

memorandum

DATE: September 10, 1993

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC

SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - August 1993

TO: Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (ES/TE)
Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming

FILE

Following are my accomplishments and other items of interest for the month of August.

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (ARNWR) Reintroduction - A family group of eight wolves (two adults, six pups) was released on Durant Island, bringing the wild population to 45 to 50 animals. I submitted the report summarizing the 5-year experimental reintroduction to the Regional Office for printing as Red Wolf Technical Report No. 8. I made a request to the Fish and Wildlife Foundation for a disbursement from the Red Wolf Fund for a volunteer stipend. I responded to ARNWR regarding a request from a consultant to Georgia-Pacific to consider silvicultural exemptions, similar to those for the black bear in Louisiana, for the red wolf reintroductions. Our present and proposed rules are much more lenient with regard to legal activities, such as silviculture, than are the black bear exemptions.

Southern Appalachians Reintroduction - Parvovirus has very likely wiped out one of the two litters in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Three of the four pups are verified as dead. One pup of the other litter was likely killed by a coyote. Personnel actions continue, with the senior biologist position being announced this month. I have received several calls on this position. The other biologist position is still being held up at OPM. I received a request for our participation in the Fourth Annual Wilderness Wildlife Week of Nature to be held in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, from January 18 through January 23, 1994. We will commit to a display/information booth and several slide presentations. A figure for a revision of the paper submitted for Wolf Symposium '92 was prepared by project personnel and forwarded to Mike Phillips for consideration.

Captive-breeding Project - At their request, I sent a letter to the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma regarding our intention to continue funding the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium for captive-breeding in 1994. I am continuing to work on the Red Wolf Bibliography, which has been proposed for issuance as Red Wolf Management Series Technical Report No. 9. I reviewed a draft and provided detailed comments to the Captive-breeding Coordinator.

General - Directorate staff and congressional briefings were held August 5 and 6, 1993, regarding red wolf recovery results and future plans. Unfortunately, it was the day before recess, and there was a flurry of activity to pass the 1994 budget; staff from only three offices attended (Senators Helms and Sasser and Representative Dicks). However,

the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee was well represented, with three staff members in attendance. The briefings went well, with no surfacing of significant problems or concerns. I submitted a first draft of the Protocol for Island Propagation Project to the clerical staff for typing. So far, I have received only one response on the request made to the Canine Workshop participants for their input regarding the genetics question. This response reiterated that present data is not conclusive but that techniques are available which could answer the questions. I received and reviewed a report on the red wolf from a student at Lincoln Memorial University. This student was also interested in ideas for a seminar on the red wolf. I have solicited input from project personnel for seminar ideas. I received approximately six general information requests this month. Most could be partially filled by sending 17 general interest items. However, a couple required an additional three to five specific items, one requested a publication that is not available (another article was submitted), and two others required specific information such as videos, posters, etc.

Following is an update of current locations and numbers of animals.

A. Wild Population

1. ARNWR - A third litter was documented when two pups (one male, one female) were captured along with their mother. We had previously lost contact with this adult female when her collar malfunctioned. In addition, a family group of two adults and six pups (one male, five females) was released this month on Durant Island. A release of two adults and three male pups is scheduled for release at Pocosin Lakes NWR in September.
2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) - Two more pups from the Cades Cove litter were found dead. Disease was suspected and was later tentatively identified as possibly parvovirus. Therefore, we suspect the remaining pup has also died, but this remains unverified. Because of suspected disease, attempts were made to capture the other litter for vaccination. The adult male and two pups were captured. The third pup died of trauma believed to be caused by coyote predation. Apparently the removal of the adults permitted the coyotes to move back into the area before the remaining pup could be recaptured. One yearling male from the Cades Cove group was accidentally captured in trapping attempts for coyotes. He was temporarily placed in captivity for treatment of a neck infection. He is still reflected in the wild population figures because he will be rereleased as soon as the infection clears up. The adult male and the remaining two pups are also temporarily in captivity but are reflected in the wild population figures because they will be rereleased soon. The male yearling that was temporarily placed in captivity several months ago will also be released in September although he is now accounted for in the captive population figures.

B. Captive Propagation

1. Graham, Washington, Facility - An adult male that died in July was not reflected in last month's figures. Also, an adult pair had earlier been transferred to a new facility at the Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington, Illinois. This was also not reflected in last month's figures.
2. ARNWR - The released family group at Durant Island reduces the captive population to 21 animals.
3. Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Glen Rose, Texas - Two female pups died in July but were not reflected in last month's figures.

V. Gary Henry

Attachment

cc:

Mr. Jerry A. Eubanks, Superintendent, National Park Service, Gulf Islands
National Seashore, 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561
Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (RD)
Mr. Will Waddell, 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 Cover Ranger Station, Townsend, TN
Field Supervisors, All Ecological Services Field Office, Southeast Region

"You Depend on Safety - Safety Depends on You"

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
A. WILD POPULATIONS:												
1. Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)	13-14	15-17	0-2	28-33	2	6	9	17	15-16	21-23	9-11	45-50
2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NP)	5	2	---	7	1	1-2	---	2-3	6	3-4	---	9-10
SUBTOTAL	18-19	17-19	0-2	35-40	3	7-8	9	19-20	21-22	24-27	9-11	54-60
B. ISLAND PROPAGATION PROJECTS:												
1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, SC	1	1	---	2	2	1	---	3	3	2	---	5
2. St. Vincent NWR, FL	---	1	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	1
SUBTOTAL	1	2	---	3	2	1	---	3	3	3	---	6
C. CAPTIVE PROPAGATION FACILITIES:												
1. Graham, WA	16	24	---	41	5	6	---	11	21	30	---	51
2. Sandy Ridge, Alligator River NWR, NC	8	10	---	18	3	---	---	3	11	10	---	21
3. Great Smoky Mountains NP	3	2	---	5	---	---	---	---	3	2	---	5
4. Point Defiance Zoo, Tacoma, WA	3	2	---	5	---	---	---	---	3	2	---	5
5. Alexandria Zoo, Alexandria, LA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
6. Audubon Zoo, New Orleans, LA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
7. Beardsley Zoo, Bridgeport, CT	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
8. Burnet Park Zoo, Syracuse, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
9. Chaffee Zoo, Fresno, CA	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
10. Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Glen Rose, TX	4	6	---	10	---	---	---	---	4	6	---	10
11. Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, SD	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
12. Greater Baton Rouge Zoo, Baker, LA	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
13. Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield, IL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
14. Knoxville Zoo, Knoxville, TN	1	1	---	2	3	1	---	4	4	2	---	6
15. Los Angeles Zoo, Los Angeles, CA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
16. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, FL	1	1	---	2	1	1	---	2	2	2	---	4
17. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
18. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
19. National Zoo, Washington, DC	1	1	---	2	1	3	---	4	2	4	---	6
20. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC	1	1	---	2	3	4	---	7	4	5	---	9
21. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	---	4	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	4
22. Pittsburgh Zoo, Pittsburgh, PA	1	1	---	2	3	2	---	5	4	3	---	7
23. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	1	1	---	2	---	1	---	1	1	2	---	3
24. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
25. Tallahassee Jr. Museum, Tallahassee, FL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
26. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
27. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	1	1	---	2	1	3	---	4	2	4	---	6
28. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
29. Wilds, Columbus, OH	7	4	---	11	---	---	---	---	7	4	---	11
30. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
31. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	2	2	---	4	3	3	---	6
SUBTOTAL	66	77	---	143	22	23	---	45	88	100	---	188
TOTAL	86-87	96-98	0-2	182-187	27	31-32	9	67-68	113-114	127-130	9-11	248-254