## Red Wolves

Is it ethical to kill red wolves? I don't think so. Red wolves are an important part of the food chain and if they become extinct it might even affect what people are eating or drinking.

That could make a <u>disaster</u> right? I will explain to you their most ideal habitats, their threats, and what would happen if red wolves become extinct.

First, red wolves only live in **forests**, **swamps**, **and coastal prairies** (**ref**) of North Carolina. There are around 15 in the wild left, and approximately 241 are in breeding facilities which for goodness sake are nice to them. For example, the **Chaffee Zoological Gardens of Fresno**, **CA** (**ref**) contains red wolves. What has caused this little number of red wolves though?

Let's look at their threats.

Second, red wolves have threats from <u>carefree</u> people and other animals. For example, the poor and <u>feeble</u> red wolves are threatened by habitat loss; <u>illegal</u> killings and other human persecution; and hybridization with coyotes (<u>ref</u>). This could all be <u>fatal</u> to red wolves. The Endangered Species Act helped prevent this because the last wolves were pulled from the wild and placed in a captive-breeding program (<u>ref</u>). They also enabled zoos to exhibit many species of animals without capturing new individuals from the wild. (<u>ref</u>). Still, red wolves <u>dread</u> being threatened. Now I will explain to you the effects of red wolves being extinct.

Third, if red wolves become extinct they will affect the food chain. Being extinct means red wolves can't limit deer or other herbivores from eating grass. This means they will eat all the other farm animals' grass too. Then for a short example, cows can't produce that much milk and it will affect the humans. Also,

All in all, red wolves shouldn't be hunted, threatened, or killed completely because in the end the reason they get extinct ( which is mainly people) is to threaten themselves for what they eat. The Endangered Species Act helps this by a bit but if more people stop killing red wolves, it can still effect greatly. In <u>earnest</u>, don't stop now!