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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wolf Sanctuary Temporarily Closed to the Public in February *Annual February closure correlates with natural breeding cycle*

Tenino- [Wolf Haven International](http://www.wolfhaven.org) is closed to the public for the month of February and will not offer wolf sanctuary tours. Their administrative offices will remain open during this time.

The wolves at the sanctuary go through a natural breeding cycle annually during this period, which occurs in late January and the month of February. Many of the resident wolves have been partially altered, which allows them to go thru typical mating behavior cycles and their natural routine of life. Wolf Haven International does not breed any of their resident animals.

However, WHI participates in two federally managed Species Survival Plan (SSP)

programs - one for the endangered [red wolf](#) and the other for the critically endangered [Mexican gray wolf](#). Breeding recommendations for SSP animals are made annually by participating SSP managers and based on the current needs of the program. WHI does not independently determine whether or not SSP wolves will be bred.

Two pair of SSP Mexican gray wolves and both pair of SSP red wolves at WHI have been recommended for breeding in 2013. Remote cameras installed in the enclosures housing these specific pairs will enable animal care staff to observe wolf behavior, and subsequent possible pup watch. If pups are born, the red wolves will give birth around the third week of April, and the Mexican gray wolves a couple of weeks later.

Wolf Haven International will resume [guided walking tours](#) of the sanctuary on Saturday, March 2, from 10am - 4pm (last tour departs at 3pm). Through the month of March, tours are offered on week-ends only. Beginning April 1, WHI follows a Spring/Summer schedule, and will be open for tours six days a week (always closed on Tuesdays.)

For more information about Wolf Haven International, visit wolfhaven.org or call 360.264.HOWL [4695].

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Wolf Haven International is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to conserve and protect wolves and their habitat. Over 170 wolves have been rescued and provided a lifetime home since it was founded in 1982. WHI gives sanctuary to displaced, captive-born wolves, promotes wolf restoration in historic ranges, and provides educational programs to the public about the value of all wildlife.