

February 6, 1992

REPLY TO ATTN OF:

Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC

SUBJECT:

Monthly activity report - January 1992

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

Mike Phillips and I revised the proposal to expand the Alligator River project westward and resubmitted it to the Regional Office for consideration. The notice of finding (denied) on the petition to delist the red wolf was published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on Monday, January 13, 1992. The decision document on the petition was signed on December 19, 1991. This decision document was distributed by Acting Director Morgenweck to all Regional Directors as an example of a proper response to a petition. One or both of these documents were sent to numerous Service offices and cooperators for their information and use in responding to inquiries.

The educational package developed for the Smokies release has been completed. It consists of the 30-minute video aired twice on WBIR-TV in Knoxville, a poster, a teacher's guide, and several endangered and threatened species brochures. Copies have been furnished to the Regional and Washington Offices (FWE and PA), as well as to the FWE offices in North Carolina and Tennessee. The package still lacks \$11,500 being fully funded. To date, approximately 175 schools have requested the package. Extra posters were prepared for other distribution by the agencies involved. I also participated this month in the health checks on the two animals in the acclimation pens in the Smokies.

We continue to receive requests for the environmental assessment on the Smokies release. Ten additional requests were fulfilled this month, along with one request for the rule itself. Thirteen additional information requests were fulfilled this month for literature, etc.

Chris Lucash and I participated in the Smoky Mountain Winterfest Wilderness Wildlife Week in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Chris and other personnel prepared and manned a booth that included an exhibit, videos, and informational brochures on the red wolf project. I gave two presentations. In response, we had one artist donate the proceeds from the sale of a painting (\$95), and another individual made a \$500 donation to the "Red Wolf Fund" established by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. With matching foundation monies, this doubles to \$1,190.

Following are changes in the locations of the red wolf population that occurred this month.

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