

TRIBUTE

Gelane Clements,
Animal Care Specialist

OUR SANCTUARY LOST the gentle and vibrant soul of Mexican wolf F954 (Noel), who surprised us all with her tenacity at the age of 18 years and four months. She originally came to Wolf Haven in December 2010 as part of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program and was only known by her studbook number. That soon changed with holiday festivities around the corner. While staff sang carols though the sanctuary, F954's curiosity shined and the name Noel was the perfect fit.

The initial years of her long journey were spent on the visitor route with her companion, M704 (Lorenzo). Their friendship flourished for four years, and Noel's dominant personality was elegantly handled by him. After Lorenzo's passing, Noel was moved to a new enclosure off the visitor route. Animal care tried to partner males with her on two occasions without success, but a third male was finally able to match her attitude and spunk. M1135 (Cejitos) spent a serene, yet mischievous, eight years with Noel in their lush, vegetated enclosure.

After being retired from the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program, Noel enjoyed the peace and privacy of her large enclosure. She was often seen lounging in the back under the trees. In her golden years, she received daily medication hidden in a variety of meals, which staff would change often so she wouldn't get bored of the same thing every morning. Pork and rotisserie chicken were her favorites. The loss of Noel is greatly felt, but the impact she made was unmistakable. 

Noel



Noel.
JULIE LAWRENCE