

IUCN XIth International Otter Colloquium

'Otters in a warming world'



Pavia, 4 September, 2011

As the local Organizing Committee of the XIth IOC, after some glasses of good Bonarda, I and Claudio were considering that it would have been interesting to know not what researchers think of otters, but what otters think of researches. So we met a delegation of the “Otter Union”. They did agree that they are mainly affected by habitat modifications, direct persecution, water pollution, and climate changes. Did we addressed properly to answer these questions? We think we did in part, but we have to do more, and this is the challenge of the next Colloquium. We also think that the quality of contributions has increased in time, and this is mainly due to the younger generation of researches. To comply with the willings of Jim Conroy we hope that next meetings will keep to devote efforts to promote their participation, hopefully with the IUCN support. The organization of a meeting is a big challenge, has you have to take care of meny different needs and details, from quality of scientific contribution to the bus tickets (!), and any detail is important. We apologise for the many inconvenients that a 650 years old university could have caused (we are getting old and we know the problem...). But we made any effort to let you enjoy the meeting and the city of Pavia.

Anna Loy and Claudio Prigioni