

## William Mgomo – A Frontline Otter Champion!

William Mgomo is a ranger at Liparamba Game Reserve in Mbinga District, located in southern Tanzania. The area is a hunting preserve located along the shores of Lake Malawi. William attended the 2015 International Otter Survival Fund African Otter Workshop and has taken what he learned to heart. To date William has conducted surveys in possible otter habitat located within and near to Liparamba where he has found tracks and scat of otter. He also has spent time talking with local villagers to determine if they see them, what they think of them, and identify the local human/otter conflict issues.

To continue this work William requires funds for fuel and wouldn't it be WONDERFUL to provide him with a GPS for accurate location information and a camera to take better photos! Our goal for William is \$1,000.00 which would cover the equipment and fuel for two years of surveying and outreach work.

## William sent this recent report after photographing the skin of an otter after it was killed by a poacher:

"The person is living in Mpepai village, one of the village located along the Liparamba game reserve. He use dogs to make a kill. The case is still in the court but not yet done the justice. The poacher is still under police custody, I failed to meet him. To day I went to police station where the skin kept in order to take this photo, But am still finding the information especially to find the person( poacher) to know the reason of killing otter? The place where he kill that otter? and when did he kill the otter?

The poacher tells two different stories about where he kill this otter,

- 1. He told my fellow staff that the otter killed from lake Nyasa.
- 2. But in police station said that the otter killed from Liparamba game reserve.

After know all these I will know exactly where to put more effort to rescue Otter life. The education is still needed so as to raise awareness among society."



Fishermen with their nets – William will help identify ways to mitigate human/otter conflicts.



An illegally killed otter's pelt, William is investigating the case and will work with the local community to increase their conservation awareness.