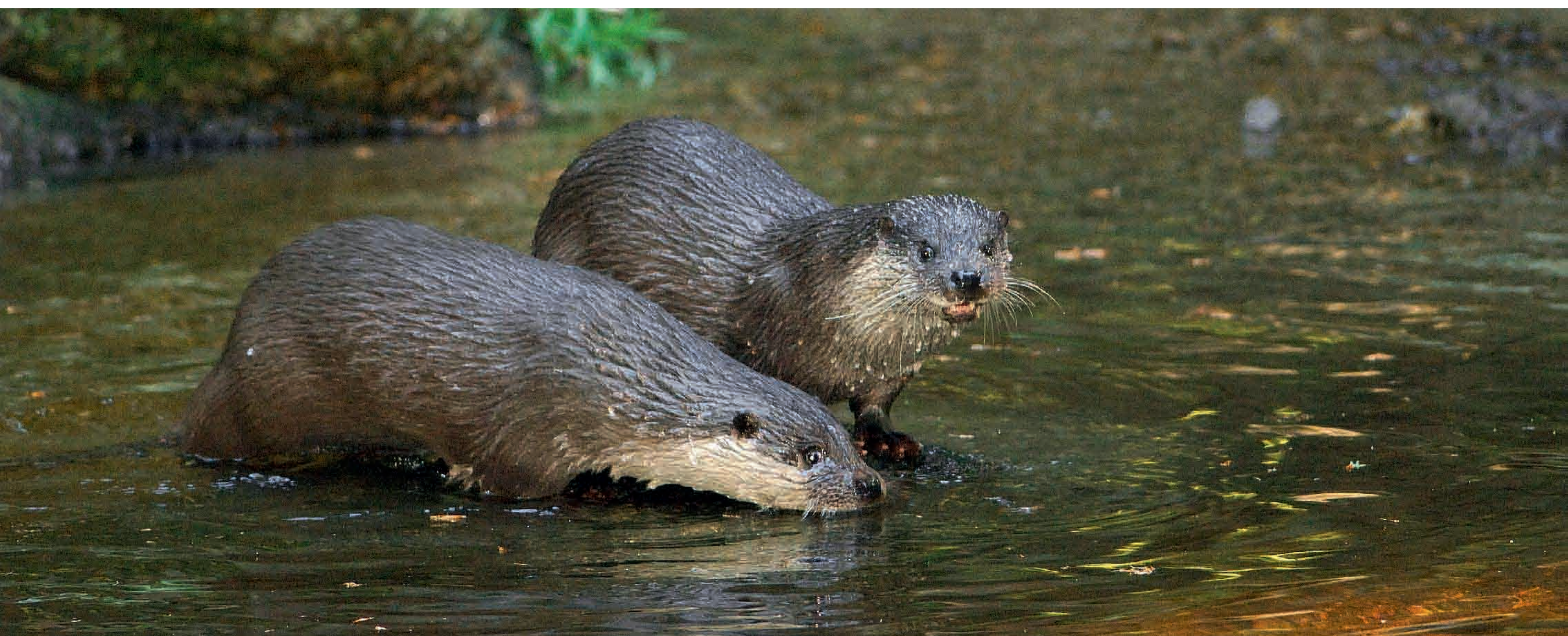




Aqualutra



Vidrino sorodstvo

Skupaj z drugimi dvanajstimi vrstami vider evrazijska vidra (vodna kuna) pripada družini kun (Mustelidae). Izredno uspešna skupina se je pojavila pred 40 milijoni let, zdaj pa so kune z več kot 70 vrstami razširjene po vsem svetu, razen v Avstraliji in na nekaterih otokih.

Za evropske kune je značilna zelo različna prehranska strategija. Najmanjša predstavnika, podlasica in hermelin, sta spretna lovca na miši. Dihur se je specializiral na dvoživke, zato ga pogosto sledimo ob vodah. Kuna zlatica živi v prvobitnih gozdovih, kjer lovi največ veverice in druge manjše sesalce. Njena bližnja sorodnica, kuna belica, se je prilagodila življenju v bližini človeških naselij, kjer ji je miza bogato pogrnjena. Jazbeca poznamo kot izrazitega vsejeda. Na severu Evrope živi najmočnejša kuna, rosomah, ki se loti tudi velikih sesalcev.

Vidrin bližnji sorodnik, ki živi v podobnem habitatu, je evropski mink - vidrica (*Mustela lutreola*), ki pa je na nekdanjem območju razširjenosti danes večinoma izginil ali pa je zelo redek. Iz Slovenije ni znan. Z večine območij ga je izpodrinil ameriški mink, ki je ušel s farm.

Eurasian Otter Relatives

Eurasian otter belongs to the marten family (Mustelidae), together with 12 other otter species. This astonishingly successful group has emerged 40 million years ago and today the martens are with over 70 species spread throughout the world, the only exception being Australia and some islands.

European martens have very different hunting strategies. Their smallest representatives, weasel (*Mustela nivalis*) and stoat (*Mustela erminea*) are skilful rodent hunters. Western polecat (*Mustela putorius*) has specialized on amphibians and can therefore be found in the water vicinity. Pine marten (*Martes martes*) lives in pristine forests where it hunts squirrels and other smaller mammals. Its closest relative, Stone marten (*Martes foina*), has adapted to living in the human proximity where it can find rich food supply. Badger (*Meles meles*) is known for being distinctively omnivorous. In Northern Europe lives the largest marten, wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) that can hunt down large mammals.

A close relative to Eurasian otter, the European mink (*Mustela lutreola*), shares its habitat with the otter, but has disappeared from the most of its former area or has become very rare. There are no data from Slovenia for this species. European mink has been driven out from most of its range by the American mink (*Mustela vison*), a fur farm fugitive.

- 1 evrazijska vidra (*Lutra lutra*)
- 2 mala podlasica (*Mustela nivalis*)
- 3 kuna belica (*Martes foina*)
- 4 kuna zlatica (*Martes martes*)
- 5 dihur (*Mustela putorius*)
- 6 velika podlasica ali hermelin (*Mustela erminea*)
- 7 jazbec (*Meles meles*)
- 8 rosomah (*Gulo gulo*)



- 1 Eurasian otter (*Lutra lutra*) -
- 2 Weasel (*Mustela nivalis*)
- 3 Stone marten (*Martes foina*)
- 4 Pine marten (*Martes martes*)
- 5 Western polecat (*Mustela putorius*)
- 6 Stoat (*Mustela erminea*)
- 7 Badger (*Meles meles*)
- 8 Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*)

