

2017 Breeding Recommendations for Wolf Haven
by Erik Wilber, Animal Care Specialist, Wolf Haven

The breeding season is upon us. For any new supporters still learning about Wolf Haven, we do not breed any of our rescued wolves. At least one animal in each pair has been altered in some way to prevent pups. The only animals that can potentially breed are the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican wolves, as part of their respective recovery programs, called Species Survival Plans (or SSPs). Based on genetics and logistics, each program management team will determine which animals should be bred in order to maximize the genetic diversity of the population.

This year we only have two pairs recommended for breeding: M1360 and F1422 (Kochi/Vida - two Mexican wolves living in our pre-release area) and M1482 and F1945 (Tala and Nash, our red wolf pair who had a litter of pups last year). Via remote camera, we observed a tie between Tala and Nash at the very end of February. Observing ties is very helpful as we can count out 63 days (a wolf's gestation period) and have a pretty accurate guess as to when to start looking for pups. Based on this, if Nash is indeed pregnant, her due date is the first couple days of May. At the time of this writing, we have not observed a tie between Kochi and Vida.

Stay tuned for updates on potential pups!