**Red Wolf**
*Canis rufus*

**Rarity Rank:** SX/G1Q (extinct in LA)

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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Global</th>
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<td>imperiled</td>
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**Identification:**
- Dorsal pelage mostly gray with black and sometimes yellowish or reddish hairs on legs and underparts
- Muzzle, ears and nape are tawny
- Nose pad over 25 mm wide
- Total length from 135 to 165 cm
- Larger than coyote and smaller than the Gray wolf

**Habitat:**
- Includes upland and lowland forest, shrubland, river bottoms, coastal prairies and marshes
- Areas with vegetative cover

**Food habits:**
Opportunistic, though mainly small mammals and birds

**Range:**
Extirpated from its historical range with the exception of the Carolina’s

**Reproduction:**
- Mate in January and February
- 4 to 7 pups born in April and May
- Sexually mature at 3 years

**Threats:**
- Historically threatened by human trapping and poisoning, resulting in population decline
- Habitat loss
- Hybridization with coyotes

**LA River Basins:**
Terrebonne, Vermilion-Teche, Mermentau, Calcasieu, Sabine, Red, Ouachita (known occurrences from LNHP database), historically found statewide

*U.S Fish and Wildlife Service*

*Range based on occurrences in Natural Heritage database*
Rare Animals of Louisiana

References:
