



# Aqualutra



## Koga lahko presenetimo ob vodi ali kdo lahko presenetiti nas...?

*Pljusk! Kosmata žival skoči v vodo in izgine v globino. Šele v varnem zavetju obrežnega rastlinja ploska glava z majhnimi uhlji pokuka iz vode. Je bila res vidra?*

Le srečno naključje lahko botruje srečanju z vidro ob potoku ali reki; njena zverska narava jo je oborožila z odlično razvitimi čutili in previdnostjo, zato nas zazna veliko prej, kot jo opazimo – in izgine.

Kdo bi nas še lahko presenetil ob naših vodotokih ali jezerih? Najverjetneje gre za glodavca. Največji v Evropi je evropski bober (*Castor fiber*). V Sloveniji je živel še v 18. stoletju, od tedaj pa velja za izumrlo vrsto. Po uspešni naselitvi leta 1996 v Posavini na Hrvaškem se vrača v Slovenijo. Zaznali smo ga že na Savi, Krki, Muri, Dravi, Sotli... Lahko se zgodi, da nas bo nekoč razveselil tudi na Ljubljanskem barju.

## Whom we can surprise along the waters or, who can surprise us...?

*Splash! A hairy animal jumps into the water and disappears in the depth. After a while, the flat head with small ears emerged out of the water among water plants. Was it an otter?*

Only coincidentally we can encounter with the otter along a brook or a river. As a carnivore, it is equipped with excellent sense organs as well as cautiousness, therefore it perceives us much earlier than we can notice it – and disappears.

Who else could surprise us along our watercourses or lakes? Almost we can be sure it is a rodent. In Europe, the biggest of them is the European beaver (*Castor fiber*). It has thrived in Slovenia until the 18th century; from that time, we consider it extinct. After successful reintroduction in Croatia (1996), the beaver is returning to Slovenia, too. It can happen that, some day, we will find its tracks also in Ljubljansko barje (Ljubljana Moors).



Levo: Odrasel bober lahko preseže maso 30 kg in dolžino 100 cm; značilen lopatast rep je dolg 30 – 36 cm, pokrivajo ga drobne luske; položaj glave med plavanjem je pri vseh obvodnih sesalcih zelo podoben. Sredina: Bobri pri Ceršaku na Muri so podrli debele topole (marec 2009). Desno: Sledi bobrovih zob na ogledanih drevesih in vejah.

Left: An adult beaver could exceed 30 kg of weight and 100 cm of length; the characteristic spade-shaped and scaly tail measures 30 – 36 cm; in all semi-aquatic mammals the position of the head during swimming is very similar. Middle: The beavers in Mura have already felled big poplars (March 2009). Right: The tracks of beaver's teeth on trees and branches.

Obvodni vrsti večjih glodavcev sta še pižmovka (*Ondatra zibethicus*) in nutrija (*Myocastor coypus*). Obe sta se priselili iz Amerike v preteklem stoletju, prva iz Severne, druga iz Južne. Obe sta doživljali podobno usodo: zaradi cenjenega krzna so ju gojili na farmah, od koder so posamezne živali pobegnile in v novem okolju – preživele.

Pižmovko, ki je bila sredi preteklega stoletja splošno razširjena po nižinskih vodotokih v Sloveniji, zdaj redkeje srečujemo. Številčnost nutrije pa narašča; na Ljubljanskem barju, posebej na Ljubljanici, je postala vsakdanji gost. Človeku se je povsem privadila: opazujemo in celo hranimo jo lahko kar sredi dneva.

Along waters we could encounter with two other semi-aquatic rodents, muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*) and coypu (*Myocastor coypus*) coming from North and South America, respectively. They both shared the same fate: because of valuable fur they were kept on farms, wherefrom some animals escaped and – survived. In the middle of past century the muskrat was widespread along lowland watercourses in Slovenia, but is seldom seen nowadays. However, the number of coypu is still increasing. In Ljubljansko barje along with river Ljubljanica it became quite common and tame.

pižmovka / muskrat

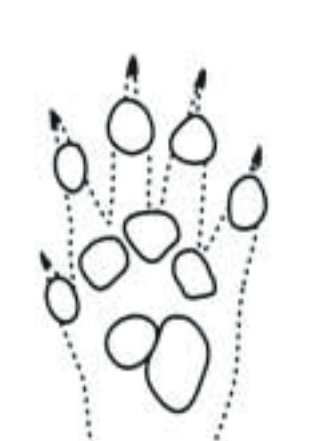
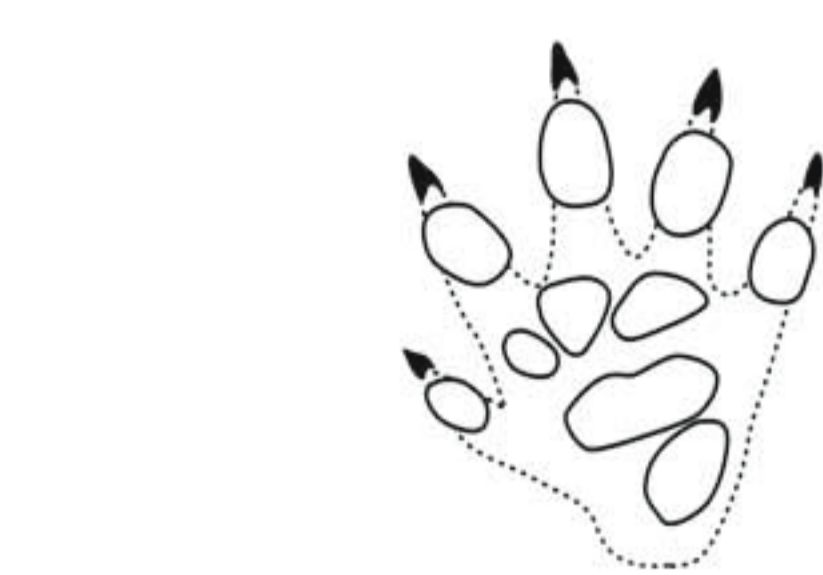
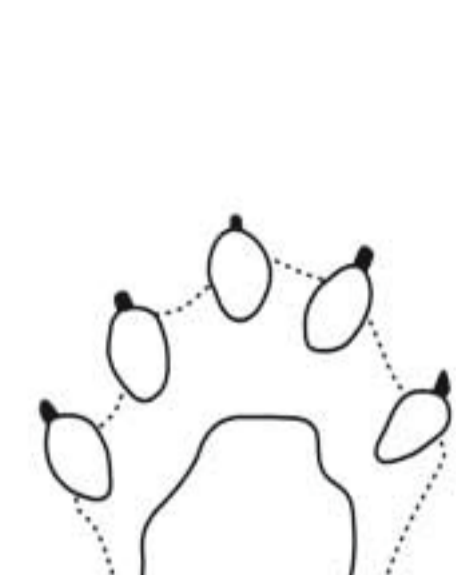


nutrija / coypu

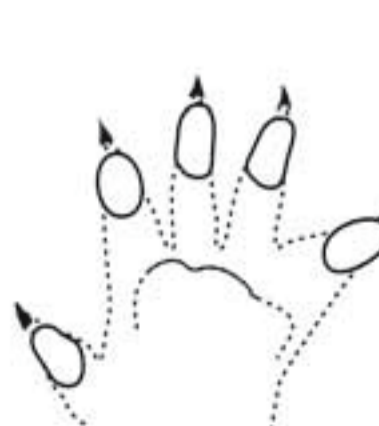
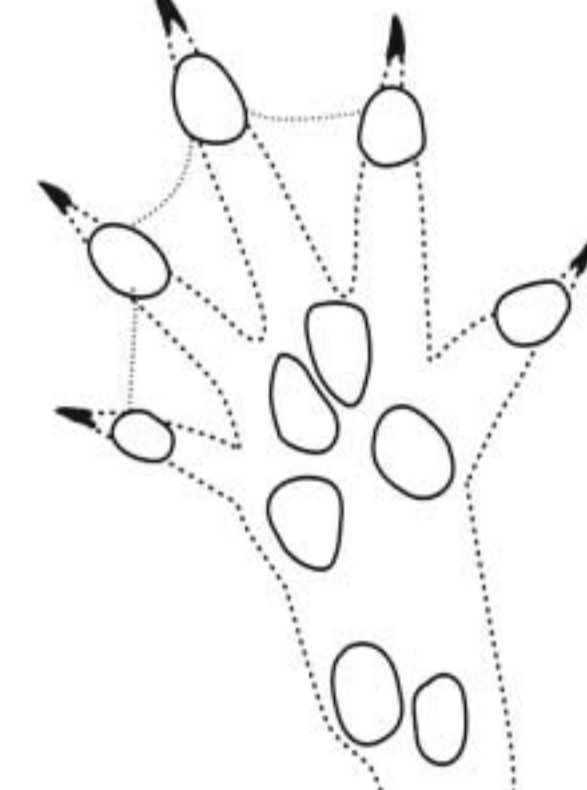
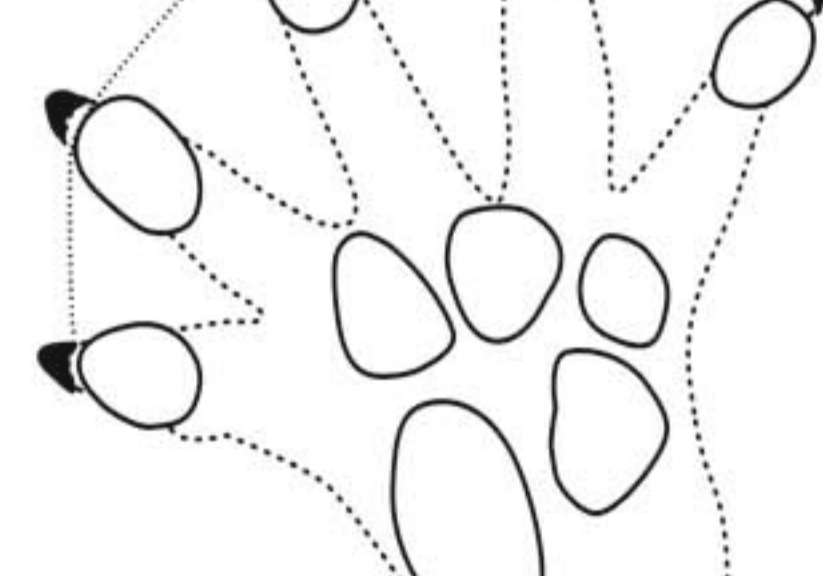
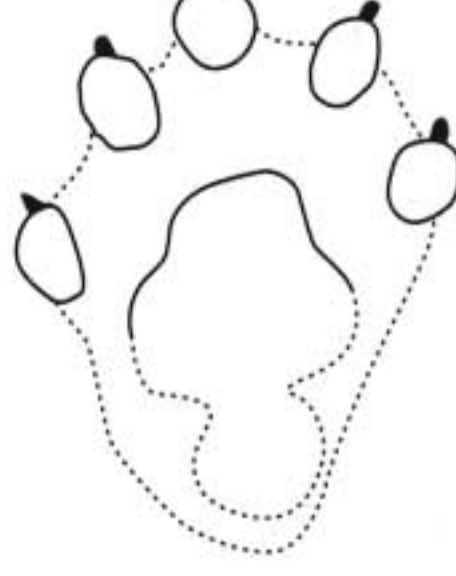


Ne zamenjajmo vidre z glodavci! / Let's not mistake an otter with the rodents!

sled prednje tace  
fore footprint



sled zadnje tace  
hind footprint



VIDRA / OTTER

BOBER / BEAVER

NUTRIJA / COYPU

PIŽMOVKA / MUSKRAT