



TRAPPER REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

The Trapper Reimbursement Program (Program) is established collaboratively by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the North Carolina Wildlife Federation (NCWF) to reimburse licensed trappers for red wolves (*Canis rufus*), radio-collared canids, and other wild canids of management value as described below, captured during lawful trapping activities.

For a private trapper (Trapper) to receive monetary reimbursement by NCWF, the following conditions must be met:

- 1) You must be a licensed Trapper with the State of North Carolina and follow all trapping regulations set forth by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (<https://www.ncwildlife.gov/trapping-north-carolina>).
- 2) When a licensed Trapper traps a wild canid, the following steps must be taken:
 - a. Any canid thought to be a red wolf, any radio-collared canid, or any canid believed to be of conservation value as described below should not be released before contacting the Service as soon as possible after the capture at 1-855-496-5837 (if no answer call 1-252-475-8259 or 1-252-475-8350) to allow for verification of the animal.
 - b. The Trapper will remove the captured canid from the trap and hold them in an appropriately sized kennel, whenever possible, and place the kennel in a quiet area. If absolutely necessary, wait for a Service biologist to remove the canid from the trap. (The Trapper is expected to not hold or restrain the animal via duct tape, rope, or other similar methods).
 - c. The Trapper must provide the date, exact location of the capture (GPS coordinates are preferred) and name of the landowner where it was captured.
- 3) If the Service verifies that the canid is indeed a red wolf, radio-collared canid, or other canid of management value, trapped in accordance with proper procedures and the animal is alive and found in good condition, then the Trapper provides their name and mailing address to the Service who will provide that information to NCWF for monetary reimbursement for their cooperation.
- 4) NCWF will issue and mail a check to the Trapper upon notification from the Service that they have met the conditions of the Program.

Compensation for the capturing of red wolves, radio-collared canids, and canids of conservation value, alive and in good condition to the Service as a result of legal trapping is set as follows. Compensation will not be provided for canids that are significantly injured during capture (e.g., broken or severed leg) by the Trapper if such damage prohibits the canid from being released when the release of the animal is of management value to the Program. This does not include conditions of the animal unrelated to the trapping effort (e.g., mange, hair loss, prior wounds). However, it should be noted that all red wolves captured, regardless of their condition, must be reported to the Service, who will take possession of the red wolf to evaluate their condition and determine the best course of action regarding the animal.

Compensation will not be provided for non-radio collared coyotes that must be euthanized. Furthermore, compensation will not be provided if the Trapper does not adhere to the conditions of this Program.

- Any Red Wolf - **\$250**
- Any Radio-collared Canid - **\$250**
- Any Canids of Conservation Value (e.g., canids that can be collared and released as part of the coyote sterilization program) - **\$250**
- Recaptures of a previously captured canid (in the same season and one time only). Additional recaptures by the same trapper in the same season will not be compensated - **\$125**
- In the event a definitive field ID of the species cannot be made and the Service takes possession of the animal for genetic testing - **\$250**