

# BEFORE YOU SHOOT...

## Know the Differences between Red Wolves and Coyotes

While they may look similar, coyotes and red wolves are considered two different species with different levels of protection. Red wolves (*Canis rufus*) are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. Red wolves are also state listed as a threatened species. No hunting, trapping or harassing of red wolves is allowed except when permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. While coyotes (*Canis latrans*) may be taken statewide on private lands day or night and on state lands during daytime in the rest of the state, on private lands in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington counties, coyote hunting is daytime only and requires a permit. Apply for a coyote hunting permit online at [www.ncwildlife.org/coyote](http://www.ncwildlife.org/coyote) or call 1-888-248-6834. Any coyote shot in the five-county area must be reported to the Wildlife Resources Commission, as detailed on the permit, within 24 hours. If a red wolf is shot incidentally, you must report the shooting to the Wildlife Resources Commission or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 1-855-496-5837 within 24 hours. **Know your target before you shoot.**



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF USFWS

### RED WOLVES ARE:

- Approximately 5' long from nose to tail
- Mostly brown and buff colored with some black on back; often reddish color behind ears, on muzzle and toward back of legs
- Tall, pointed ears
- Long, slender legs with large feet



### COYOTES ARE:

- Approximately 3' long from nose to tail
- Varying in color ranging from buff, brown, grey or black
- Longer, narrower muzzle

## ► ATTENTION COYOTE HUNTERS! ◀

We are asking hunters who harvest a coyote in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington counties to participate in the Canid Cooperator Program to help us monitor the coyote population in the area. Pull a tuft of hair from any coyote you harvest. Fill out a data sheet and submit it, along with the tuft of hair, to: N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, Division of Wildlife Management, 1723 MSC, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1723. Your information allows our biologists to better monitor coyote populations, make management decisions and evaluate the impact of coyote harvests in the five-county area. Learn more about the Canid Cooperator Program, and download a data sheet: [www.ncwildlife.org/coyote](http://www.ncwildlife.org/coyote).