

February Adoption Newsletter

WOLF CONSERVATION CENTER



Welcome to February!

Here at the WCC, things are heating up as our pairs are well into the breeding season.

We're hopeful that Cupid's arrow will strike and our pairs will embrace the season of love! After all, these red wolves and Mexican gray wolves are pivotal to helping their endangered populations increase in both numbers and genetic diversity.

Our five breeding pairs this season include Sage & Jacques, Oka & Martha, Ginger & PB, Tex & Betty, and Lighthawk & Trumpet. Be on the lookout via our webcams for several mating behaviors that are fun to observe! Some can include strolling side by side, bowing to engage in play, and affectionate grooming.



Nikai & Silas

Silas and Nikai are embracing the season by showing their brotherly love. After all, love for family is just as important! These two were spotted chasing each other back and forth and being goofy. Nikai slowed down a bit, but Silas threw himself on the ground and rolled, attempting to get Nikai to keep playing. Nikai nuzzled him a little before trotting off to their frozen enclosure pond. Silas got the memo and settled himself next to Nikai for a nice snuggle.



Sage & Jacques

Sage and Jacques are welcoming the month of love by giving each other plenty of heart eyes. Could these loving glances be a positive look into what's to come? We're sure crossing our paws for them! Other than longing gazes, Sage has taken it upon herself to begin compiling a stash of bones in the corner of her enclosure. Jacques went over one day to investigate the pile, but Sage ran toward him and growled. They say sharing is caring, but Sage missed out on this romantic cue! Jacques, unbothered, shuffled off to nap in the sun and avoid any more animated conversations. Good call, Jacques.

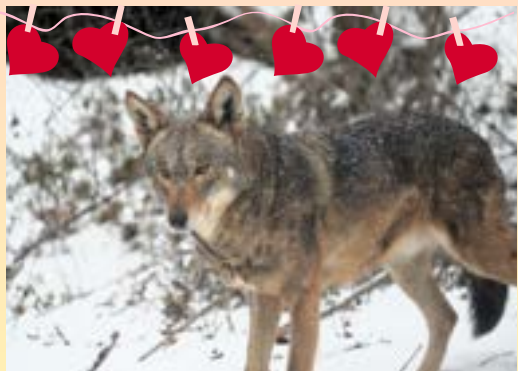
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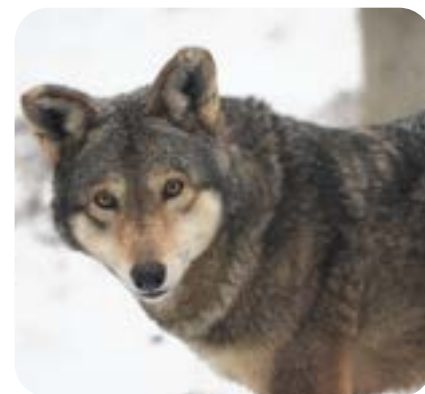
Did You Know?

WOLVES TYPICALLY ONLY USE DENS DURING WELPING SEASON WHEN PUPS ARE BORN. THEY DO, HOWEVER, SOMETIMES REUSE DENS THE FOLLOWING SPRING!



Ginger & "PB"

This perfect pair have been giving us plenty of reasons to keep our eyes peeled. Ginger has been very affectionate with PB and he has been returning the love with plenty of vigor. Napping side by side has been one of their favorite activities this month, along with chasing each other around their enclosure. PB has also been very protective of her. Additionally, the two were recently spotted by staff walking side-by-side, a very good sign indeed!



Martha & Oka

Martha and Oka have been perfecting their flirting skills. Martha has been spending extra time close to Oka. She's taken to making sure he's well-groomed while Oka has been making certain she's well fed. He has been quite the distinguished young gentleman, bringing Martha a chipmunk he hunted as a token of affection. It's not exactly a bouquet of flowers, but in the wolf world, this offering is a romantic gesture worth howling about!

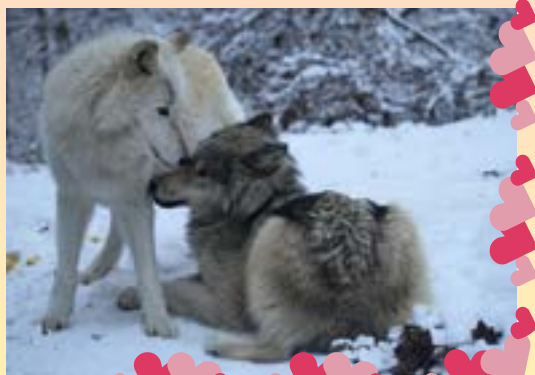
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Did You Know?

WOLVES TYPICALLY MATE FOR LIFE. MANY LEAVE THEIR BIRTH PACK ("DISPERSE") TO TRY AND FIND A MATE AT ABOUT 1-2 YEARS OF AGE



Betty & Tex

Betty and Tex have been napping their way through February. Betty especially has been content to lounge around, basking in some of the rare opportunities for sunshine that we've been getting here in New York. Apart from simple snoozes, Tex has focused the remainder of his energy on patrolling the bottom corner of their enclosure, as a neighboring opossum has been wandering by for some late-night visits.



Belle & Family

Belle started her February out embracing motherly love, taking extra care to make sure each of her kids were groomed and looking their best. Nita returned the gesture of familial love by sweetly licking her mom's paws in thanks. Jean spent some time playing with Maus through the fence (Maus is separated for breeding season). The family have also been bundling up together to sleep in the snow. Cold days, warm hearts, can't lose!

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In closing, we hope your month of love includes some sugar, spice, and everything nice!

Thank you for following along with us as we welcome the season of love and embrace all the possibilities it has to offer.

We'll see you in your inboxes in March!



-Your friends at the WCC



Diane, Hélène, & Bria

Bria, Diane, and Hélène's February started out with an exciting new development! A barred owl has recently been making a nest in one of their enclosure trees. Bria was seen scratching at the bark and sniffing the tree, while Diane opted for more direct communication and peed on the tree. We're betting if wolves could dish out conversation hearts, she would've chosen: "Call me never". Hélène, on the other hand, could not have cared less about the owl's presence. She was more concerned about catching up on her grooming schedule. Self-love is important, too!



Trumpet, Lighthawk, & Family

Lighthawk and Trumpet's dotting loyalty to each other has been a treat to witness. Trumpet has been sprucing up the den by removing some leftover bones that had accumulated. Meanwhile, the happy couple's temporary arrangement during breeding season hasn't stopped Lighthawk from getting up to his silly antics. Ever the playful pop, he loves engaging their kids in the chase along the fence line before tearing away in the other direction. Brothers Mosby and Kazoo have also been spending February working on optimizing their raven-chasing skills. Nicholas has found napping to be a better use of his time, while Sonda has been putting his youthful energy into digging up bones in the snow that he hid earlier in the season.