

FILE

## memorandum

DATE: April 6, 1993

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

SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - March 1993

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

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

Southern Appalachians Reintroduction - I sent two letters to the Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association authorizing depredation payments. One payment was \$275 for the loss of a calf and the other was \$750 for the loss of three calves. The three calves involved in the last letter were taken during the blizzard conditions in mid-March when preventive husbandry practices were not possible.

Captive-breeding Populations - I sent a letter to the Point Defiance Zoo authorizing expenditures of up to \$20,000 for additional pens at Fossil Rim, Texas. I accompanied Will Waddell, Captive Breeding Coordinator, in the inspections of three captive breeding facilities near St. Louis, Missouri. Facilities at Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington, Illinois, are in the planning stage; we evaluated the plans and the proposed location. The Henson Robinson Zoo in Springfield, Illinois, received animals for the first time this year. This facility was fine; we had only one recommendation regarding den roof modifications. The last facility we inspected was the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center at Eureka, Missouri, which has had a recent change in personnel. The new personnel are competent and extremely interested in cooperating with us and in expanding their participation. We evaluated a large pen at this location regarding use as a possible staging area for a breeding pair and was favorable inclined to that end. We also evaluated another pen which is open to periodic visitation by groups on an appointment only basis. If this pen becomes available in the future (currently houses tundra wolves), it would also be acceptable. I received one copy of the Red Wolf Conservation Package prepared by the Knoxville Zoo, Knoxville, Tennessee. This package will be provided to all captive breeding facilities and includes (1) a red wolf management and husbandry video, (2) the "Front Runner" video produced by WBIR-TV in Knoxville, Tennessee (3) a red wolf slide package containing 20 slides for use in instructional and educational presentations relating to the Species Survival Plan and Red Wolf Recovery Program and (4) the results of a red wolf management/husbandry survey of current red wolf breeding facilities.

General - Mike Phillips, Jennifer Dagan (of Alligator River NWR) and I met with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) and North Carolina Agricultural agencies regarding red wolf project results and future proposals. I sent a memo to the Regional Office summarizing these meetings. The Commission indicated that they would probably not get directly involved unless there was an expected impact to

their responsibilities in management of resident species or if hunters and/or the local public are non-supportive of the red wolf project. As with other state wildlife agencies, the Commission believed we will have a tough time getting local support in the mountains for expansion onto Forest Service lands. The agricultural agencies indicated that their position would be based on local attitude, particularly County Commission Boards and local agricultural organizations such as the Farm Bureau. Overall, the agricultural agencies believe the red wolf program is generally favorable to agricultural interests in eastern North Carolina.

I made a presentation to the Triangle Chapter of the Society of American Foresters in Durham, North Carolina and presented a lecture at Southern College in Collegedale, Tennessee as part of their E.O. Grundset Natural History Lecture Series. Approximately 100 people attended this lecture and expressed tremendous interest in red wolf recovery. I filled at least 16 information requests consisting of 15 to 27 information articles each. Three of these requests required written responses in order to provide additional information on job or volunteer opportunities and ways to financially support red wolf recovery activities. I also sent a letter to a prospective graduate student interested in being involved in behavior or hybridization studies. I spent one week in Raleigh, North Carolina attending Region 4's required supervisor training.

Following are changes occurring this month in numbers and locations of animals.

- A. Wild Population - 32-37 animals (17-18 males, 15-16 females, 0-3 unknown).
  - 1. Alligator River NWR - One yearling female with a heavy case of mange died, leaving 26-31 animals (13-~~17~~<sup>14</sup> males, 13-14 females, 0-3 unknown). - 1 death
  - 2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) - The male rereleased last month again wandered about 35 miles into North Carolina and was subsequently recaptured. The adult female released with this adult male was also recaptured in order to replace a malfunctioning radio-collar. These animals and their natural male pup will be rereleased in April. Totals at present are one family group consisting of 2 males and 4 females.
- B. Captive Propagation - 154 animals (71 males, 83 females).
  - 1. GSMNP - Temporarily 10 animals (6 males, 4 females). Three animals (2 males, 1 female) will be rereleased in April.
- C. Total - 190-195 animals (90-91 males, 100-101 females, 0-3 unknown).

*V. Gary Henry*

cc:  
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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 Cove Ranger Station, Townsend, TN  
Field Supervisors, All Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Field Offices,  
Southeast Region

"The Best Safety Device Is Between Your Ears"

# E. O. GRUNDSET LECTURE

**Gary Henry  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

## **NATURAL HISTORY LECTURE**

### **Recovery of the Endangered Red Wolf**

**7:30 pm  
Thursday, March 11, 1993  
Lynn Wood Auditorium  
Southern College**

**ASSEMBLY CREDIT AVAILABLE**

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AND THE BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHERN COLLEGE**

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