



FILE

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Asheville Field Office
160 Zillicoa Street
Asheville, North Carolina 28801
August 13, 1996

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Monthly activity report - July 1996

Following are my accomplishments and other items of interest for the month of July 1996.

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

- ▶ Received the article by Fred Bonner that was published in the June 1996 issue of *North American Big Game* from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). This article is Mr. Bonner's remarks before the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans of the House Resources Committee on May 16, 1996, regarding the NFWF. I had provided input to the NFWF for this hearing. The NFWF contacted the Wildlife Society (TWS) and the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) about responding to this article. A decision has been made to provide TWS, WMI, and NFWF a point by point rebuttal to the misinformation in the article. This will be completed in early August.
- ▶ Received a revised proposal from North Carolina State University for a red wolf educational program. Expect to complete review and provide comments in August.

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

- ▶ Provided comments on the Southern Appalachian Ecosystem Draft Outreach Plan.

Captive-breeding Project

- ▶ Continued dialog with the captive-breeding coordinator regarding studbook revisions and attempts to identify the animals determined to be good red wolves, but which never bred and, thus, were not founders.

Island Propagation Projects

- ▶ Participated in a preliminary evaluation of Cape St. George Island, adjacent to St. Vincent Island, as an island propagation site. The island is managed as part of the Appalachian National Estuarine Research Reserve. One reason for interest in releasing red wolves on the island is to control raccoons and hogs, which predate sea turtle and ground nesting bird eggs and young. However, the island is smaller than other islands used and has a more restricted prey base for red wolves, consisting apparently of the raccoon population that has been reduced to benefit sea turtles and the small hog population. We are considering the possibility of trying two young expendable animals on a trial basis.

General

- ▶ Completed and forwarded a second group of 41 Certificates of Appreciation for contributions to the red wolf program to the Regional Director for signature.
- ▶ Provided a letter of support for the efforts of the Southern Appalachian Biodiversity Project regarding the red wolf recovery program.
- ▶ Presented a slide presentation to the Biology 225 class at Brevard College. The course is entitled "Field Biology of the Southern Appalachians."
- ▶ Presented a slide presentation and discussed the red wolf program with a group of visiting Czechoslovakian resource managers, whose visit was coordinated by the Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Cooperative.
- ▶ Updated a five page status report and provided a copy to an author for use as quotable material in a book he is writing on wolves.
- ▶ Made a presentation and participated in a meeting with a contingent of people from the federal, state, and private sector concerning their interest in reintroducing red wolves to the delta country of Mississippi. The local interest and initiative in trying to restore proper ecosystem functioning, by reintroducing the one ingredient missing from all eastern ecosystems, was refreshing and puts these people one step up on most ecosystem teams. Concerns were addressed and some of the available habitat was observed. The only problem involved, which may be significant, is the size of the available habitat--which is quite small and may be inadequate to maintain a viable population of red wolves.
- ▶ Received a request from the Delta Wildlife Foundation in Mississippi to complete a question and answer interview document to be used in information/education efforts in regard to the evaluation of the Mississippi area for red wolves. This will be completed in August.
- ▶ Provided packets of information/education outreach materials consisting of 24-25 documents to Service personnel in the Jackson Field Office and technical publications to a private individual involved in the Mississippi red wolf meeting. An unrelated information request was also filled by providing a packet of 24 documents.

Following is an update of current locations and numbers of animals.

A. Wild Population

1. ARNWR

- ▶ One two-year old female died of unknown causes; one two-year old female, whose collar quit transmitting in February 1996, was recaptured and recollared; and one three-year old female went off the air this month.

As a result of these changes, the population stands at 39 to 71 animals (19 to 30 males, 20 to 28 females, 0 to 13 unknown), including 39 to 69 adults and yearlings (19 to 28 males, 20 to 28 females, 0 to 13 unknown) and two male pups.

V. Gary Henry

Attachment

cc:

Director, FWS, Washington, DC (AES)

Director, FWS, Washington, DC (TE, Attention: Ms. LaVerne Smith)

Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (APA)

Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (AES)

Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (ES/TE, Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming)

LOCATION OF RED WOLVES - JULY 31, 1996

[illegible]

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
16. Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield, IL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
17. Knoxville Zoo, TN	3	1	---	4	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	4
18. Los Angeles Zoo, CA	1	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	1
19. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, FL	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
20. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	4	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	4
21. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	2	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	2
22. National Zoo, Washington, DC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
23. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
24. North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheboro, NC	1	8	---	9	---	---	---	---	1	8	---	9
25. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	2	1	1	2	4
26. Pittsburgh Zoo, PA	2	2	---	4	---	---	---	---	2	2	---	4
27. Racine Zoo, WI	3	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	3	---	---	3
28. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
29. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
30. Tallahassee Jr. Museum, FL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
31. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
32. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
33. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	2	---	3	2	2	---	4	3	4	---	7
34. Wilds, Columbus, OH	6	6	---	12	---	---	---	---	6	6	---	12
35. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	4	5	---	9	---	---	---	---	4	5	---	9
36. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
SUBTOTAL	87	88	---	175	4	2	---	6	91	90	---	181
TOTAL	117-129	118-130	0-14	235-273	4-11	2-11	---	6-22	121-140	120-141	0-14	241-295