
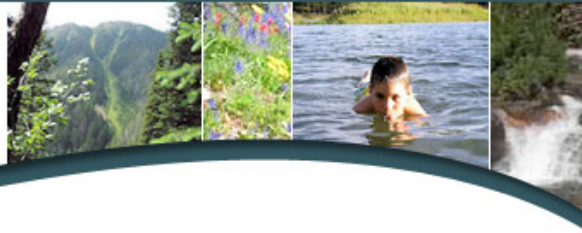


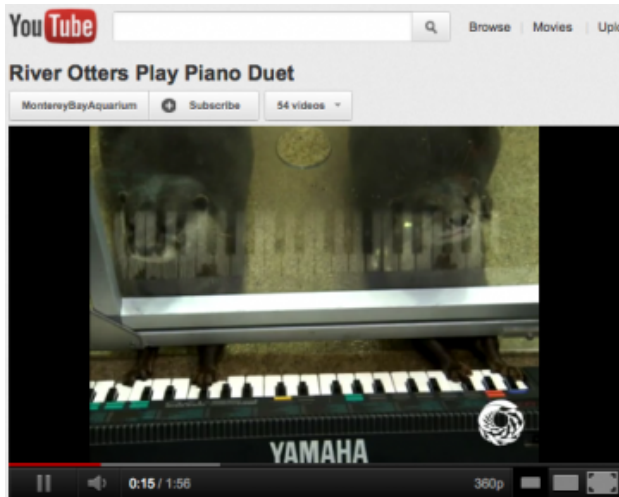
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PROTECTING THE WATER, WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT.



**Meet Mr. Flathead River Otter**

Headwaters Montana caught up with Mr. Flathead River Otter - in appropriate seasonal attire - at Blakenship Bridge at the junction of the North and Middle forks of the Flathead River for an impromptu interview. We know you'll [Like](#) him so why not go straight to [Facebook](#) and make it official?



*To Read Back Issues of This Newsletter Click [Here](#)*

***Flathead River Otter Knows Value of Clean Water Says, "Flathead's As Good As It Gets"***

December 7, 2011

Dear [member\_name\_first]:

Even in Montana, it's not often wildlife actually speak up in human language. But that has changed. Introducing [Flathead River Otter](#), a highly talented aquatic weasel from right here in northwestern Montana.

Recently, *Headwaters Montana* was able to sit down at Blankenship Bridge ask some question of a denizen of the Flathead's blue waters.

[HW = *Headwaters Montana*; FRO = *Flathead River Otter*.]

*HW*: So it's nice to meet you Mr. Flathead River Otter. What's your territory and how can others make contact with you?

*FRO*: Nice to meet you, too. My home is wherever I can swim! I cover the entire Flathead River system from the headwaters in British Columbia to Flathead Lake and as far downstream as the Clark Fork River! I even make it over to Whitefish Lake and the Stillwater and the Swan. So many great bodies of water here in the Flathead!

My human friends can find me on [Facebook](#).

*HW*: Facebook?! That's pretty sophisticated for a river otter, isn't it?

**Playful and Intelligent**

And now for something completely different... Mr. Flathead River Otter's out-of-town friends entertain on a piano. If you watch closely it appears that they are being 'paid' for their performance. What the heck, we all have to make a living! (Video provided by the Monterey Bay Aquarium, 2009)



**Serious Fishermen/women**

Mr. Flathead River Otter provided this home video of his family enjoying a lunch of trout sashimi on a mid-stream log. You'd pay good money to eat as well as Mr. Flathead River Otter! Why not make sure his and our natural larder is always well-stocked; sign up on [Facebook](#) to like Mr. Flathead River Otter. You'll be glad you did! (Video footage from 'NatureFootage.com')



**The Work Continues**

The North Fork Flathead River is now safe from mining and energy development. But conservation of our Flathead way of life continues. Next up: expanding Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park and establishing a Wildlife Management Area for the Flathead and Wigwam watersheds. Are you on-board?  
~ Thank You! ~

*FRO:* Well, river otters are very social animals, and I in particular like to be 'Liked', if you know what I mean.

*HW:* What's your goal? I mean, how many friends does a river otter need?

*FRO:* The more the merrier! Right now, I want to double my number of "friends" on Facebook.

*HW:* WHOA! And what would *you* do with that many Facebook friends, if you don't mind me asking?

*FRO:* It's simple. If all your *Headwaters Montana* members (nice name by the way) go to [Facebook](#) and 'Like' me, and get their friends to 'Like' me, we can reach the my goal quickly.

Together we can celebrate, learn more and spread the word about Northwestern Montana's fabulous waterways. Fishing. Boating. Swimming. Believe me, I know all the secrets. (Wink!)

It will show that people that live here value conservation of our water, wildlife and great quality of life.

*HW:* That sounds pretty simple.

*FRO:* Don't be fooled. We should never take our clean water for granted. As I like to say, the Flathead Basin is "Good, Clean, Fun." Let's keep it that way!

Office: 545 Holt Drive, Bigfork, MT 59911 | Invoices, etc: PO Box 4310, Whitefish, MT 59937  
[info@headwatersmontana.org](mailto:info@headwatersmontana.org) | [www.headwatersmontana.org](http://www.headwatersmontana.org)

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