

Corolla Wild Horse Fund

A registered 501 © (3) Not-for-Profit Charity

Winter 2022

1130E Corolla Village Rd
P.O. Box 361
Corolla, NC 27927
corollawildhorses.org
252-453-8002

WILD AND FREE



The Mission of the Corolla Wild Horse Fund is to protect, conserve, and responsibly manage the herd of wild Colonial Spanish Mustangs roaming freely on the northernmost Currituck Outer Banks, and to promote the continued preservation of this land as a permanent sanctuary for horses designated as the State Horse and defined as a cultural treasure by the state of North Carolina.

Staff

Jo Langone
Chief Operating Officer

Dan Gillogly
Chief Financial Officer

Meg Puckett
Herd Manager

Nora Tarpley
Trainer and Registry Manager

Devon Eyring
Farm Care and Registry Asst

Marley Crawford
Donor Programs

Kara Hosler
Administrative Assistant

Jeff Chedister
Martha Chedister
Dolly Chesnut
Bill Crone
Fran Hamilton
Roy Hamilton
Lynette Sawyer

OBSERVING THE WILD BANKER HORSES



We are often asked what does our team of *Sanctuary Observers* do and why do they do it? Our current roster varies between three to five observation staff depending on the time of year and amount of daylight. However, the Fund *always* has at least one Observer on the 4x4 each day to watch the herd.

Their role is of paramount importance to the Fund's mission. Observers act as our first eyes and ears in tracking ailing or wounded horses. Their daily records of sightings provide a wealth of data that is continually compiled, analyzed, and interpreted to furnish a greater understanding of individual horses, their relations and dynamics, and their movements and trends.

This process of scientific wildlife observation includes reports of which horses are sighted, when and where they are seen (date, time, and geographical location), the weather conditions (effects of the

environment), as well as notes that may interpret behaviors witnessed. Our Observers and their studies of the horses have minimal disturbance to both the horses and the ecosystem in general. In most cases, they view and record these observations from within their vehicle unless an emergency occurs and requires intervention.

Our breed conservation and registration team compiles these observation records for each wild horse. Each wild horse has their own file containing their physical description, photos, field notes, DNA report, PZP records (if appropriate), and any other significant information we gather.

CWHF Observers also act as excellent educators. At times, they step in when violations and/or potentially dangerous behavior by the public is reported. Sanctuary Observers can approach a violating individual and educate them regarding the Currituck County Wild Horse Ordinance. They may also explain to the violator why their actions are not safe for the horses or for themselves. Employees of the Fund *do not*, however, have enforcement authority. If bad behavior continues after advisement, Observers may contact the Sheriff's Department and inform them of a situation when necessary.

Observing and recording the behavior of Corolla's wild horses in the 4X4 area greatly helps the Fund in managing the herd as a whole while also contributing to our mission to protect and conserve this highly threatened breed for years to come.

Horse Sponsorships

We are pleased to share that 2022 is bringing an exciting change to our Horse Sponsorship program.

Our sponsors will now have the option to select between two giving levels:

\$100: As an annual sponsorship member at this level, sponsors receive an embossed presentation folder with a glossy photo of their chosen horse, an official certificate in their name, and materials regarding information about their sponsor horse and CWHF.

\$125: As an annual sponsorship member at this level, sponsors receive all of the above as well as a *limited edition* print of a painting created by their chosen horse!

Both sponsor levels will receive quarterly updates about their horse via their email address to stay informed throughout the duration of their sponsorship.

Gift sponsorships are also available and make excellent presents for special occasions — or just for fun!

More information at:

corollawildhorses.org/horse-sponsorships

Annual Calendar Contest

For the first time ever, we are now accepting online submissions for our photo calendar contest!

If you have quality photos of the Corolla wild horses, now is your time to enter for a chance of publication in our 2023 calendar.

Winning images are selected by a panel of judges. Proceeds from the sale of the calendar support the CWHF mission to protect and preserve the wild Banker mustangs of Corolla and the land on which they live.

Official contest rules and the entry form can be found on our website at:

corollawildhorses.org/cwhf-annual-calendar-contest

Psst...it's not too late to order your 2022 calendar! Visit our website to place your order and see the winning photos from last year's contest:

corollawildhorses.org/cwhf-gift-shop

By the Numbers: Winter 2022

1585	The year Sir Richard Grenville's ship Tiger ran aground at Ocracoke. Documents indicate the ship was carrying livestock—including horses from Hispaniola. Grenville later indicated in a letter that many of the animals had survived and swam ashore.
9	Foals born in the 2021 season: Bee, Billie, Betsy, Benjamin, Bridget, Bramble, Beatrice, Brio and Bravo.
100	The Corolla Wild Horse Fund Gift Shop and online store are the only outlets where 100% of the profits from merchandise sales directly support the work and mission of the Fund. Shopping with CWHF makes a difference.
2168	Current members of the Corolla Wild Horse Fund. A growing and active membership is vital to our existence.
20	The number of Corolla mustangs that currently reside at the CWHF rescue farm, including one good-looking mule!
101	Estimated number of wild horses currently living on the northern beaches of Corolla.
36 & 44	A fully developed horse of around five years of age will have between 36 and 44 teeth. All equines are heterodontous, which means that they have different shaped teeth for different purposes. All horses have twelve incisors at the front of the mouth, used primarily for cutting food, most often grass, whilst grazing.

Riding Out Old Man Winter

Winter has arrived and although snow on the Outer Banks is rare, it does happen from time to time. The coastal environment can be harsh but the wild horses endure cold nights, frost, rain and winds. Corolla horses are hardy and endure the winter months with little concern.

Horses are built to thrive in cold weather. Their legs have almost no soft tissue that requires blood circulation, so the bulk of their blood stays toasty warm in their body. The lower leg is mostly tendon and bone, which resist the effects of cold much better than muscle. These are not energy-requiring tissues, in comparison with the rest of the body.

As the days get shorter and the nights get colder, the horses respond by growing longer fuzzier coats. These hairs stand up and offer a tremendous amount of insulation, like a warm blanket.

Leading up to winter, grazing is accelerated. The horses are working to bulk up for winter and increase their fat layer. Their extra fat helps hold heat in during winter. The process of digesting their primary food, forage, creates heat through the same bacterial process as a compost pile. Continuous grazing will help keep a horse warm.



Pictured: North Star, daughter of Virginia Dare and mother to Benjamin

Photo taken by Missey Collins, DUNE Our THING II Vacation Cottage