We would like to develop a **list of common variables** for a database on otter road casualties so that each country can have the chance to collect standardised data. Here we report a list of variables as **an example** so that we can have a starting point for discussion. At the moment this is just a list, but, if it is useful, we can work toward building up an actual database mask with a number of linked tables. Our idea is that each country should collect and retain its own data, but we would like to offer a platform where to discuss and present the kind of variables that may be useful to collect.

The idea of developing a database for minimum standards was born during a discussion of otter experts at the X International Otter Colloquium in 2006 in Korea.

REPORT NUMBER	Unique Identifier that refers to a given otter/s found
REPORT CODE	Sometimes there is more than one report. If this is the case, code with a letter ("a", "b" etc)
OTTER NUMBER	If more than one otter was found at the same location on the same day
SURNAME OF REPORTER	
NAME OF REPORTER	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL	
PHONE	
DATE OF REPORT	Date when report arrived
RELIABILITY OF REPORT	Whether the report is reliable or not, depending on the trustworthiness of the source
WHO FOUND THE ANIMAL	In case more details need to be collected
WHEN WAS THE ANIMAL FOUND	Day on which the animal was found
ESTIMATED DATE OF DEATH	
LOCATION	
NEAREST TOWN	
NEAREST BODY OF WATER	
LATITUDE	Expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds
LONGITUDE	Expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds
DESCRIPTION OF FINDING	How the otter was found
CONDITIONS OF ANIMAL	Whether it was wounded, alive or dead
CAUSE OF DEATH	
SEX OF ANIMAL	
AGE OF ANIMAL	
INDIVIDUAL RETRIEVED?	If the animal was retrieved from the road
DESTINATION OF INDIVIDUAL	Where it was taken
COMMENTS	