

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alligator River/Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge

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## News Release

October 9, 2007

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Announces Availability of Red Wolf Five-year Review



The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has completed a five-year review of the status of red wolves. After reviewing all of

the best scientific and commercially available information and data, the Service recommended that the current listing classification for the red wolf remain unchanged. This means the world's only wild red wolf population, restored in North Carolina, continues to have non-essential, experimental status. Red wolves located at island propagation sites and in captive breeding facilities continue to have full endangered status. For more information, visit <http://www.fws.gov/alligatorriver/redwolf.html>

photo credit: Barron Crawford

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announced today the completion and availability of the five-year status review of the red wolf.

After reviewing all of the best scientific and commercially available information and data, the Service recommended that the current listing classification for the red wolf remain unchanged. This means the world's only wild red wolf population, restored in North Carolina, continues to have non-essential, experimental status. Red wolves located at island propagation sites and in captive breeding facilities continue to have full endangered status.

"Experimental status has meant success in red wolf restoration and in flexibility for landowners," said Bud Fazio, team leader of the Service's Red Wolf Recovery Program. "We thank all our partners for helping to make red wolf restoration successful. We particularly thank the landowners who work regularly with us to conserve red wolves in a balance that also conserves their own rural heritage and lifestyle."

Service biologists acknowledge that the wild red wolf population restored to North Carolina faces some challenges. Solutions are being sought to reduce levels of mortality caused by vehicle strikes and by gunshots. The good stewardship of hunters, landowners, and local communities can make a big difference in developing such solutions.

"The Service's five-year review also contains other recommendations for future actions aimed at continuing progress toward long-term recovery of red wolves."

The five-year review and a list of Frequently Asked Questions are available online at <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/5yearReviews/> on the Southeast Region Home Page.

The review document is also posted at <http://www.fws.gov/alligatorriver/redwolf.html> on the red wolf web site for Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. A copy of the document may also be requested by email to [Diane\\_Hendry@fws.gov](mailto:Diane_Hendry@fws.gov), by fax at 252-473-4836, by telephone at 252-473-1131 ext.246, or by mail at Request for Copy of Five-Year-Review, Red Wolf Recovery Program, c/o Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P. O. Box 1969, Manteo, North Carolina 27954. Please include your name and street mailing address in your request.

Additional facts and answers about red wolves can be found at following three web sites.

<http://www.fws.gov/redwolf/index.html> (Redwolf Recovery Program)  
[http://www.fieldtripearth.org/div\\_index.xml?id=2](http://www.fieldtripearth.org/div_index.xml?id=2) (Field Trip Earth)  
[http://www.redwolves.com/index\\_02.html](http://www.redwolves.com/index_02.html) (Red Wolf Coalition)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving,

protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Visit the Service's website at <http://www.fws.gov>.

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