

## SUMMARY

**Chruszcz K., Wierzbowska I., Klasa A., Śnigórska K., Amirowicz A.  
Occurrence and diet of Eurasian otter *Lutra lutra* (L.) in the Ojców  
National Park (S Poland).**

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Ten night observations at three sites and track sightings and spraint samplings at nine sites along stream segments of total length of 7 km were carried out from January to June 2005. During this period the studied area was settled at least by two adult otters (1 female and 1 male). Their mean density was roughly estimated as 2.9 ind. per 10 km of water course. A total of 80 spraints were collected. The main component of the otter diet were fishes (47.9% of identified food items, and 77.2% of consumed biomass). They were brown trout, *Salmo trutta* native to the streams in the area of study and rainbow trout, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* grown in fish ponds. Other important food component were frogs, *Rana temporaria* (21.4% and 19.7%, respectively). Remaining food categories (birds, small mammals, aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates, plant debris) were relatively numerous (about 30% of items) but contributed to only 3% of consumed biomass. Among them, the benthic makrofauna (leeches, mayfly larvae, snails) recorded in otter diet probably originated from stomachs of consumed wild trouts. Perhaps some plant debris were included to spraints accidentally.