

## American Red Wolf Partnership Coordination Call – Q1

### Research Request Protocol

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To ensure research involving red wolves or its parts (e.g., blood/tissue samples) is conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements, a new research request protocol has been developed. All research, whether on live wolves or blood/tissue, whether in your possession or located elsewhere, has to be authorized, or in some cases, permitted. The following protocol (see diagram below) will help track the use of specimens and ensure the correct authorization or permit is obtained.

All research requests are to be submitted to the Red Wolf Recovery Coordinator.

Proposals will first be reviewed by a committee consisting of: the FWS Red Wolf Recovery Lead and/or other Service employees with the Red Wolf Program, the American Red Wolf Species Survival Plan (SSP) Coordinator or delegate, and the Arkansas Center for Biodiversity Collections (ACBC) Collection Manager to determine if the proposed research is a benefit to the conservation of the species or a valid use of the specimen (i.e., enhances propagation or survival of the species). The committee will also ensure that the requested research will not result in unnecessary overlap or hardship on SSP institutions. ACBC will also weigh in on the availability of requested specimens to ensure rare specimens or all of a particular specimen/individual are not depleted.

If the proposed research benefits the conservation of the species, the FWS Red Wolf Recovery Lead will determine if a permit is needed to conduct the proposed research. If a permit is needed, the researcher will be contacted and directed to the application form and instructions for submitting the application to the FWS's Southeast Regional Office. The form can be found at <https://www.fws.gov/forms/3-200-55.pdf>. Note that application packages should be submitted at least three months prior to the start of your proposed activities. If you are renewing or amending a permit, packages should be received by at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the valid permit.

If the approved research does not require a permit, but does request use of specimens already banked, the FWS Red Wolf Recovery Lead will provide, in writing, authorization for the transfer and use of specimens. See diagram below for research request protocol.

