

Mexican Wolf Program Update - Mexican wolves and the Wallow Fire

The Wallow Fire is now 100% contained. Please refer to the Mexican Wolf Monthly Update for future information regarding the effects of the Wallow Fire on Mexican wolves or contact the Mexican Wolf Interagency Field Team at 1-888-459-9653.

As of July 11, 2011 the Wallow Fire has burned over three wolf pack dens:

- 1. The Rim Pack (AF858, AM1107, F1187, f1213)** - The fire burned through the Rim Pack den area on Friday June 3rd, and burned with a mixed burn regime, and not a complete high intensity burn as was previously thought. The Rim Pack adults were located in their home range within 5 miles of their general den area on the 7-11-11 wolf telemetry flight. The IFT will continue to monitor this pack to determine pup survival. This pack does not have a GPS collar, and monitoring is based on VHF locations from the airplane. We have not yet counted the number of pups in this pack during this year.
- 2. The Bluestem Pack (AF1042, AM806)** - The fire moved through the Bluestem Pack den area on Friday June 3rd, and was spotty and burned with a low intensity in the immediate area of the den. GPS locations through June 21st indicate that AF1042 has remained in the den area since the fire moved through. Both adults were located in the general vicinity of the den on the 7-11-11 wolf telemetry flight. The IFT has documented pup survival (minimum of 1 pup) with the Bluestem Pack. Previous efforts documented a minimum of 3 pups with this pack prior to the Wallow Fire.
- 3. The Hawks Nest Pack (AF1110, f1208)** - The fire moved through this area on Saturday, June 4th and was spotty and burned with a low intensity in the immediate area of the den. Ground tracking conducted in the area on June 5th indicated that the adults remained in the area following the fire. The Hawks Nest Pack adults were located in the general vicinity of the den on the 7-11-11 wolf telemetry flight. The IFT will continue to monitor this pack to determine pup survival. This pack does not have a GPS collar and thus tracking is dependent on either aerial or ground tracking of VHF collars. Previous efforts documented a minimum of 5 pups with this pack.

Three additional packs that appear to be denning retain the potential to be affected by the fire:

- 1. Paradise Pack (AF1056, AM795)** - This pack is denned approximately 5.5 miles northwest of the northwestern edge of the Wallow Fire. The pack has a minimum of 5 pups.
- 2. Fox Mountain (AF1188, AM1158)** - The Fox Mountain Pack appears to be exhibiting denning behavior, although documentation of pups has yet to occur. This pack is thought to be denned approximately 2 miles east of the eastern edge of the Wallow Fire. The exact location of the den has yet to be determined.
- 3. M1183 on White Mountain Apache Tribe.** M1183 appears to be exhibiting denning behavior, although documentation of pups has yet to occur. This pack is thought to be denned approximately 4.5 miles west of the southwestern edge of the Wallow Fire. The exact location of the den has yet to be determined.

Four additional packs appear to be denning and are not likely to be affected by this fire:

- 1. San Mateo Pack (AF903, AM1157, f1212)** - Denning behavior has been confirmed in the San Mateo Pack and a minimum of 5 pups have been documented.
- 2. Dark Canyon Pack (AF923, AM992)** - The Dark Canyon Pack is exhibiting denning behavior, although documentation of pups has yet to occur.
- 3. Middle Fork Pack (AF861, AM871, F1211)** -- The Middle Fork Pack is exhibiting denning behavior, although documentation of pups has yet to occur.
- 4. Luna Pack (AF1115, AM1156)** - The Luna Pack is exhibiting denning behavior, although documentation of pups has yet to occur.

***As of July 11, 2011 no wolf mortality has been documented due to the Wallow Fire.**