

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FILE
memorandum

DATE: November 1, 1991
REPLY TO: Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC
ATTN OF:
SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - October 1991
TO: Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (FWE/SE)
Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming

The final rule for the reintroduction into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) has been approved and will be published in the Federal Register on November 4, 1991. The tentative date for release of an adult pair and two pups is November 12, 1991.

I drafted a congressional regarding the GSMNP release and sent it to the Regional Office. I also participated in a communication meeting with local interest groups regarding the GSMNP release at which I gave a presentation on the red wolf recovery program. Another meeting was held with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation regarding the GSMNP release. I also participated in a meeting of project personnel regarding the education package being prepared for distribution to schools by WBIR-TV in Knoxville. I sent slides and other visual material to GSMNP personnel for use in preparation of the package. Chris Lucash and I met with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's (NCWRC) biology and law enforcement personnel regarding the GSMNP release. I gave a presentation on the red wolf recovery program at this meeting and put together and distributed five sets of slides on the red wolf to NCWRC personnel for their use in presentations.

I prepared a response to a petition to delist the red wolf from the American Sheep Industry Association, including the decision document and Federal Register publication, and submitted it to the Regional Office. A finding was made that substantial information has not been presented to indicate that delisting is warranted.

I submitted short and long versions of a position paper on the hybridization issue regarding the red wolf to the Regional Office. Included were draft transmittal letters and memos to project cooperators.

I met with Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge and Regional Office Refuges personnel regarding the proposed expansion of Alligator River westward. Refuges' regional staff fully supports expansion. I also met with Gulf Shores National Seashore personnel regarding future plans for the Horn Island project; funding was a major topic of discussion.

I made two other presentations on the red wolf recovery program this month--one was to the Western North Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club and another to the Southeastern Association of Resource Conservation and

Development Councils meeting at the Asheboro Zoo in North Carolina. The latter was a luncheon talk attended by over 200 people from 10 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. A local artist, Janet Walker, also attended this meeting, showed her painting of the red wolf, and distributed ad cards and information on the painting. Janet is donating one-half of the proceeds from sales of the print resulting from project advertising efforts to the red wolf fund through the Fish and Wildlife Foundation. I distributed information on the print to the Regional Office, and we are planning some additional advertising efforts.

I reviewed a funding application for the Fish and Wildlife Foundation regarding red wolf captive-breeding at Explore Park in Virginia. Other correspondence included informational letters to: (1) a writer, regarding location of red wolf projects for possible photography opportunities; (2) a researcher, regarding possible research opportunities on the red wolf; and (3) a visitor to Audubon Zoo in New Orleans, regarding correction of faulty facilities.

I reviewed and provided comments on the proposed pairings for captive propagation for the coming year.

Significant changes in the various projects and facilities are as follows:

A. Wild Populations.

1. Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) - Two additional pups were verified in a litter previously thought to contain only three pups. The remaining adult female from the group released from captivity in September was pulled back into captivity because she was wandering north of Highway 64. Therefore, there are now 12 adults (4 males, 8 females) and at least 10 pups in this population, or a total of 22 animals. Also, the single pup in one litter (a female) was caught this month; only 1 pup remains to be captured for sex determination, etc., in this population.

2. GSMNP - A third bear climbed into and out of the pen this month.

C. Captive Propagation - 89 adults (41 males, 48 females) and 38 pups (20 males, 18 females). The September report erroneously reversed the sex ratio for the 38 pups. See Graham, Oglebay, Tallahassee, Point Defiance, and Zanesville facilities for other changes reflected in totals.

1. Graham, Washington, Facility - One female died September 30, 1991. One male had previously been transferred to Point Defiance, and one male reflected in past monthly figures was a duplicate that had not been detected. Therefore, this facility now holds 32 adults (14 males, 18 females) and 11 pups (5 males, 6 females).

2. Sandy Ridge, Alligator River NWR - The female pulled from the wild resulted in 12 adults (6 males, 6 females) and 2 male pups at this facility.
3. Twenty-one Other Facilities - Same totals as September.
 - a. Oglebay Zoo, West Virginia - One female had previously been transferred to a new facility, The Wilds, in Zanesville, Ohio. This facility holds an adult pair and one male pup.
 - b. Tallahassee Junior Museum, Florida - The male died, leaving one adult female.
 - c. Point Defiance Zoo, Washington - The male transferred from Graham results in a total of 6 adults (3 males, 3 females).
 - d. The Wilds, Zanesville, Ohio - This is a new facility which currently contains a female transferred from Oglebay.
- C. Total - We currently have 160 red wolves (110 adults, 50 pups). The adults are 49 males and 61 females. The pups are 22 males, 27 females, and 1 unknown.

V. Gary Henry

Attachment

cc:

Mr. Roland Smith, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, 5400 N. Pearl Street,
Tacoma, WA 98407
Refuge Manager, Alligator River NWR, P.O. Box 1969, Manteo, NC 27954
Refuge Manager, Cape Romain NWR, 390 Bulls Island Road, Awendaw, SC 29429
Refuge Manager, St. Vincent NWR, P.O. Box 447, Apalachicola, FL 32320
Mr. Chris Lucash, c/o Cades Cove Ranger Station, Townsend, TN 37882
Field Supervisors, All Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Field Offices,
Southeast Region

"Safety Has No Quitting Time"