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New Red Wolf at Jackson Zoo

The Jackson Zoo introduced a new male red wolf, 3-year-old Shiloh, to his exhibit today. Shiloh comes from Alligator River Wildlife Refuge and he joins the zoo's female wolf, 7-year-old Sunset. The pair is part of a breeding program.

The red wolf is one of the world's most endangered wild canids. Once common throughout the southeastern United States, red wolf populations were decimated by the 1960s. A small population of red wolves was found along the Gulf coast of Texas and Louisiana.

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Tacoma, Washington joined forces with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums in 1984 to establish a long-term breeding program for the red wolf. More than 30 approved facilities, including the Jackson Zoo, work together to ensure red wolf survival. The Jackson Zoo began participating in the Red Wolf Recovery Program in 2002.



Red wolves have several coat colors, including black, brown, gray and yellow. The reddish coats for which they are named was typical of some Texan populations. As medium-sized canids, red wolves are smaller and more slender than their gray wolf cousins, but larger than coyotes. Adult males weigh 60 to 80 pounds. Females are smaller and weigh 40 to 60 pounds.

For more information, visit www.jacksonzoo.org or call 601-352-2580.

Jackson Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The AZA is America's leading accrediting organization that sets rigorous, professional standards for zoos and aquariums. The AZA is building North America's largest wildlife conservation movement by engaging and inspiring the 143 million annual visitors to its member institutions and their communities to care about and take action to help protect wildlife.
