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**FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO RED WOLF SUCCESSFULLY RELEASED INTO THE WILD**

*Fresno, CA-* Fresno Chaffee Zoo recently learned that one of their red wolves was successfully introduced into the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge.

The male red wolf, known as Hemlock, was born at Fresno Chaffee Zoo in 2016. In 2018, he was transferred to North Carolina State University, which is also part of the Red Wolf Recovery Program to be paired with a female as part of the [Species Survival Plan](#). Over the last two years the pair were able to bond and this past March, they were released into their natural habitat in North Carolina.

“It is fantastic news to learn that the conservation work we do here at the Zoo is helping restore the population of red wolves in their natural habitat on the East Coast,” said Zoo Curator, Nicole Presley. “We hope that this pair continues to thrive and has a litter next spring to further grow the wild population.”

Red wolves were considered extinct in the wild in 1980 and are now considered critically endangered by the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#). Since 1991, the Zoo has worked with the Species Survival Program and [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#) to restore the red wolf population.

To learn more about the [Red Wolf Recovery Program](#) and other conservation efforts the Fresno Chaffee Zoo supports, visit [fresnochaffeezoo.org](http://fresnochaffeezoo.org).

**About Fresno Chaffee Zoo:** Centrally located in Fresno, California, Fresno Chaffee Zoo is a 39-acre Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoo. It is home to over 200 different species and features exhibits—from Sea Lion Cove to African Adventure—that teach guests about animals all across the globe and the conservation efforts to protect them. The Zoo welcomes over 800,000 guests annually, offering a world-class guest experience and conservation education to all who visit. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

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