



CAROLINA TIGER
RESCUE



The
Paw Print

FALL 2022

Curator's Corner

Partnerships offer many benefits to any organization. At Carolina Tiger Rescue, we have been fortunate to develop many different types of partnerships over the years. While some of these relationships are new, many others have been around for decades.

For 15 years we have worked with WildTracks to help develop software that allows researchers to perform non-invasive species monitoring. They have developed software that can identify individual animals using photos of pug marks (footprints of animals) in the wild. To develop the software, WildTracks needed lots of known pug marks and our tigers were happy to oblige and provide the sample photos they needed.

We also work with Dr. Adam Hartstone-Rose, a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at NC State University. Through our work together, we have helped Dr. Hartstone-Rose and his students study the locomotion of cats, the muscles involved in eating, and

KATHRYN BERTOK Assistant Director & Curator



the effects of practices such as feeding whole carcasses diets, just to name a few areas.

Our newest partnership is with the Red Wolf Species Survival Plan. We have partnered with fifty other facilities to help prevent the extinction of the red wolf and to expand education to the public about their plight in the wild and how we can be a part of the solution.

All our partnerships, no matter how big or small, play a part in serving our mission. We are always looking for ways to help expand our programs and help other organizations expand their own. The issues our animals face, both in the wild and in captivity, will not be solved without developing these working relationships. We are excited to continue our work and are always looking for ways to expand our reach.

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WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer
Adopt an Animal
Be a Monthly Sustainer
Bring Friends for a Tour
Include the Cats in Your Estate Plan
Become a Business Sponsor
Become a Big Cat Dinner Club Member
Donate Items on our Amazon Wish List

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
CarolinaTigerRescue.org



India Tiger

RED WOLF RECOVERY: MEET CAROLINE AND MIST

In April, Carolina Tiger Rescue announced the long-awaited arrival of two three-year-old female red wolves. The Sanctuary now joins 49 other sanctuaries, zoos, and facilities that are a part of the Red Wolf Species Survival Plan (RWSSP) and are assisting in the captive breeding, care of, and public education about critically endangered red wolves. The two wolves, Caroline (top) and Mist (bottom), have settled in nicely into the back of the Sanctuary where they will remain until they are needed for their next role in the RWSSP.

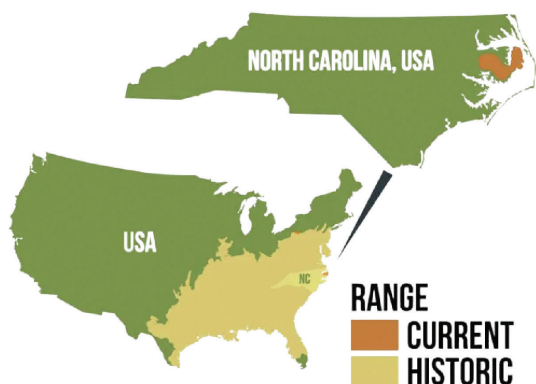
Red wolves are considered "the American wolf." Once native to the eastern part of the United States, aggressive predator mitigation strategies and habitat loss virtually wiped them out

during the 20th century. After a tumultuous few decades, the RWSSP reports that there are now close to 20 individuals left in the wild (located in eastern North Carolina) and more than 200 individuals in captivity.

Red wolves are critically important to North Carolina's ecosystems and could help control the overpopulation of a number of invasive species were they to return to and thrive in their native environment. We are proud to play a role in their conservation!



Learn more from
Senior Keeper
Lauren Humphries here:



The only wild population of red wolves in the world is located in the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in eastern North Carolina.

What is the Red Wolf Species Survival Plan?

The RWSSP is a set of extensive conservation measures and activities designed to ensure the longevity and security of red wolves as a species. Carolina Tiger Rescue's role in the RWSSP is to help free up space at other facilities for the continuation of the breeding program.

Will you breed Caroline and Mist?

No. In accordance with our mission and values as a Sanctuary, no breeding will take place at Carolina Tiger Rescue. It is likely that Caroline and Mist will be transferred to a different facility in a couple of years to breed and help rebuild the once-numerous population of American red wolves.

Animal Spotlight

THE OKLAHOMA CATS

Meet Naveen, Samar, and Shailah, three tigers who were rescued from “Tiger King Park” in Thackerville, Oklahoma in May of 2021. These cats were in our care as we awaited the conclusion of the legal case involving the rescue of 68 big cats from this facility. The case concluded earlier this year, meaning we were able to introduce them to the world in August.

Tiger King Park was shut down due to numerous Endangered Species Act violations – serious offenses that include a lack of adequate or timely veterinary care, a lack of appropriate nutrition, no shelter to protect

them from inclement weather, and no shelter of a sufficient size to allow them to engage in normal behavior.

Since their rescue, Naveen, Samar, and Shailah have received the best in veterinary care, diets, daily enrichment, and enclosure space and design. They have grown comfortable in their new surroundings, have met several of their enclosure-neighbors, and Samar has even graduated to the tour route! They are special editions to Sanctuary life and we're happy to be able to provide them safe, comfortable forever homes.



NAVEEN

Age: 7 • On Tour: No

Naveen is a charismatic tiger who always has something to say. If he's not chuffing he's moaning and groaning and keeps you engaged so you continue to give him attention. He loves to run and walk along the enclosure with volunteers and staff members, talking to them the whole way.



SAMAR

Age: 7 • On Tour: Yes

Samar is a playful, social tiger, who loves attention. He loves to explore new enrichment and visit with anyone who walks by. He was difficult to keep out of the limelight which is why he has now been moved on tour where he can receive all the attention he could want! Samar also loves to watch the happenings of the sanctuary from a low, crouched position, so he can surprise unsuspecting visitors.



SHAILAH

Age: 4 • On Tour: No

Shailah is by far our most interesting looking cat. Her differences are a direct result of inbreeding. The only way to obtain a white tiger is through inbreeding and that has the potential to come with a lot of birth defects. Thankfully, at this time, Shailah is doing well. She is an incredibly social cat who enjoys attention. She loves cooling off in her pool and attempting (and often succeeding) to catch vultures!

CAROLINA TIGER RESCUE MINI-BITES

Bite-sized stories to catch you up on what's happening at Carolina Tiger Rescue!

New Raleigh ordinance bans dangerous & exotic animals

In July, the Raleigh City Council voted 6-2 in favor of banning "dangerous and wild animals" inside city limits. Now, residents will no longer be permitted to own lions, tigers, wolves, monkeys, and medically significant venomous snakes. Carolina Tiger Rescue wrote a letter to the City Council in support of this ban which was read aloud during the hearing. We're pleased that the city of Raleigh has taken this significant step to improve both public safety and animal welfare within city limits.



Roman Lion

Partnerships with NGOs lead to an increase in advocacy



Carolina Tiger Rescue and ALDF Staff and Key Donors

Part of our evolving advocacy initiative includes partnering with non-government organizations to educate the public and legislators on the need to protect wild cats and the public. This summer we met with representatives from the Animal League Defense Fund (ALDF) as well as the NC State Director for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). ALDF was keenly interested in seeing the impact of local legislation on the sanctuary. Our work with HSUS on legislator education will continue this fall.

A Big Cat Public Safety Act (BCPSA) Update

We are pleased to report that this summer the U.S. House of Representatives voted to PASS the BCPSA. The resolution, which was voted upon on International Tiger Day (July 29), received bipartisan support from those who seek to end the private breeding of big cats and end commercial "cub petting" ventures. The bill now moves on to the Senate, where it will need to pass in order to become law.

To learn more about what the BCPSA will accomplish and to contact your respective senators, visit:



Madonna Tiger

YOU make the difference!

Operation: Rescue Ready is complete!



Last November, you all joined together to help us reach a huge Giving Tuesday goal, allowing us to purchase a brand-new transport truck and trailer. With our own transport, we are now ready to go when we get our next call for rescue!

When a call for rescue comes in, we may have a week to plan, or it may mean that staff must pack their bags and head out immediately...we never know. Now, we have the flexibility to act fast! We had less than a week to plan our Colorado rescue in 2016 – our biggest to date – and figure out a way to transport 16 animals to North Carolina. If it weren't for sister sanctuary Turpentine Creek, that rescue might not have been possible.

Thanks to you, we now have the ability to rescue at a moment's notice. YOU make the difference!



Rescuing large, dangerous predators requires meticulous planning which means we put a lot of work into designing the perfect transport trailer. Check out a video of Site Manager Roger Harvey taking us on a trailer tour:



Leap into the new year!



Our 2023 calendars have arrived! This beautiful calendar features 13 stunning photographs of Carolina Tiger Rescue's many residents. Back by popular vote, Tasha Tiger graces our cover, followed by Beausoleil Cougar, Daisy Coatimundi, Molly Bobcat, Caroline Red Wolf, Albert Kinkajou, Pixie Serval, Saber and Shira Tigers, Roman and Reina Lions, Fabio Porcupine, Zari Caracal, Bud Coatimundi, and Caprichio and India Tigers.

shop.CarolinaTigerRescue.org

All proceeds from calendar sales and other gift shop purchases go toward operating costs.

Mark Your New Calendars!

**NOVEMBER 29, 2022:
GIVING TUESDAY**

Stay tuned for more information on this year's Giving Tuesday goal!

**FEBRUARY 25, 2023:
BLACK TIE AND TAILS BALL**

2023's Black Tie and Tails Ball will celebrate Southeast Asia and the resilience of the tiger!

**EARLY BIRD TICKETS
ON SALE NOW:**



Keeper's Corner



This year we announced the arrival of two red wolves into the Sanctuary as part of the RWSSP. Mist and Caroline are two sisters who were born at the Museum of Life and Science in Durham and are now with us in Pittsboro. They will stay with us for a few years until they are ready for

their next role in the SSP.

We spent several years planning for their arrival. We researched and visited other facilities that housed red wolves, talked with experts in the field, and attended workshops to learn how to run veterinary exams. We spent many months building an enclosure for them with dig barriers and cantilevers. After applying to the program and passing our inspection, it was just a waiting game to receive our first wolves. Then

in April 2022, we welcomed Caroline and Mist!

Caring for red wolves is different than care for the big cats. As part of the SSP, there is a chance they could be released into the wild. This means they should be "release ready" and used to a wild diet. We feed our wolves wild game native to NC such as deer, rabbit, wild turkey, nutria and more. They cannot have livestock because we do not want them accustomed to food items that are associated with farms and people. Such actions could get them hurt or killed. We also do not feed them directly in order to disassociate food from people. Due to their skittish nature, we monitor their behavior and any signs of injury through trap cams. We can see more detailed pictures and videos of them since we cannot approach them too closely.



Left: Cara Vitale – Keeper
Center: Larissa Hill – Keeper
Right: Lauren Humphries – Senior Keeper
Not pictured: Kalyn Walker - Keeper

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT WORK

Carolina Tiger Rescue is proud to be part of EarthShare North Carolina, a coalition of nonprofits working every day to protect the health of our air, land, water, and wildlife.

EarthShare NC makes it possible to have a positive impact on causes you care about through your workplace giving campaign. EarthShare NC land trusts protect over 170,000 acres of farmland, forests, river buffers, and parks; Riverkeepers defend our access to clean water; wildlife rehabilitation centers provide forever homes and treatment for over 1,100 wild animals a year, and advocacy groups promote the decisions needed to make sure we have healthy and prosperous communities to live in.

Look for EarthShare NC and Carolina Tiger Rescue in your workplace giving campaign, including the State Employees Combined Campaign! SECC Code: #1100 or #1104



**Check out other wildlife-related
EarthShareNC partner organizations:**

Carolina Raptor Center, Inc.
www.CarolinaRaptorCenter.org

North Carolina Wildlife Federation
www.NCWF.org

Learn more at: EarthShareNC.org



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Tours and Important Dates

DAYTIME TOURS: *Year-round, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Get tickets online.*

Holiday tours, private tours, specialty tours, virtual tours and field trips, and volunteer opportunities available.

TWILIGHT TOURS:

Now through the end of October

WORLD ANIMAL DAY:

October 4

NATIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER & RESCUE APPRECIATION WEEK:

November 6-12

WORLD WILDLIFE CONSERVATION DAY:

December 4

**With your help, we were able to welcome
Haiku Serval in May and four bobcats in September.**

Haiku



Rio



Monaco



Cairo



JJ

To learn more about the work we do and the animals we have rescued, visit our website: www.CarolinaTigerRescue.org