



U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Key Deer Refuge

Screwworm Incident Information

November 11, 2016

Information Office, 305-906-1355

Hours of Operation: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

USFWSScrewwormInfo@gmail.com

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/National_Key_Deer_Refuge/

<https://www.facebook.com/floridakeysrefuges/>

Current Status	<p>Since the presence of New World Screwworm was identified on National Key Deer Refuge, on September 30, 2016, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has made efforts to protect endangered Key deer and other wildlife from infestation. The response effort from the Service has been to locate infested deer and administer medication, treat mild and moderate wounds by trained wildlife veterinarians, or euthanize deer as appropriate. In advanced cases, the most humane decision is to euthanize for the animal's welfare and protect the remaining healthy deer and other wildlife. On October 20, Service personnel and trained Refuge volunteers began administering Doramectin, an anti-parasitic medicine, to treat Key deer as a preventative measure.</p>
Events	<p>Service biologists and a large team of more than 170 volunteers continue to administer doses of medication to Key deer within the urban environments. An attempt is made to give every deer encountered a dose of the anti-parasitic medicine Doramectin once per week as a preventative treatment. Service employees erected medication stations to provide treatment to backcountry deer that are not accessible to staff or volunteers. These medication stations deliver Doramectin via self-applicating rollers to deer as they feed at the station. As a last resort effort, the Service is constructing temporary enclosures where healthy wild Key deer would have a safe place to be treated. If the need arises, this population could be protected by receiving advanced veterinary care to save a subset of the population to prevent extinction of the subspecies. The temporary enclosure will be built on Big Pine Key and remain open and unused unless absolutely required. The public is advised to stay away from the temporary enclosure to minimize human interactions with any wildlife in the vicinity and prevent contamination.</p>
Key Deer Information	<p>Total number of doses administered to Key deer: 1,972 (Total self-medication station doses: 304 Total oral medication doses: 1,669) Number of Key deer euthanized or deceased from screwworm infestation: 131</p>

How can I help?	Volunteer to treat Key deer	E-Mail: Keydeer@fws.gov
	Report symptoms or infestations in deer	Key Deer Hotline: 888-404-3922 ext. 7
	<p>Please report any deer with the following symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flies buzzing around the deer • Irritated behavior, head shaking • Smell of decay if animal is infested 	
New World Screwworm Information	<p>Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352) http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Animal-Industry/Consumer-Resources/Reportable-Animal-Diseases/New-World-Screwworm</p>	