

DATE April 3, 1992
REPLY TO
ATTN OF Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC
SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - March 1992
TO: Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (FWE/SE)
Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming

Following are my accomplishments for the month of March:

Sent letters to the county commissioners in Dare and Beaufort Counties, North Carolina, explaining the consideration of a proposal to expand the Alligator River red wolf project westward. I had already sent letters to the commissioners in Hyde, Washington, and Tyrrell Counties in February. Also sent a letter to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recommending a closure on coyotes in five eastern North Carolina counties in order to protect dispersing red wolves. Sent a request to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation instructing them to disburse \$2,000 from the Red Wolf Fund for work at Alligator River. The request was for \$1,000 to provide comprehensive health insurance for a visiting volunteer scientist from the Commonwealth of Independent States and another \$1,000 for education and information work. Provided a review, comments, and corrections on a red wolf fact sheet for the Albermarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study.

Provided direction to the Wildlife Health Lab for disposition of red wolf material. Sent letters to the Fort Worth Museum of Science and Natural History, the University of Arkansas Museum, and the Anthropology Department at Appalachian State University; these letters provided them with evidence of lawful possession of material they will be receiving from the Health Lab and Point Defiance Zoo.

Requests for information regarding 1993 budget needs were filled, including House Appropriations Subcommittee, Regional Director, Point Defiance Zoo, and Defenders of Wildlife.

Project personnel on the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Park) project and I made a reconnaissance visit to the Cataloochee watershed to evaluate the area for possible red wolf releases. This cove is on the North Carolina side of the Park and is very secluded, with rugged topography, difficult access, very little habitat with herbaceous-type openings, and is close to national forest properties.

I filled several written requests for information--one for the petition response to delist the red wolf, one for the list of references for the petition response, one for the environmental assessment and final rule for the Smokies, one for the Wildlife Society Bulletin paper, and two general requests for several documents. I gave two presentations this

month--one to the Chattanooga, Tennessee, Audubon Society Chapter and one to the Westbrook Society (a local natural history group in Danville, Virginia). I also provided a video-taped interview to a University of North Carolina at Asheville student working on red wolf recovery for a senior project. A video crew from the Amway Corporation visited Bulls Island at Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge and St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge to evaluate the sites for an endangered species video they are producing, in partnership with the National Wildlife Federation, targeted for grades 3 through 5. I coordinated the visits, provided background information, and participated in the Bulls Island site review. I completed the paperwork for acceptance of a teaching position at the National Wildlife Federation's Blue Ridge Summit. I will be teaching three classes on red wolf recovery. The honorarium of \$250 will go to the Red Wolf Fund. I also filled requests for information regarding volunteer opportunities in the red wolf program and advice on possible business career opportunities, with emphasis on wildlife and wolves in particular.

The only change in red wolf populations from the February report is the loss of one female at the Graham facility. That leaves 15 males and 20 females at Graham and reduces our total population to 150 animals (64 males, 85 females, and 1 unknown).

This report and the two previous monthly reports fulfill my quarterly report requirements. Items of particular significance in the January report are the completion of the educational package for the Smokies; the publication of the response to the petition to delist the red wolf; the participation in the Smoky Mountains Winterfest Wilderness Wildlife Week in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee; and the revision of the proposal to expand the Alligator River project, which has now been tentatively approved by the Regional Director.

V. Gary Henry

cc:

Mr. Roland Smith, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, Tacoma, WA
Refuge Manager, Alligator River NWR, FWS, Manteo, NC
Refuge Manager, Cape Romain NWR, FWS, Awendaw, SC
Refuge Manager, St. Vincent NWR, FWS, Apalachicola, FL
Mr. Chris Lucash, FWS, c/o Cades Cove Ranger Station, Townsend, TN
Field Supervisors, All Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Field Offices,
Southeast Region

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