



United States Department of the Interior

FILE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Asheville Field Office
160 Zillicoa Street
Asheville, North Carolina 28801
January 16, 1997

Memorandum

To: State Supervisor, FWS, Ecological Services, Asheville, NC
From: Red Wolf Recovery Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC
Subject: Monthly activity report - December 1996

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

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

- ▶ Response to the Notice of Intent to Sue from Hyde County and Citizens Rights Over Wolves was finalized and sent by Region. Service did not take the requested actions to allow taking of red wolves under state law or to delist the species.

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

- ▶ As a follow-up to information requested by LE and provided by the GSMNP red wolf personnel, I provided additional alternatives and considerations, via a memo to the LE Special agent in Asheville, in regard to approximating the value of a wild red wolf for use in assessing damages in a LE case involving the taking of a red wolf.

Captive-breeding Project

- ▶ Reviewed the quarterly captive-breeding report and voucher and approved the voucher for payment.
- ▶ Two new locations (the Wildlife Science Center in Forest Lake, Minnesota and the Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center in Awendaw, South Carolina) received wolves this month, bringing the number of facilities to 37 and the number of cooperators to 33.

General

- ▶ Initiated, completed, sent paperwork to Region for approval, and presented cash awards to project personnel and Asheville Field Office clerical personnel for their efforts in preparing for and conducting the Red Wolf Summit.
- ▶ Responded to at least three information requests by sending information packets containing 8 to 25 documents to each.
- ▶ Red wolf project offices received the red wolf tabletop exhibits and maps from Wilderness Graphics. However, the two tabletop exhibits received damage in shipment and will be returned for repair.
- ▶ Was on leave most of the month - 134 hours.

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

A. Wild Population

1. GSMNP

- ▶ Captured an adult pair and placed them in captivity until trapping for pups is completed.
- ▶ An adult female, transferred from Horn Island, escaped from captivity without a transmitter collar as a result of a black bear digging into the pen to get at food.

These changes result in a population of 7 to 29 wolves (4 to 11 males, 3 to 17 females, 0 to 1 unknown), including 7 to 15 adults and yearlings (4 to 6 males, 3 to 8 females, 0 to 1 unknown) and 0 to 14 pups (0 to 5 males, 0 to 9 females).

2. ARNWR

- ▶ An adult male was killed by a vehicle.
- ▶ The adult male that dispersed to Virginia was captured and placed in captivity.
- ▶ Transmitters quit on two yearling females.
- ▶ Two litters of three animals each that were observed from the air in September and October were assigned studbook numbers and placed into the fate unknown category. This brings the number of verified litters for 1996 to five.

As a result, the population stands at 38 to 76 animals (19 to 29 males, 19 to 29 females, 0 to 18 unknown), including 37 to 67 adults and yearlings (19 to 27 males, 18 to 28 females, 0 to 12 unknown) and 1 to 9 pups (0 to 2 males, 1 female, 0 to 6 unknown).

B. Island Propagation

1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, SC

- ▶ Contact lost with a yearling female.
- ▶ Caught and instrumented a female pup. Another pup was earlier seen on the island but is assumed dead.

These changes bring the population to 5 to 6 (3 males, 2 to 3 females) including 4 to 5 adults and yearlings (3 males, 1 to 2 females) and 1 female pup.

2. St. Vincent NWR, FL

- ▶ Captured and transferred an adult male to Sandy Ridge.
- ▶ Previous reports failed to account for one additional two-year-old female that was verified from 1994 reproduction.

As a result, the population stands at three adults (1 male, 2 females).

3. Horn Island, Gulf Islands National Seashore, MS

- ▶ Captured a male yearling from 1995 reproduction and a female pup from 1996. Unfortunately, both animals escaped from the acclimation pen and are still present in the wild.

- ▶ An adult female was captured and transferred to the GSMNP but later escaped from the acclimation pen at the GSMNP without a transmitter collar.

As a result, population is three animals (2 males, 1 female) including two male adults/yearlings and one female pup.

B. Captive Propagation

1. Graham, Washington, Facility

- ▶ One adult male was euthanized and an adult female was received from the North Carolina Zoo.

These changes maintain the population at 48 adult and yearling wolves (21 males, 27 females).

2. Sandy Ridge, ARNWR

- ▶ An adult male was euthanized because of repeated occurrences of demodectic mange and a poor prognosis for recovery.
- ▶ An adult male was received from St. Vincent NWR and the adult male that was recaptured in Virginia was placed into captivity.

This results in a population of 15 wolves (8 males, 7 females) including 14 adults (7 males, 7 females) and 1 male pup at this location.

3. GSMNP

- ▶ Adult females were exchanged with the Henson Robinson Zoo.
- ▶ An adult pair was placed in captivity to facilitate trapping attempts for pups.

The population is now seven adults and yearlings (4 males, 3 females).

4. Lowry Park Zoo, Springfield, IL

- ▶ An adult male was shipped to the North Carolina Zoological Park.
- ▶ Past reports documented shipments of animals from the Wilds to this facility, but the November 1996 population table erroneously reverted to prior population figures indicating three animals instead of seven.

The correct current population is six adults (3 males, 3 females).

6. National Zoo, Washington, DC

- ▶ Received one adult male from the Tallahassee Museum.

This change results in a population of three adults (2 males, 1 female) at this facility.

7. North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheboro, NC

- ▶ Shipped an adult female to Graham and received an adult male from Lowry Park.

The population remains at nine adults (2 males, 7 females).

8. Racine Zoo, WI

- ▶ Received an adult female from Trevor Zoo.

This addition results in a population of four adults (3 males, 1 female).

9. Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center, Awendaw, SC

- ▶ Six wolves (2 males, 4 females) were received at this new location from the Western North Carolina Nature Center, including two adult/yearling females and four pups (2 males, 2 females).

10. Tallahassee Museum, FL

- ▶ Transferred an adult male to the National Zoo, leaving only an adult female at this facility.

11. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY

- ▶ Shipped an adult female to Racine Zoo, leaving an adult pair at this facility.

12. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC

- ▶ Shipped two adult and yearling females and four pups (2 males, 2 females) to Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center, leaving an adult male at this facility.

13. Wildlife Science Center, Forest Lake, MN

- ▶ Received four adult wolves (3 males, 1 female) from the Wilds.

14. Wilds, Columbus, OH

- ▶ Transferred four adult wolves (3 males, 1 female) to the Wildlife Science Center, a new facility in Minnesota.

This results in four adult females remaining at this facility.



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 - DECEMBER 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. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, FL	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
19. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	4	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	4
20. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	2	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	2
21. National Zoo, Washington, DC	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
22. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
23. North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheboro, NC	2	7	---	9	---	---	---	---	2	7	---	9
24. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	1	1	---	2	2	---	---	2	3	1	---	4
25. Pittsburgh Zoo, PA	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
26. Racine Zoo, WI	3	1	---	4	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	4
27. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
28. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
29. Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center, Awendaw, SC	---	2	---	2	2	2	---	4	2	4	---	6
30. Tallahassee Museum, FL	---	1	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	1
31. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
32. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
33. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	1
34. Wilds, Columbus, OH	---	4	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	4
35. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	4	5	---	9	---	---	---	---	4	5	---	9
36. Wildlife Science Center, Forest Lake, MN	3	1	---	4	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	4
37. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
SUBTOTAL	88	89	---	177	5	2	---	7	93	91	---	184
TOTAL	117-127	113-129	0-13	230-269	5-12	5-14	0-6	10-32	122-139	118-143	0-19	240-301