

INTERNATIONAL WOLF

A PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOLF CENTER
FALL 2018

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to Nature Helps More
than Wolves **PAGE 4**

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Plan **PAGE 12**



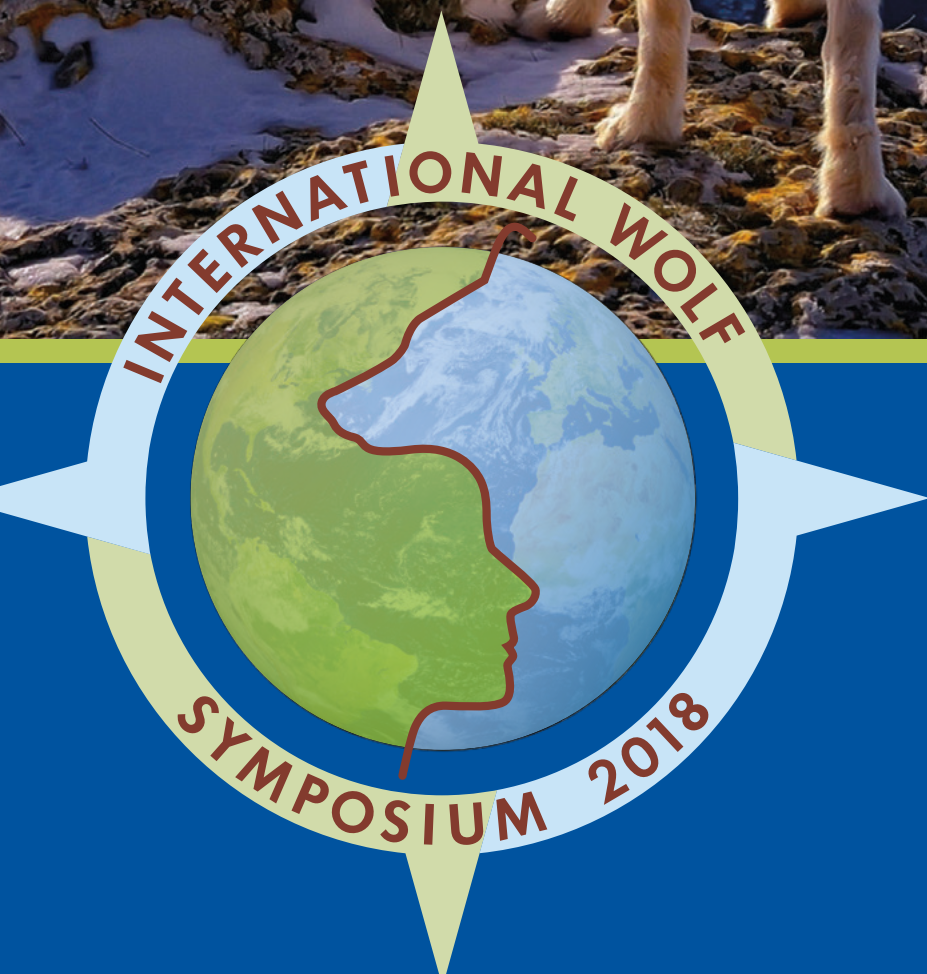


WOLF EXPERTS

**FROM 19
COUNTRIES**

**SHARING 100
PRESENTATIONS**

Concurrent, Poster,
Plenary and Keynote



**WOLVES IN A
CHANGING WORLD**

OCTOBER 11–14, 2018
MINNEAPOLIS, MN USA



BANQUET KEYNOTE

MIKE PHILLIPS

THE LAST GREAT WOLF RESTORATION – COLORADO

A presentation on the concept of reintroducing wolves to Colorado, focusing on attributes and challenges.

- Attributes may include:**
- Prey base
 - Amount of public land available
 - Varying eco-regions (high deserts, mountains, etc.)

- Challenges include factors such as:**
- Livestock grazing interests/public grazing allotments
 - Conflicting positions among special-interest groups, politicians and USFWS
 - Legislatively sanctioned, nationwide delisting of wolves as endangered

PLENARY SESSIONS

PANELS

Wolves of the World

Speakers from regions around the world, including Asia, Europe, Canada, the Canadian Arctic and the United States and Mexico, will cover topics that include progress of recovery in each region, politics in place to ensure a viable population, issues and problems that may need to be addressed.

Ellesmere

A series of speakers will discuss the wolves inhabiting Ellesmere Island and the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, focusing on observations at dens and other aspects of pack life, and including a historical summary of Dr. L. David Mech's two-decade study.

Michipicoten Island

An overview of geography, species history, human disturbances and recent studies of caribou, wolves and beaver.

Isle Royale

A panel of four will present a summary of ups and downs, and changing conditions affecting wolves and trophic systems over 56-plus years of research on Isle Royale. They will also address the ways in which reintroduction of wolves would benefit a future Isle Royale ecosystem, given the uncertainties of future contributions by ice bridges, weather patterns, random population events, herbivory and other factors that influence this island system.

Wolf Depredation Control on Livestock

A panel of experts representing various viewpoints will discuss wolf depredation conflict management. Agencies, field agents, a wolf advocate and a livestock producer will discuss key problems and the latest news, and find areas of agreement and disagreement.

Red Wolves, Eastern Wolves and other Canis Mixes in Eastern North America: Taxonomic validity and challenges to recovery

A panel of five will discuss topics related to eastern canids, including implications for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if science reorganizes North American canid species and declares the red wolf synonymous with eastern wolves, or declares it a variant of gray wolves.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

20-Plus Years of Wolves in Yellowstone

Doug Smith, project leader for the Wolf Restoration Project in Yellowstone and Emmy Award winning cinematographer Bob Landis will present the history of wolves in Yellowstone since their reintroduction in 1995.

DEBATE

Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan

A debate between Mike Phillips, who will discuss and challenge the current Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan and Jim deVos, who will defend it.



SAMPLING OF PRESENTATIONS

Gray wolves in Mongolia: changing attitudes and current research

PRESENTER **Uuganbayer Ganbold**,
biologist and anti-poaching protection manager, Hustai Nuruu National Park, Mongolia

Gray wolves in Estonia: an overview of population genetics and hybridization with domestic dogs

PRESENTER **Liivi Plumer**,
Department of Zoology, Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences, University of Tartu, Harjuma, Estonia

Quantifying the diet of the Alexander Archipelago wolf in southeast Alaska using molecular methods

PRESENTER **Aimee Massey**,
Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon; Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Through the eyes of a wolf: quantifying and classifying the complexities of facial signaling in wolves

PRESENTER **Elana Hobkirk**,
Durham University, Durham, United Kingdom

Risk effects of wolves on free-ranging livestock: Can prey-gut microbiome predict stress response in predator-prey interactions?

PRESENTER **Azzurra Valerio**,
Washington State University, Olympia, Washington

Adaptive use of nonlethal strategies for minimizing wolf-livestock conflict

PRESENTER **Suzanne Stone**,
Northwest Senior Field Representative, Defenders of Wildlife, Boise, Idaho

Challenges in wolf management in Croatia

PRESENTER **Djuro Huber**,
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

The future of wolf poisoning programs in Canada

PRESENTER **Hannah Barron**,
Wolf Awareness, Inc., Golder, British Columbia, Canada

AUSTRALIA



BRAZIL



AUSTRIA

CROATIA



CANADA

ESTONIA



DENMARK

JAPAN



INDIA



MONGOLIA



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Symposium registrants will receive a special conference rate of \$119 plus tax (includes complimentary WiFi).

To book your room, go to wolf.org, click on Programs/International Wolf Symposium/Lodging.

If you prefer to reserve your room over the phone, call Dana Madich at: 763-536-3332.

Functional response of wolves to human development across boreal Canada

PRESENTER **Marco Musiani**,
Department of Biological Sciences,
Faculty of Science and Faculty of Veterinary
Medicine, University of Calgary,
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Wolf tracks at the doorstep: A 1-year cycle of wolf behavior close to houses in Scandinavia

PRESENTER **Barbara Zimmermann**,
Scandinavian Wolf Research Project,
Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences,
Koppang, Norway

An 18-year spatial and temporal analysis of colonizing gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) in disjunct population

PRESENTER **Theresa Simpson**,
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse,
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Shooting wolves: photographs and the reconfiguration of the wolf in nonfiction for children

PRESENTER **Debra Mitts-Smith**,
School of Information Sciences faculty
member at the University of Illinois

Wolves at Our Door: results of 4-year Minnesota education program initiative

PRESENTER **Misi Stine**,
Project Coordinator, Wolves at our Door,
International Wolf Center,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Are livestock-guarding dogs a viable tool for preventing damages in open-range livestock? A case study from Portugal

PRESENTER **Francisco Petrucci-Fonseco**,
Grupo Lobo, Lisbon, Portugal

Patterns of niche partitioning and overlap between sympatric wolves and snow leopards in the mountains of central Asia

PRESENTER **Shannon Kachel**,
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

REGISTRATION

Registration includes 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, a
reception, all daily break refreshments and materials.

Rates go up Sept. 1

To register or for more information: **WOLF.ORG**

Registration fees

International Wolf Center Member . . . \$424
After Sept. 1 \$450

Non-member \$474
After Sept. 1 \$500

Student registration \$299

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[www.wolf.org/support/
membership/](http://www.wolf.org/support/membership/)

Dietary niche overlap between wolves, coyotes, and hybrids in a 3-species hybrid zone

PRESENTER **John Benson**,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln,
Lincoln, Nebraska

Ecology of the Indian gray wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*) in the Suleman Range, South Waziristan, Pakistan

PRESENTER **Abdul Hamid**,
Department of Wildlife Management,
Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University,
Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Competition on two legs and four: Impacts of wolf-cougar co-occurrence on resource selection and survival across an anthropogenic gradient

PRESENTER **Lauren Satterfield**,
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

Individuality in habitat use of Scandinavian wolves in relation to anthropogenic infrastructure

PRESENTER **David Carricondo-Sanches**,
Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences,
Koppang, Norway

Winter predation patterns of wolves in northwestern Wyoming

PRESENTER **Susannah Woodruff**,
Regional research coordinator,
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Humans and their role in shaping the ecological functions of wolves

PRESENTER **Thomas Newsome**,
University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

Challenging the wildlife decision- making infrastructure

PRESENTER **Walter Medwid**,
Vermont Wildlife Coalition, Newport, Vermont

Scent-marking and biometeorology: An analysis of behavior across canid species Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*), Red Wolf (*Canis rufus*), and Coyote (*Canis latrans*)

PRESENTER **Hannah Jones**,
Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas

Do novel scavenging opportunities or risk of interspecific killing by wolves influence occupancy and activity patterns of smaller carnivores?

PRESENTER **David Keiter**,
University of Nebraska,
School of Natural Resources

NORWAY



POLAND



SLOVAKIA



SWEDEN



UNITED KINGDOM



PAKISTAN

POTUGAL

SPAIN

SWITZERLAND

USA

Rebuild the Red Wolf Recovery Effort

By Christian Hunt

The world mourned in March as the last male northern white rhino, Sudan, passed away.

Guarded continuously by armed patrols, Sudan was euthanized and laid to rest as the last male of its kind—a clan of rhino that lived for millions of years, withstanding every challenge except humanity. With only two females remaining, the northern white rhino is staring down the barrel of certain extinction and represents, as Sudan's caretakers put it, “a cautionary tale for humanity.”

If we're to prevent another human failure of this kind, we must be inspired by it to speak not only for globally imperiled species, but for those in our own backyards. For North Carolinians, that means raising our voices on behalf of the red wolf.

Like the northern white rhino, the red wolf is the rarest of its kind. Having lost 99.7 percent of its range, today's red wolf clings to life in one small, eastern North Carolina holdout—and even that is in danger of being lost forever. Last year, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) proposed shrinking what remains of the red wolf's territory by about 90 percent and forcing most of the last wolves into zoos.

This would spell extinction for North Carolina's red wolf in the wild and waste decades of conservation progress and cutting-edge research. A small handful of anti-wolf landowners have applauded this calamitous proposal. In their view, the red wolf's disappearance would benefit private landowners in the recovery area. The science, however, suggests the opposite.

Since the red wolf makes regular meals of nest predators like raccoons, it's believed that turkey and quail populations are higher in the Red Wolf Recovery Area than elsewhere. The red wolf also preys upon invasive nutria that otherwise damage crops and, as the larger of the two species, the red wolves, when in healthy numbers, will suppress coyotes. As for deer, the annual harvest has increased in the Red Wolf Recovery Area for the past 30 years.

All the evidence suggests that the Red Wolf Recovery Area is, in fact, one of the state's richest hunting locales.

Yet, what is ultimately at issue here is not ecology or annual harvests. The real issue before us is one of commitment. The FWS is entrusted with protecting and recovering our nation's most imperiled wildlife.

In the 1980s, critics thought the red wolf was a lost cause. Back then, according to FWS, the species was already “99 miles down a 100-mile-long road to extinction,” and to some, the recovery effort seemed hopeless. After only two decades, however, heroic FWS biologists proved the skeptics wrong and accomplished the impossible; with 151 wild wolves, as well as a strong captive population, the species was placed on the road to long-term recovery.

Beginning in the early 2010s, though, FWS experienced dramatic shifts within its senior leadership. Rather than leaving the program in the hands of recovery biologists, agency administrators in Atlanta, under pressure from the state of North Carolina (supporting documents below) brought the program to its knees, ending essential management efforts that had sustained wolves in the wild. The red wolf population predictably collapsed, and today fewer than 45 likely remain in the wild with only 23 known wolves on the landscape.

If the agency moves forward with its latest plan, the wild recovery effort will be drastically curtailed, and the red wolf could become nothing more than a zoo curiosity—a prospect that, for virtually all North Carolinians, is simply unacceptable.

Last year's public comment period on FWS-proposed changes to the recovery program generated more than 55,000 comments from all 50 states, 99.8 percent of which were opposed to the

Adobe Stock/ Jean-Eduard Rozey



FWS plan. Only 25 comments were anti-wolf; only 10 backed FWS. Within the recovery area itself, 68.4 percent of land-owners voiced their support for the species. Scientists have publicly urged the agency to reconsider, warning that its plan is not supported by science and is a sure-fire recipe for extinction.

In eastern North Carolina, we are blessed with an abundance of wildlife. Home to black bears, alligators, huge flocks of game birds, deer and turkey, it is a wildlife paradise. There are few comparable places left on the East Coast. It is also the last holdout of the red wolf's historical territory, which once spread throughout the Southeast. As a proud North Carolinian, I find that inspiring. We need only drive 30 minutes from the beach to discover, hidden among the pine forests and swamps, the world's most endangered wolf.

Just as it took courage to pull the red wolf from the jaws of extinction, it will again take courage for the Fish and Wildlife Service to honor the public trust. It will also require the voices of people who understand and believe in the FWS mission of protecting wildlife. Without support from the public, we can expect that the species will, like the northern white rhino, become a memory of our wilder past. ■

Christian Hunt is the Southeast program associate for Defenders of Wildlife, a national conservation organization founded in 1947 and focused on wildlife and habitat conservation and the safeguarding of biodiversity. Based in Charlotte, NC, he is responsible for promoting the organization's red wolf campaign efforts through grassroots outreach, community organizing and communications.

Supporting Documentation



North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. 2015.

Resolution Requesting that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Declare the Red Wolf (Canis rufus) Extinct in the Wild and Terminate the Red Wolf Reintroduction Program in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties, North Carolina

<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/About/documents/2015-01-29-NCWRC-Resolution-Asking-USFWS-Declare-Red-Wolf-Extinct-in-Wild-Terminate-Program.pdf>



Adobe Stock/ Mark Kostich

Red wolf pups—offspring of the rarest wolves of their kind—now appear only in eastern North Carolina. A recent proposal by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would shrink the red wolf's territory and force the last ones into zoos, effectively assuring their extinction.



International Wolf Center

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Please contact our Development Director, Susan Ricci, at **763-560-7374, Ext. 230**, or **susan@wolf.org** if you have any questions.

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