

ANALYSIS OF THE FOOD-WEB OF A POPULATION OF SMOOTH-COATED OTTERS *Lutrogale perspicillata* (MAMMALIA: MUSTELIDAE) IN A SALINE LITTORAL MANGROVE HABITAT

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Appendix 1. Questionnaire used in semi-structured interviews

Personal details

Occupation: _____

Business- number of people involved: ____

Family- number of members: _____

Location: _____

Age group:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a) 18-25 | e) 41-45 |
| b) 26-30 | f) 46-50 |
| c) 31-35 | g) >50 |
| d) 36-40 | |

Otter sightings

1. Do you know what an otter is?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
2. Have you ever seen otters?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please describe the otter (size, colour)

3. Where do you often see otters?
 - a. Rice paddy
 - b. Aquaculture ponds
 - c. On river/channel banks
 - d. In the channels/creeks
 - e. Other _____
4. How often do you see otters?
 - a. Every day
 - b. A few times a week
 - c. Once a week
 - d. A few times a month
 - e. Once a month
 - f. A few times a year
 - g. Once a year
5. How many individuals of otters do you normally see?
 - a. One individual
 - b. 2-5 individuals
 - c. 6-10 individuals
 - d. 10 or more individuals

Fishing

1. Do you fish?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
2. How often do you go fishing?

___ days per week

___ hours per day

3. Where do you go fishing?

4. Do you fish as a recreational activity or as source of income?

a. Recreational

b. Source of income

5. Have you encountered any otters while fishing?

a. Yes

b. No

If yes, how often do you see otters while fishing?

a. Every day

b. A few times a week

c. Once a week

d. A few times a month

e. Once a month

f. A few times a year

g. Once a year

6. Do you see otters eating the same things you are catching?

a. Yes

b. No

If yes, what are they eating?

7. Have you ever seen otters getting caught in fishing nets?

a. Yes

b. No

If yes, are they able to free themselves or do they get stuck?

a. They free themselves

b. They get stuck

8. Have you ever seen otters getting caught in fishing nets?

a. Yes

b. No

If yes, are they able to free themselves or do they get stuck?

a. They free themselves

b. They get stuck

Fish pond

1. Do you own any fish ponds?

a. Yes

b. No

2. What type of animals are in the pond?

3. How many animals do you have in the pond?

4. Have you seen otters coming into the fish pond?

a. Yes

b. No

5. Have you seen otters feeding on the animals in the fish pond?

a. Yes

b. No

6. If yes, what were they eating?

7. How often do you see otters coming to the pond?

- a) Every day
- b) A few times a week
- c) Once a week
- d) A few times a month
- e) Once a month
- f) A few times a year
- g) Once a year

Perception of otters

1. How do you react if you see otters?

2. How do you react if you see otters feeding on the animals in the pond?

3. Do you capture/hunt otters?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, what do you do with the otter?

4. Do you know anyone who captures/hunts otters?

- a. Yes
- b. No

5. Do you like otters? Why or why not?

- a. Yes

- b. No
