

BEFORE YOU SHOOT...KNOW THE DIFFERENCE





ANDREA SHIPLEY/NCMRC

Red Wolf



CHUCKSCHUG/PHOTOGRAPHY

Coyote

Color	Due to the high variation in coloration and body size overlap between the species, it can be very difficult to distinguish between coyotes and red wolves in the field. We have provided typically representative examples for both species, but there exists substantial variation between both coyotes and red wolves.	
Size	~5 feet long nose to tail (taller, larger, and heavier than a coyote)	~3 feet long nose to tail
Weight	~50 to 85 pounds	~20 to 40 pounds
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide head • Broad muzzle • Long legs with large feet • Ears that are proportionally smaller than head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrow head • Long and pointed muzzle • Long legs; but slim, smaller feet • Ears that are proportionally larger than head 
Additional Info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federally protected under the Endangered Species Act • State listed as a Threatened Species • The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working towards collaring all known red wolves with bright orange collars to help the public distinguish them. Keep in mind that currently less than half of the red wolves have orange collars. • If a red wolf is shot, you must report within 24 hours to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 855-496-5837 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) - 800-662-7137 (NCWRC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See page 72 for coyote hunting regulations • The Canid Cooperator Program is collecting data on coyotes taken in Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell or Washington counties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate by pulling a tuft of hair from the harvested coyote - Mail it along with a data sheet, available at ncwildlife.org/coyote