



## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Red Wolf - America's Wolf

## How you can help the red wolf

### Learn more about red wolves and get involved!

Wolves, in general, are often misunderstood. Educating yourself, and others, about the uniquely wonderful red wolf – America's wolf, the only wolf endemic to the U.S. – can be very rewarding. Engaging in recovery efforts, such as attending public meetings or providing comments on recovery plans, is another great way to help the red wolf. Visit our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) to learn more.

### Visit and support the wild spaces and wild places where red wolves live.

Visiting eastern North Carolina to view red wolves supports the local communities and counties with the only wild population of red wolves (guide services, lodging, food, etc.).

Support your national wildlife refuges, join a Friends Group, volunteer for the Service, or support other organizations that are working toward red wolf conservation and protecting the wild spaces and wild places where red wolves live. Restoring the red wolf to the wild will take the coordination and cooperation of many partners. We invite you to join this partnership!

### Visit one of the many zoos, nature centers, or wildlife conservation centers that are part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA) Red Wolf Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) captive breeding program.

There are 45 Species Survival Plan (SSP) facilities located across the United States with over 240 red wolves in their care, some of which may one day be released into the wild. Pups born in captivity may also be slated for the Red Wolf Recovery Program's pup fostering efforts to supplement the wild population and increase genetic diversity.

### Check out the Red Wolf Center's live webcam hosted by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation!

What a great way to get engaged from the comfort of your own home or office. . . and share with others. Introduce more people to these charismatic canids!



*Credit David Busch*

### Become a Prey for the Pack partner.

If you are a landowner in the five-county area of eastern North Carolina where wild red wolves live (Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, or Washington counties), consider enrolling your property in the Prey for the Pack program. This habitat improvement program, run by the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in collaboration with the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, is available to landowners interested in and committed to improving wildlife habitats on their property to meet their land management goals. The program helps to provide both technical and financial support to private landowners to help promote and implement habitat improvement projects that benefit both the landowner and the wildlife that depend on the resource, specifically to promote habitat for red wolf prey species. More information is available on our [website](#).

### Report sightings and/or share your photos.

Sightings help enhance our Red Wolf Recovery Program's monitoring efforts. Also, photos are not only helpful in our outreach efforts, but they are sometimes a good way to assess the health of individuals and determine pairings. Help us share the love of this incredible species by sharing photos and videos that you may capture of them in the wild. The recently launched [Red Wolf Gallery](#) is just the place to share, too! Just remember, maintain a respectful distance of

100 yards or more from wild red wolves, and never pursue red wolves (or any other wild animals, for that matter) for up close shots. **Let wildlife be wild!**

**Drive carefully and cautiously throughout the eastern North Carolina Red Wolf Population area (ENC RWP) and in specific areas where you see mobile traffic signs with messages about red wolves in eastern North Carolina.**

The Service is working in partnership with the North

Carolina Wildlife Federation and the North Carolina Department of Transportation to provide additional signage in areas where red wolves are known to frequent or have been spotted. **Traveling with caution** in these areas will help save their lives!

### Don't shoot collared canids!

It is illegal to shoot red wolves. All known red wolves all have orange collars with highly reflective orange material on them to help you identify them and differentiate them from the coyotes that have been sterilized and released. All sterilized coyotes have either black or white collars on them. Sterilized coyotes are not able to produce litters which lowers their prey needs and, in turn, puts less pressure on popular small game species such as small mammals and birds. They also continue to act as territorial placeholders, defending their territory from other coyotes (including unsterilized coyotes) or hybrids. Additionally, sterilized coyotes are not capable of successfully breeding with other canids, limiting the growth of the coyote population and limiting hybridization with red wolves. As the red wolf population grows, they will displace coyotes within their territory.

### Contact the Red Wolf Recovery Program if you have any questions or concerns.

Red Wolf Hotline: 1-855-4-WOLVES (1-855-496-5837) or [redwolf@fws.gov](mailto:redwolf@fws.gov)