

Hello Sea Otter Adventurers,

Here are a few details to help you prepare for our adventure.

We will spend the morning in the classroom on the Cabrillo campus with a slide presentation and talk.

Following the presentation, we will break so that everyone can eat lunch and relocate to Moss Landing. Bringing a bag lunch is a good idea, especially to save you the time of stopping to get food or eating at a cafe along the way between our morning and afternoon sessions. We will provide snacks, but not lunch.

We will reconvene at Moss Landing. The drive from Cabrillo to our destination should only take about 20 or 25 minutes. Exact directions will be provided at the morning class, because our precise destination will only be chosen at the last minute. We'll do some scouting in the days leading up to class to choose our spots based on where we think we'll have the best opportunities to find our elusive sea otters on that Saturday.

For the afternoon we will be by the ocean, and the weather should be classic Monterey Bay -- possibly warm but most likely breezy and potentially very cold. All of which means bringing layers and preparing for cold, windy and possibly damp conditions. But also bring sunscreen (and a hat and water!). Please remember that you can burn even on a thinly overcast day, and we will be outside for several hours.

Shoes should be sturdy, for walking on sand, but also for walking along the edge of Elkhorn Slough. Although we won't be hiking great distances (the total is about a mile, depending on where our search takes us), this does mean some unpaved hiking paths, sometimes a little muddy, overgrown, and wet. Long pants are necessary since brush may overtake the path in some places this time of year.

Don't forget to bring cameras and binoculars. We hope for great photo opportunities, of course. But sea otters in the wild are likely to be viewed from some distance, and binoculars and telephoto lenses are helpful.

By definition, an adventure is unpredictable. We look forward to an exciting, rewarding, and safe adventure.

More information will be provided in class. See you there!