



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Asheville Field Office  
330 Ridgefield Court  
Asheville, North Carolina 28806



May 18, 1995

### Memorandum

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

FROM: Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC

SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - April 1995

Following are my accomplishments and other items of interest for the month of April 1995.

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (ARNWR) Reintroduction - I sent a letter to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation requesting disbursement of \$480--a stipend for an intern for the months of April, May, and June 1995.

Southern Appalachians Reintroduction, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) - I sent a letter and package of materials in response to a request for updated information on the project and information on gray wolf reintroductions. Included with the package were the latest newsletter, the revised Biologue, the status report presented at last month's wolf symposium in Minnesota, and a list of gray wolf contacts.

Captive-breeding Project - I sent a letter to the Slater Museum regarding red wolf specimen preservation protocol in response to their correspondence indicating that they had reached their capacity to store specimens. Included was a request for an inventory of specimens at Slater in anticipation of shifting some specimens so they can continue storing those specimens that are most valuable for taxonomic purposes. The captive-breeding coordinator followed up on the situation, and the indication is that Slater wants to maintain only the specimens that are already stored there. Therefore, we will be soliciting for a new facility. The Ashland Lab has indicated a desire to serve as this facility, but their capacity may be limited.

General - The major news this month is the publication in the *Federal Register* on April 13, 1995, of the revised regulations for the two reintroduction populations. No significant changes were made in these regulations, so they should address private landowner concerns to the maximum extent possible and still protect the species. The rule was sent to 303 recipients. This included a separate letter to 15 congressmen that addressed the controversy in northeastern North Carolina and provided copies of the rule, a news release on the attitude survey

conducted by North Carolina State University showing that the majority of the local residents support the project, and a fact sheet on the northeastern North Carolina project that addressed many of the inaccurate statements that have been circulating. As required by regulations, I sent a separate letter to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, responding to each of their comments on the proposed rule and how we addressed the comments in the final rule.

The Red Wolf Management Series Technical Report No. 11, entitled *Protocol for Island Propagation Projects*, was printed and distributed to project personnel. I completed a questionnaire regarding animal translocation for a researcher by providing information on red wolf translocations. I sent a letter to the National Wildlife Health Research Center regarding red wolf necropsy protocol, including a request for information on the need to remove brain tissue, which seriously impacts the usefulness of the skull for taxonomic purposes. I responded to a letter from a biologist in South Africa regarding the availability of positions in the red wolf project, especially with regard to noncitizens of the United States. I also responded positively to a request from a researcher from Australia regarding the coordination of a study tour of the red wolf program later this year. I provided information to the Washington Office (through the Regional Office) regarding a proposed article and speech on the positive aspects and flexibility of the Endangered Species Act. I also provided input to Region 5 for use in their response to a request for information on the possible reintroduction of the red wolf into Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. I reviewed and provided comments on the proposed revised recovery planning guidelines for the Service. I provided employees under my supervision with information on Employee Responsibilities and Conduct and certified in writing that the employees had been so advised. I fulfilled at least six information requests by providing 20 to 31 documents to each. One of these requests also required a written response to provide information on ways to support the red wolf recovery program.

Following is an update of current locations and numbers of animals. With the beginning of another breeding season, all wolves previously listed as pups are moved into the adult and yearling columns as yearlings. This report updates numbers and locations to show present locations of wolves after shifting for this year's breeding season has been completed and all mortalities have been accounted for that occurred in captivity over the last several months.

#### A. Wild Population

1. GSMNP - The first release into the Elkmont area occurred with the release of an adult pair. The Tremont wolves (an adult pair and 3 yearlings) were rereleased. Reproduction was verified in this group with the finding of the den and 2 female pups. Therefore, the population is now 9 to 11 wolves (3 to 4 males, 6 to 7 females), including 7 to 9 adults and yearlings (3 to 4 males, 4 to 5 females) and 2 females pups.

2. ARNWR - An adult male was believed to have bitten a dog and was later killed while attempting to dig into a dog pen. An adult pair and a new litter of pups (6 males, 1 female) was removed from private land and transferred to the GSMNP, along with a yearling female belonging to this group that was in captivity, for release later this year. The adult male in this group had last been monitored in November of 1992 when his radio failed. An adult pair was released this month. Therefore, the population is 41 to 60 adults and yearlings (20 to 25 males, 21 to 25 females, 0 to 10 unknown).

#### B. Captive Propagation

1. Graham, Washington, Facility - The shifting of animals between the Point Defiance Zoo and this facility and the deaths of 3 adult males and 1 adult female from February through April have resulted in a present population of 45 adults and yearlings (21 males, 24 females).
2. Sandy Ridge, ARNWR - An adult pair that was released and the yearling female that was transferred to the GSMNP reduces the population to 14 adults and yearlings (10 males, 4 females).
3. GSMNP - The release of 7 wolves and the arrival of the group of 10 from ARNWR temporarily increases the population to 24 wolves (14 males, 10 females), including 17 adults and yearlings (8 males, 9 females) and 7 pups (6 males, 1 female).
4. Point Defiance Zoo - The shifting of animals between the Graham facility and Point Defiance and deaths over the last few months have resulted in the current population at this facility of 12 adult and yearling wolves (5 males, 7 females).
5. Alexandria Zoo, Louisiana - The adult female was euthanized in March because of renal failure. This leaves only 1 adult male at this facility.
6. Audubon Zoo, Louisiana - A pup was born but was later euthanized due to complications relating to a physical injury. Therefore, 6 adults and yearlings (3 males, 3 females) remain at this facility.
7. Beardsley Zoo, Bridgeport, Connecticut - The adult male and 3 yearling males were transferred to the Great Plains Zoo. A yearling female died in October 1994, but this fact has not been acknowledged in previous monthly reports. That leaves 3 adult and yearling females at this facility.
8. Burnet Park Zoo, Syracuse, New York - An adult male was received from Trevor Zoo. This results in 3 adults at this facility (2 males, 3 females).

9. Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Glen Rose, Texas - An adult male was transferred to the Texas Zoo. This leaves 13 adults and yearlings (5 males, 8 females) at this facility.
10. Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, South Dakota - The adult male and 3 yearling males received from Beardsley Zoo result in 5 adults and yearlings (4 males, 1 female) at this facility. Past reports had listed an adult male at this facility that had been transferred to Graham.
11. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, Florida - The adult cryptorchid male was euthanized in December 1994, but this fact has not been acknowledged in previous monthly reports. This leaves an adult pair at this facility.
12. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, Illinois - This facility transferred 1 adult and 2 yearling females to the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, leaving 1 adult and 3 yearling males at Miller Park.
13. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, Virginia - An adult male died this month from stomach torsion, leaving 6 adults and yearlings (3 males, 3 females) at this facility.
14. Texas Zoo, Victoria, Texas - The adult male received from Fossil Rim result in 3 adults (2 males, 1 female) at this facility.
15. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, New York - This facility transferred 2 adult males to Burnet Park, leaving 3 adult females at Trevor.
16. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville - There were 2 pups born at this facility, but 1 died, leaving an adult pair and 1 female pup.
17. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, Missouri - The adult and 2 yearling females received from Miller Park result in 11 adults and yearlings (5 males, 6 females) at this facility.

*V. Gary Henry*

Attachment

CC:  
Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (RD)  
Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (APA)

"Investing In Safety Pays Big Dividends"

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
<b>A. WILD POPULATIONS:</b>												
1. Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)	20-25	21-25	0-10	41-60	---	---	---	---	20-25	21-25	0-10	41-60
2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NP)	3-4	4-5	---	7-9	---	2	---	2	3-4	6-7	0	9-11
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>23-29</b>	<b>25-30</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>48-69</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23-29</b>	<b>27-32</b>	<b>0-10</b>	<b>50-71</b>
<b>B. ISLAND PROPAGATION PROJECTS:</b>												
1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, SC	4	2	---	6	---	---	---	---	4	2	---	6
2. St. Vincent NWR, FL	3	2	---	5	---	---	---	---	3	2	---	5
3. Horn Island, Gulf Islands National Seashore, MS	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>C. CAPTIVE PROPAGATION FACILITIES:</b>												
1. Graham, WA	21	24	---	45	---	---	---	---	21	24	---	45
2. Sandy Ridge, Alligator River NWR, NC	10	4	---	14	---	---	---	---	10	4	---	14
3. Great Smoky Mountains NP	8	9	---	17	6	1	---	7	14	10	---	24
4. Point Defiance Zoo, Tacoma, WA	5	7	---	12	---	---	---	---	5	7	---	12
5. Alexandria Zoo, LA	1	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	1
6. Audubon Zoo, New Orleans, LA	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
7. Beardsley Zoo, Bridgeport, CT	---	3	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	3
8. Burnet Park Zoo, Syracuse, NY	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
9. Chaffee Zoo, Fresno, CA	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
10. Fort Worth Zoo, TX	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
11. Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Glen Rose, TX	5	8	---	13	---	---	---	---	5	8	---	13
12. Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, SD	4	1	---	5	---	---	---	---	4	1	---	5

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
13. Greater Baton Rouge Zoo, Baker, LA	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
14. Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield, IL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
15. Knoxville Zoo, TN	3	1	---	4	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	4
16. Los Angeles Zoo, CA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
17. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, FL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
18. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	4	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	4
19. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
20. National Zoo, Washington, DC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
21. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
22. North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheboro, NC	---	3	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	3
23. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
24. Pittsburgh Zoo, PA	2	2	---	4	---	---	---	---	2	2	---	4
25. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
26. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
27. Tallahassee Jr. Museum, FL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
28. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
29. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	---	3	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	3
30. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	1	---	2	---	1	---	1	1	2	---	3
31. Wilds, Columbus, OH	6	7	---	13	---	---	---	---	6	7	---	13
32. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	5	6	---	11	---	---	---	---	5	6	---	11
33. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
SUBTOTAL	98	102	---	200	6	2	---	8	104	104	---	208
TOTAL	129-135	132-137	0-10	261-282	6	4	---	10	135-141	136-141	0-10	271-292