

American Red Wolf Partnership Coordination Call – Q3  
FWS General Recovery Update  
Emily Weller, Fish and Wildlife Service, Red Wolf Recovery Lead  
[emily\\_weller@fws.gov](mailto:emily_weller@fws.gov)

We have started the process to update the Red Wolf Recovery Plan. As mentioned on the last call, we are contracting out facilitation and modeling services to help ensure a transparent, joint stakeholder/agency/partner process based on the best scientific information. A contract was finalized in June with the Conservation Planning Specialist Group, a key member of the Species Survival Commission, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The updated recovery plan will follow the Service's Recovery Planning Implementation Process (see diagram below). This is a three-document approach consisting of:

- 1) Species Status Assessment (SSA) – this document evaluates species viability and provides the foundational biological information to develop and support a recovery plan.
- 2) Recovery Plan – a concise, visionary document (a roadmap) that contains the Endangered Species Act statutorily required elements: recovery criteria, recovery actions, and time and cost estimates. The criteria and recovery actions stem from the SSA. Recovery actions are higher-level, broad categories that will be implemented by activities outlined in the Recovery Implementation Strategy.
- 3) Recovery Implementation Strategy – this document itemizes the prioritized on-the-ground activities needed to implement the actions identified in the recovery plan.

An SSA was completed for the red wolf in 2018. This document will serve as a basis for the updated recovery plan; however, additional information will be gathered to ensure the recovery plan is based on the best available scientific information. The development of a recovery plan and an implementation strategy will be done in coordination with partners, species experts, and stakeholders.

# Recovery Planning and Implementation

