

Rare San Francisco river otter stumps researchers

January 3 2013

For the first time in decades, a river otter has made San Francisco its home, taking up residence in the ruins of a 19th Century seaside bath near the Golden Gate Bridge.

The otter has mystified and delighted [conservationists](#), who are piecing together clues to figure out how he got there.

River otters once thrived in the [San Francisco Bay area](#). But development and the fur trade in the 19th and early 20th centuries nearly wiped them out.

A group called the River Otter Ecology Project studies otter populations further north and in the bay. It says until now it had no evidence the creatures had returned to San Francisco.

The otter is nicknamed "Sutro Sam" after the old baths, which were named after former San Francisco Mayor Adolph Sutro.

Copyright 2013 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: Rare San Francisco river otter stumps researchers (2013, January 3) retrieved 11 July 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-01-rare-san-francisco-river-otter.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is

provided for information purposes only.