

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FILE
memorandum

DATE: January 11, 1995
REPLY TO: Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC
ATTN OF:
SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - December 1994
TO: Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (ES/TE)
Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming

Following are my accomplishments and other items of interest for the month of December 1994.

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (ARNWR) Reintroduction - I drafted a response to a letter from Mr. James E. Johnson, Jr., for the Regional Director's signature. The regional response was sent on December 15, 1994. Mr. Johnson had informed us that on January 1, 1995, he would initiate trapping and killing red wolves on his property in response to the state law effective that date. However, on December 22, 1994, I received a telephone call from Mr. Lawrence Davis (Mr. Johnson's attorney and the author and primary lobbyist for the state law) indicating that Mr. Johnson would like the Service to remove the wolves under certain conditions. I informed Mr. Davis that we would attempt to work out the details and come to an agreement after the holidays. I also sent a response to Mr. Troy Mayo, Chairman of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners, concerning his demand in a letter received on August 8, 1994, that we remove red wolves from Hyde County by December 31, 1994. I received input from the Regional Director regarding the response and put the response on hold hoping the revised regulations would be published in time to send them to Mr. Mayo with my response. Due to the delay in publishing the revised regulations and the December 31, 1995, deadline date in Mr. Mayo's letter, the response was sent on December 22, 1994. With refuge and cooperator properties in Hyde County, we obviously could not agree to the demand.

Southern Appalachians Reintroduction, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) - A meeting was held with Park Service personnel regarding the cattle operation in Cades Cove. A decision was made to construct a high-tensile electric nursery corral (for young calves and parent and pregnant cows) to be funded and constructed by the Park Service with funds received from the cattle lease. The existing nursery corral will be used as a secondary step for older calves and parent cows until the calves are old enough to be somewhat secure from wolf predation and can be released into the general herd. A modification to the intra-agency agreement to provide funding to the GSMNP for the red wolf project for fiscal year 1995 was completed and forwarded to the Regional Office for processing.

Captive-breeding Project - A modification to the cooperative agreement to provide funding to the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium for coordination of red wolf captive breeding in fiscal year 1995 was completed and forwarded

to the Regional Office for processing. I coordinated the processing of the pair of wolves at the Western North Carolina Nature Center for annual shots and health checks. I sent a letter to Skulls Unlimited International authorizing them to possess a red wolf skeleton for educational purposes as a loan agreement with the Service.

General - Considerable time was spent on the revised rule package. Minor revisions were made in response to concerns of the Regional Solicitor's Office and the Washington Office, and a draft news release was hammered out with the Regional Public Affairs Office. The revised rule was all set to be published before the North Carolina State Law allowing private landowners to trap and kill red wolves under certain conditions became effective on January 1, 1995. However, at the last minute the Office of Management and Budget specifically requested a review and did not indicate how long their review might take. They can take up to 90 days; God help us if they do. I sent a memo and attached red wolf necropsy protocol to red wolf project personnel for their review and input regarding needed changes for a future response to the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC). I completed a World Wolf Status Questionnaire for the International Wolf Center regarding red wolf populations, locations, and status. At least nine information requests were filled that required from 1 to 22 documents. One of the requests was from the Mexican Wolf Coordinator regarding intra-Service consultations for reintroductions; I sent him copies of the three intra-Service consultations completed for ARNWR, GSMNP, and Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. Three of these requests also required a written response. Two answered specific questions regarding red wolf populations and locations. The other one provided addresses for the publication Conservation Biology and for Dr. Robert Wayne, as well as providing a copy of the petition received from the American Sheep Industry Association requesting delisting of the species. I took 58 hours of use or lose annual leave this month.

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

A. Wild Population

1. GSMNP - One male and one female pup were captured for processing and to have radio collars attached. One pup was transported to the University of Tennessee Vet School for holding and treatment for a trap injury. The other pup is being held in a pen in the GSMNP. These pups will be held until the entire family group is captured; a decision will then be made as to their future release. That leaves four animals in the wild, including the adult female, one male pup, and two female pups. All of the pups may not still be alive. A coyote was also caught in the sets made to capture this family group. It was released in another part of the GSMNP.
2. ARNWR - Two males, an adult and a yearling, died this month and have been sent to the NWHC for necropsy. One of them was apparently shot, and an investigation is being conducted. Two male pups from a previously observed but uncaptured litter of three were captured, processed, radio-collared, and released. Two more male pups from a previously unverified but suspected

litter were also caught, processed, radio-collared, and released. This litter might contain a third pup. Another uncollared male pup of unknown parentage was also captured and placed in captivity. Unfortunately, this animal severely injured himself trying to escape and was euthanized. These changes result in a population of 42 to 62 animals (21 to 24 males, 21 to 28 females, and 0 to 10 unknown), including 28 to 40 adults and yearlings (14 to 16 males, 14 to 20 females, and 0 to 4 unknown) and 14 to 22 pups (7 to 8 males, 7 to 8 females, and 0 to 6 unknown).

B. Island Propagation

1. St. Vincent NWR, Florida - One male and one female pup were caught, verifying a litter at this location. There may be another pup, or the adult female may still be alive after slipping her collar. Therefore, there are 3 to 4 wolves present (2 males, 1 to 2 females, and 0 to 1 unknown), including 1 to 2 adults (a male and possibly a female) and 2 to 3 pups (1 male, 1 female, and possibly 1 unknown pup).
2. Horn Island, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Mississippi - An adult female was transferred here from Sandy Ridge at ARNWR, completing an adult pair at this location.

C. Captive Propagation

1. Sandy Ridge, ARNWR - The transfer of the adult female to Horn Island leaves 22 wolves (13 males and 9 females) at this facility, including 20 adults and yearlings (12 males and 8 females) and 2 pups (1 male and 1 female).
2. GSMNP - The two pups returned to captivity bring the population at this facility to 17 animals (9 males and 8 females), including 7 adults and yearlings (4 males and three females) and 10 pups (5 males and 5 females).

V. Gary Henry

Attachment

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

"Safety Awareness Takes No Vacations"

LOCATION OF RED WOLVES - DECEMBER 31, 1994

Page 1 of 2

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
A. WILD POPULATIONS:												
1. Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)	14-16	14-20	0-4	28-40	7-8	7-8	0-6	14-22	21-24	21-28	0-10	42-62
2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NP)	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	3	1	3	0	4
SUBTOTAL	14-16	15-21	0-4	29-41	8-9	9-10	0-6	17-25	22-25	24-31	0-10	46-66
B. ISLAND PROPAGATION PROJECTS:												
1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, SC	3	2	---	5	---	---	---	---	3	2	---	5
2. St. Vincent NWR, FL	1	0-1	---	1-2	1	1	0-1	2-3	2	1-2	0-1	3-4
3. Horn Island, Gulf Islands National Seashore, MS	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
SUBTOTAL	5	3-4	---	8-9	1	1	0-1	2-3	6	4-5	0-1	10-11
C. CAPTIVE PROPAGATION FACILITIES:												
1. Graham, WA	22	26	---	48	2	3	---	5	24	29	---	53
2. Sandy Ridge, Alligator River NWR, NC	12	8	---	20	1	1	---	2	13	9	---	22
3. Great Smoky Mountains NP	4	3	---	7	5	5	---	10	9	8	---	17
4. Point Defiance Zoo, Tacoma, WA	4	3	---	7	---	---	---	---	4	3	---	7
5. Alexandria Zoo, LA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
6. Audubon Zoo, New Orleans, LA	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
7. Beardsley Zoo, Bridgeport, CT	1	1	---	2	3	3	---	6	4	4	---	8
8. Burnet Park Zoo, Syracuse, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
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	3	6	---	9	3	2	---	5	6	8	---	14
12. Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, SD	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2

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	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
18. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	1	1	---	2	3	2	---	5	4	3	---	7
19. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	1	1	---	2	3	2	---	5	4	3	---	7
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. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
23. Pittsburgh Zoo, PA	2	2	---	4	---	---	---	---	2	2	---	4
24. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
25. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
26. Tallahassee Jr. Museum, FL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
27. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
28. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	1	3	---	4	---	---	---	---	1	3	---	4
29. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
30. Wilds, Columbus, OH	6	7	---	13	---	---	---	---	6	7	---	13
31. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	5	3	---	8	---	---	---	---	5	3	---	8
32. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
SUBTOTAL	87	88	---	175	20	18	---	38	107	106	---	213
TOTAL	106-108	106-113	0-4	212-225	29-30	28-29	0-7	57-66	135-138	134-142	0-11	269-290