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A tribute to Frederick F. Knowlton

William H. Clay

USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services, bill.clay@aphis.usda.gov

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Emeritus

A tribute to Frederick F. Knowlton

WILLIAM H. CLAY, Deputy Administrator, USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

DR. FREDRICK F. KNOWLTON officially retired on March 31, 2007, with well over 45 years of service to the USDA/Wildlife Services. Fred worked at Wildlife Services' National Wildlife Research Center Field Station in Logan, Utah, for 35 years alone! His work on coyotes and other species has had an extraordinary impact on the science and management of coyotes. Things that we take for granted today about the life history of coyotes were the result of Fred's tireless ambition to understand these animals and to improve our ability to manage them. One of our agency's first Ph.D. hires, Fred produced about 100 papers and reports during his career, and as a professor at Utah State University he mentored many students through the years.

Fred originally came from upstate New York and started working for Wildlife Services in Montana. In 1964, he moved to Texas and started his first field station in San Antonio. He then moved to Logan, Utah, and created his second field station: the Millville Predator Research Station. Fred's wisdom and foresight produced the vision for what has become a world-class research facility. He also was instrumental in creating the Berryman Institute and having it located at Utah State University.

One of Fred's lasting contributions was that he located the last population of red wolves and realized that interbreeding with coyotes threatened the population's genetic purity. Fred is one of the few people whose research



Frederick F. Knowlton

helped save a species from extinction. Everyone with Wildlife Services can take pride that one of our employees had such an impact on preserving our nation's wildlife heritage.

Fred will now move to emeritus status at Utah State University. He will still be seen frequently on the campus and at the Millville, Utah, facility volunteering his extensive skills and knowledge. On behalf of all of us in Wildlife Services, I want to thank Fred for all of his contributions to our program and to wish him well in his retirement. *