otter

Massachusetts

Attleboro, Capron Park Zoo - NA river otter
Boston, New England Aquarium - sea otter
•Milton, Massachusetts Audubon's Blue Hills Trillside Museum - NA river otter
New Bedford, Buttonwood Park Zoo - NA river otter
*Stoneham, Stone Zoo - NA river otter
*Worcester, Ecotarium/Worcester Science Center- NA river otter

Michigan

Detroit, Detroit Zoological Institute/Detroit Zoo - NA river otter
Grand Rapids, John Ball Zoological Gardens - NA river otter
Lansing, Potter Park Zoo - NA river otter
Saginaw, Children's Zoo at Celebration Square - NA river otter

Minnesota

Apple Valley, Minnesota Zoo - NA river otter and sea otter

Missouri

Springfield, Dickerson Park Zoo - NA river otter
Saint Louis, Saint Louis Zoological Park - NA river otter

Montana

Billings, Zoo Montana - NA river otter

Nebraska

Omaha, Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter and spotted-necked otter

*Lincoln, Riverside Discovery/Lincoln Children's Zoo - NA river otter

New Hampshire

Holderness, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center - NA river otter

New Jersey

Cape May County, Cape May County Park Zoo - NA river otter

West Orange, Turtle Back Zoo - NA river otter

New Mexico

Albuquerque, Albuquerque Biological Park - NA River otter

New York

Binghamton, Binghamton Park Zoo at Ross Park/Ross Park Zoo - spotted-necked otter

Brooklyn, Prospect Park Zoo - NA river otter

Bronx, Bronx Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter

Buffalo, Buffalo Zoo - NA river otter

Millbrook, Trevor Zoo - NA river otter

New York, New York Aquarium - sea otter

Rochester, Seneca Park Zoo - NA river otter

Syracuse, Rosamond Gifford Zoo/Burnett Park Zoo - NA river otter

Staten Island, Staten Island Zoo - NA river otter

North Carolina

Asheboro, North Carolina Zoo - NA river otter

Ashville, Western North Carolina Nature Center - NA river otter

Greensboro, Greensboro Science Center - Asian small-clawed otter

Pine Knoll Shores, North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores - NA river otter

Manteo, North Carolina Aquarium at Roanoke Island - NA river otter

North Dakota

Bismarck, Dakota Zoo - NA river otter

Fargo, Red River Zoo - NA river otter

Minot, Roosevelt Park Zoo - NA river otter

Whapeton, Chahinkapa Zoo - NA river otter

Ohio

Akron, Akron Zoo - NA river otter

Cincinnati, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden - NA river otter

Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter

Columbus, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium - Asian small-clawed otter and NA river otter

Dayton, Boonshoft Museum of Discovery - NA river otter

Toledo, Toledo Zoo - spotted-necked otter

Oklahoma

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City Zoo - NA river otter

Tulsa, Tulsa Zoo - NA river otter

Oregon

*Bend, High Desert Museum - NA river otter

Newport, Oregon Coast Aquarium - sea otter

Portland, Oregon Zoo/Washington Park Zoo - sea otter and NA river otter

Pennsylvania

Erie, Erie Zoo - NA river otter

Hershey, Zoo America - NA river otter

Norristown, Elmwood Park Zoo - NA river otter

Philadelphia, Philadelphia Zoo - giant otter

Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium - sea otter

Schnecksville, Lehigh Valley Zoo/Trexler Lehigh Nature Preserve - NA river otter

Rhode Island

Providence, Roger Williams Zoo - NA river otter

South Carolina

Charleston, South Carolina Aquarium - NA river otter

Columbia, Riverbanks Zoo and Garden - NA river otter

Murrels Inlet, Brookgreen Gardens - NA river otter

Tennessee

Chattanooga, Tennessee Aquarium - NA river otter

Knoxville, Knoxville Zoo - NA river otter

Memphis, Memphis Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter

Texas

Abilene, Abilene Zoo - NA river otter

Corpus Christi, Texas State Aquarium - NA river otter

Dallas, Dallas World Aquarium - giant otter

Dallas, Dallas Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter

Galveston, Aquarium and Rainforest at Moody Gardens - giant otter

Houston, Houston Zoo - NA river otter

Lufkin, Ellen Trout Zoo - NA river otter

San Antonio, San Antonio Zoological Gardens & Aquarium - Asian small-clawed otter

Tyler, Caldwell Zoo - NA river otter

*Victoria, The Texas Zoo – NA river otter

Waco, Cameron Park Zoo: NA river otter

Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah's Hogle Zoo - NA river otter

Virginia

New Port News, Virginia Living Museum - NA river otter

Norfolk, Virginia Zoological Park - Asian small-clawed otter

Roanoke, Mill Mountain Zoo - Asian small-clawed otter

Virginia Beach, Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center - NA river otter

Washington

Eatonville, Northwest Trek Wildlife Park - NA river otter

Seattle, Woodland Park Zoological Gardens - Asian small-clawed otter and NA river otter

Seattle, Seattle Aquarium - NA river otter and sea otter

Tacoma, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium - Asian small-clawed otter and sea otter

West Virginia

Wheeling, Ogelsby's Good Zoo - NA river otter

Wisconsin

Green Bay, Northeastern Wisconsin Zoo - NA river otter

Madison, Henry Villas Zoo - NA river otters

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