

## Three Men Have Been Convicted At Youghal District Court Of Illegally Killing An Otter

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**The incident happened at Ballynatray Estate in Co Waterford in September 2017.**

One man pleaded guilty to hunting a protected wild animal and was convicted and fined €500. A second man pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting the offence and to giving false information and was convicted and fined €350.



Judge Marie Keane withheld the conviction of the third man on condition that he pays €250 to the Irish Wildlife trust before the 6th of September.

The men's defence lawyer said the incident was an accident and that the men had mistaken the otter for a fox in the darkness.

Judge Keane rejected the explanation and said it was an outrageous and disgraceful offence.