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## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Asheville Field Office  
160 Zillicoa Street  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801  
January 25, 2000

#### Memorandum

To: State Supervisor, FWS, Ecological Services, Asheville, NC

From: Red Wolf Recovery Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC

Subject: Quarterly activity report - October-December 1999

Following are my accomplishments and other items of interest for the months of October-December 1999.

#### Northeastern North Carolina Reintroduction, Alligator River and Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuges (ARNWR)

- North Carolina Zoological Park's "Red Wolves of Alligator River" interactive website is now online at [www.nczoo.redwolf.org](http://www.nczoo.redwolf.org). A memorandum defines the agreement between the Service and the Zoo regarding the website.
- Reviewed and provided comments on two articles by Mike Morse for the North Carolina Zoological Park's "Red Wolves of Alligator River" interactive website.
- Copied and provided files on "Wolf Reintroduction Workshop" that was held in 1997 to Chris Lucash for use in the preparation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) for field work.
- Received input from ARNWR and revised documents in the continuing effort to prepare a proposed rule package to delist the Smoky Mountain National Park nonessential experimental population and revise the regulations pertaining to the remaining nonessential population in northeastern North Carolina. This package includes a transmittal memo, Summary document, the *Federal Register* Proposed Rule, and an Outreach Plan. The Outreach Plan includes a Key Contacts List, Advance Notification Letter, Draft Press Release, Notification Letter, Legal Notice, and Record of Compliance. Sent the package to ARNWR for additional review and comments and the Outreach Plan to Regional Office External Affairs for review.
- Concurred in the decision to hold open houses to present information and answer questions pertaining to the proposed revised regulations, and reviewed and provided comments on the *Federal Register* notice of the three public open houses that were held.
- Expended 207 hours of use or lose annual leave.

- A hearing on the appeal of the law suit filed by two counties and two landowners in northeastern North Carolina was held October 28 in Richmond, Virginia. The presiding judges have not rendered a decision but are expected to rule in our favor. A summary of the hearing was published in the Endangered Species & Wetlands Report for November 1999. Provided the Regional Office and ARNWR copies of this summary.
- Three suspicious red wolf mortalities were recorded and reported to the Regional Office.

#### Southern Appalachians Reintroduction, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP)

- Provided environmental compliance documents in continued cooperation with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to terminate this project.

#### Captive-breeding Project

- Coordinated with the Regional Office in finalizing the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium's new permit for captive-breeding work. The Regional Office sent the permit to the captive-breeding coordinator, who provided copies to cooperating facilities.
- Received and reviewed the captive-breeding quarterly report for July-September 1999 and approved payment under the Cooperative Agreement for that quarter.
- Received, read, and filed a copy of a MS thesis entitled "Aspects of Reproductive Endocrinology in the Red Wolf (*Canis rufus*)" that was accomplished through the captive-breeding program.
- Provided another one thousand color brochures to the Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science in Florida for outreach distribution.
- Sent a letter to the captive-breeding coordinator approving the use of funds under the Cooperative Agreement for the construction of pens at the Wildlife Science Center at Forest Lake, Minnesota.
- Reviewed and provided comments on a red wolf stress study proposal--a cooperative study involving the red wolf captive-breeding program and the Toronto Zoo.

#### General

- Received and distributed copies of the 1999 Wolf Awareness Week poster which features the red wolf.
- Outreach efforts included two newspaper interviews regarding wolves and coyotes and 18 other documented information requests (4 information packets containing 2 to 29 documents, 13 Internet responses, and 1 written response providing detailed answers to questions).
- Received input from the coauthor and revised the manuscript entitled "The Red Wolf: A Historic and Prehistoric Perspective" and explored some publication options.
- Determined red wolf suitable acreage for an Endangered Species Allocation Methodology Report and submitted the information to the Regional Office. Obtaining this information entailed extracting input provided for the development of the Red Wolf Model for predicting reintroduction success and obtaining additional information from the U.S. Forest Service. The total estimate was 20+ million acres, with 19+ million of this in areas of 250,000 acres or more.
- Faxed editorial comments to Region 3 on the Gray Wolf Reclassification Proposal.

Region 4 concurrence with the reclassification package was submitted from the Regional Office.

- Coordinated input and provided International Wolf Magazine a quote on the future outlook for the red wolf that will be included in the Spring 2000 issue of the magazine.
- Reviewed and provided proposed revisions, as a coauthor, to a manuscript on the red wolf for a book on the Wildlife of Southern Forests.
- Received a proposal for cooperation in canid genetic research from a student in Portugal and forwarded it to the field and captive-breeding coordinators for input.
- Received and accepted an invitation to make a presentation at an International Wolf Symposium in Duluth, Minnesota, in February 2000.
- Received and accepted an invitation to make a presentation and participate as a panelist at an Environmental Law Symposium at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, in March 2000.
- Received and accepted an invitation to make a presentation, that will be published in the proceedings, at a Species Restoration Symposium in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in April 2000.

Following is an update of changes in the population, current locations, and numbers of animals for this quarter. Transfers for breeding purposes for this breeding season were begun in the captive population and intensive field work resulted in numerous captures in the wild population.

#### A. Wild Population

##### 1. ARNWR

- An adult female died of unknown causes.
- An adult male is presumed dead from foul play; found the collar that had been cut off and thrown into a canal. Deer carcasses were also present on the edge of the canal.
- Another adult male died from foul play.
- A female pup that was captured, processed, instrumented with a radio collar, and released was later found dead from foul play.
- A female pup was captured for the first time but sustained injuries and was euthanized.
- Lost contact with three adult males last quarter--not reported in the last quarterly report.
- A recaptured male pup was determined to be a hybrid and was euthanized.
- An adult female, presumed dead since 1993, was placed back into the fate unknown category for consistency in the present data management system.
- Captured, processed, instrumented or reinstrumented with radio collars, and released 10 animals (7 males, 3 females), including 2 adults (1 male, 1 female), 2 yearlings (1 male, 1 female), and 6 pups (5 males, 1 female), from the fate unknown category.
- Captured, processed, instrumented with radio collars, and released 12 pups (2 males, 10 females).
- Captured, processed, instrumented with radio collars, and released 6 previously unknown animals of unknown age (3 males, 3 females)--presumed not pups and placed in the adult and yearling category in the table until age is confirmed.

- Captured, processed, and placed a female pup in captivity until taxonomic identity can be determined.
- Captured, processed, and placed a male of unknown age in captivity until taxonomic identity can be determined--presumed not a pup and placed in the adult and yearling category in the table until age is confirmed.
- Removed 15 animals of unknown age and sex from the fate unknown category for consistency in the present data management system. These were animals sighted but never captured so their taxonomic identity is unknown.
- In addition to the above, 42 animals were recaptured this quarter.

As a result, the population stands at 65 to 124 animals (30 to 63 males, 35 to 61 females), including 46 to 90 adults and yearlings (24 to 49 males, 22 to 41 females) and 19 to 34 pups (6 to 14 males, 13 to 20 females).

## B. Island Propagation Projects

### 1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, SC

- Received a yearling female from Sandy Ridge.

This results in a population of 5 adults and yearlings (3 males, 2 females) at this location.

## C. Captive Propagation

### 1. Sandy Ridge, ARNWR

- An adult female died of unknown causes.
- A yearling female was transferred to Bulls Island.
- A female pup was captured in the wild and placed in captivity pending blood work to assess taxonomic identity.
- A previously unknown adult was captured in the wild and placed in captivity pending blood work to assess taxonomic identity.

This results in a population of 16 animals (11 males, 5 females) at this location, including 15 adults and yearlings (11 males, 4 females) and 1 female pup.

### 2. Point Defiance Zoo, Tacoma, WA

- Transferred an adult female to the Burnet Park Zoo.
- Received an adult female from the Racine Zoo.

The population remains at 8 adults (4 males, 4 females) at this facility.

### 3. Brevard Zoo, Melbourne, FL

- Transferred an adult male to Woodlands Nature Center.

An adult pair remains at this location.

4. Burnet Park Zoo, Syracuse, NY
  - Transferred an adult female to the Western North Carolina Nature Center.
  - Received an adult female from Point Defiance Zoo.

The population at this facility remains at one adult pair.
5. Chaffee Zoo, Fresno, CA
  - Received an adult female from Fort Worth Zoo.

An adult pair now resides at this location.
6. Fort Worth Zoo, TX
  - Transferred an adult female to Chaffee Zoo.

This temporarily leaves no animals at this facility until pen renovations are completed.
7. Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield, IL
  - Transferred an adult male to the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center.
  - Received an adult male from the Racine Zoo.

The population at this facility remains at an adult pair.
8. Knoxville Zoo, TN
  - Received an adult male from the North Carolina Zoological Park.

The population now stands at 3 adults (2 males, 1 female).
9. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA
  - Received an adult female from the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center.

This results in an adult pair at this location.
10. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC
  - ▶ Transferred an adult female to the North Carolina Zoological Park.

This leaves two adult males at this facility.
11. North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheboro, NC
  - Transferred an adult male to the Knoxville Zoo.
  - Transferred an adult female to the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center.
  - Received an adult female from the North Carolina Life and Science Museum.
  - Received an adult male from the Woodlands Nature Center.

The population remains at 11 adults (3 males, 8 females).

12. Racine Zoo, WI

- Transferred an adult female to the Point Defiance Zoo.
- Transferred an adult male to the Henson Robinson Zoo.

These transfers temporarily leave no animals at this facility until further transfers for the breeding season are completed.

13. Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center, Awendaw, SC

- Transferred an adult male to the Tallahassee Museum.

This results in 3 adults (1 male, 2 females) remaining at this facility.

14. Tallahassee Museum, FL

- Transferred an adult male to the Wildlife Science Center.
- Received an adult male from the Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center.

This results in an adult pair remaining at this facility.

15. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC

- Received an adult female from Burnet Park Zoo.

This results in an adult pair at this facility.

16. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO

- An adult female diagnosed with cancer was euthanized.
- Transferred an adult female to the Mill Mountain Zoo.
- Received an adult female from the North Carolina Zoological Park.
- Received an adult male from the Henson Robinson Zoo.

The population at this facility remains at 6 adults (3 males, 3 females).

17. Wildlife Science Center, Forest Lake, MN

- Received an adult male from the Tallahassee Museum.

This population now stands at 8 adults (4 males, 4 females).

18. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY

- Transferred an adult male to the North Carolina Zoological Park.
- Received an adult male from the Brevard Zoo.

The population at this facility remains at an adult pair.

*V. Gary Henry*



LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
14. Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield, IL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
15. Knoxville Zoo, TN	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
16. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, FL	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
17. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	3	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	3	---	---	3
18. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
19. National Zoo, Washington, DC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
20. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC	2	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	2
21. North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheboro, NC	3	8	---	11	---	---	---	---	3	8	---	11
22. Northeastern Wisconsin Zoo, Green Bay	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
23. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	1	1	---	2	2	1	---	3	3	2	---	5
24. Racine Zoo, WI	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
25. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
26. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
27. Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center, Awendaw, SC	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
28. Tallahassee Museum, FL	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
29. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
30. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
31. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
32. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
33. Wildlife Science Center, Forest Lake, MN	4	4	---	8	---	---	---	---	4	4	---	8
34. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	78	76	---	154	2	3	---	5	80	79	---	159
<b>TOTAL</b>	105-144	102-138	0-1	207-283	8-16	16-23	---	24-39	113-160	118-161	0-1	231-322