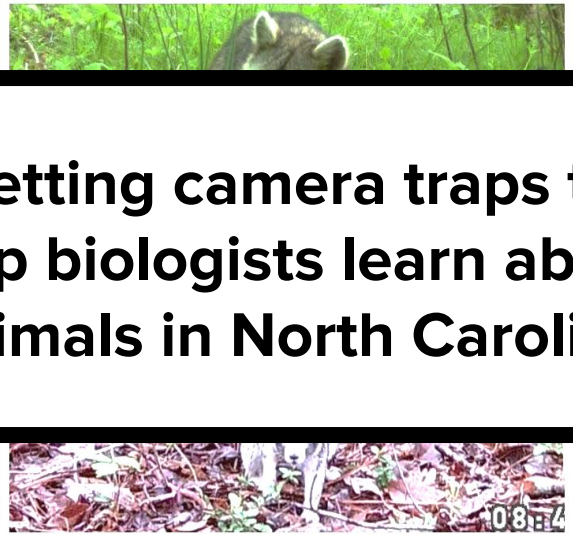
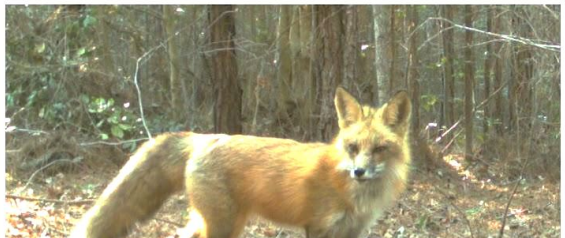
North Carolina's

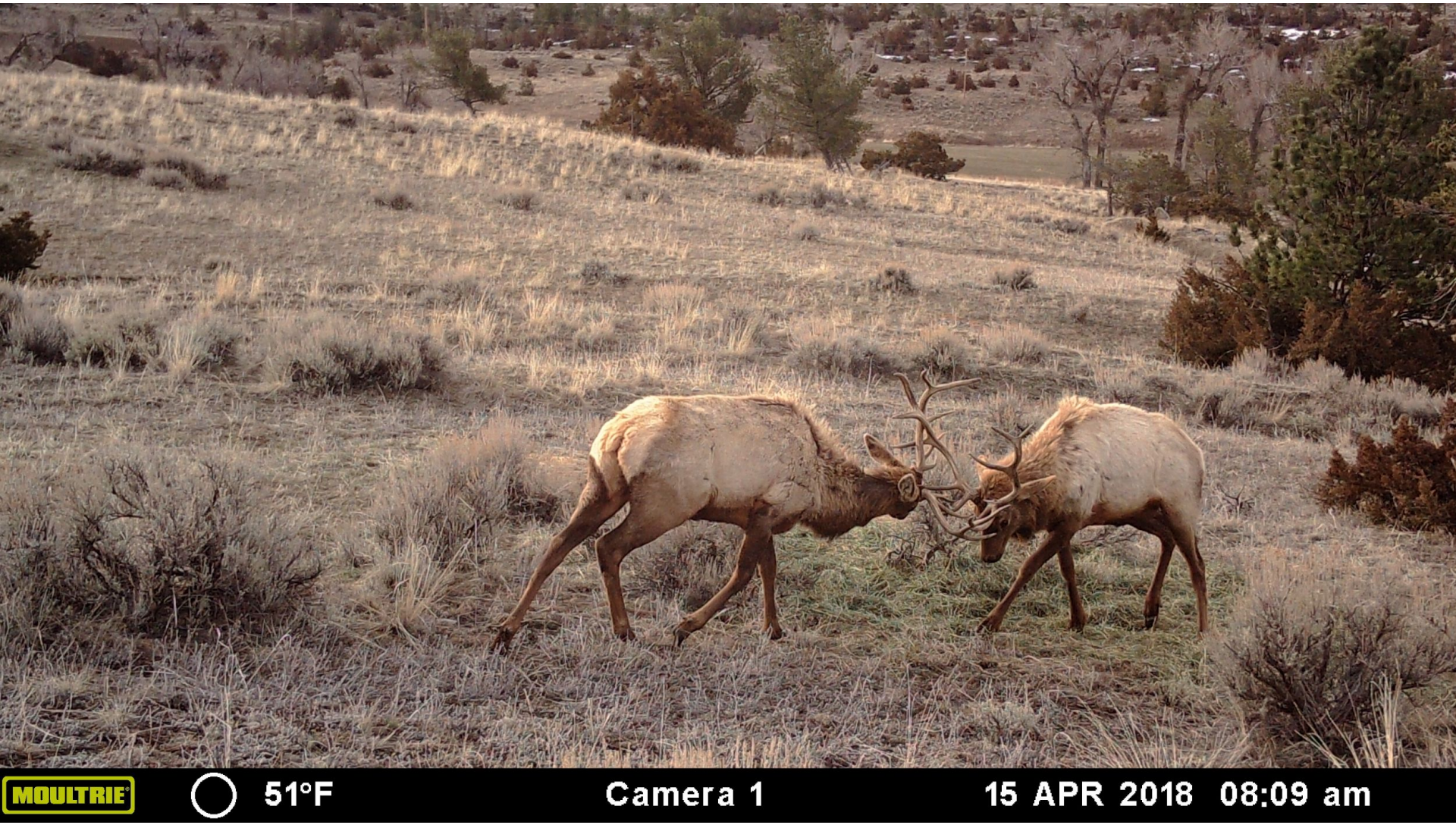
Candid Critters



Setting camera traps to help biologists learn about animals in North Carolina



Conservation



APR Wildlife Survey Project

Management

Candid Critters, Macon County

HOW IT WORKS

1

Sign up at NCCandidCritters.org to reserve a space.

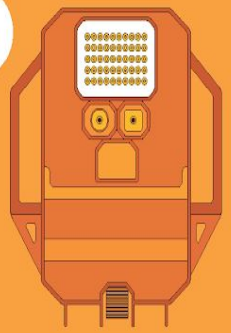
2

Receive an official invitation to participate.

3

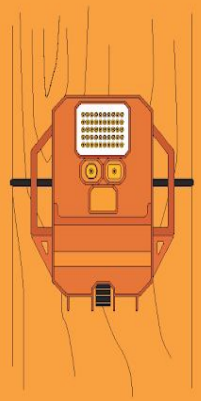
Complete an online training course.

4



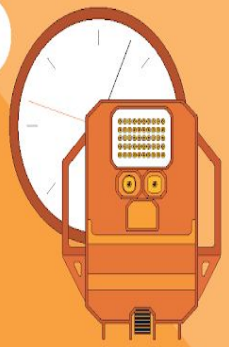
Borrow a camera trap (or buy one of your own — limited to certain brands).

5



Pick a site on public land or your own property and strap your camera to a tree.

6



In three weeks, retrieve the camera.

7

Identify the animals in your photos and upload the images to us. (Don't worry, we'll give you software and confirm your identifications).

8

Repeat as many times as you would like and return the borrowed camera when you are finished.

ILLUSTRATIONS: JAVAN SUTTON

Set your Camera!

How to Use a Camera

1. **Switch the camera on**.

2. The menu will default to “Arm Camera”, use the **right arrow key to scroll** through the menu until you see “**Walk Test**”, press ‘OK’

How to Use a Camera

1. Cameras will be set at **knee height**

2. Pointing **straight ahead**

3. Tied around tree using **python lock**

Let's Go!

Info you'll get during setup

NORTH CAROLINA'S CANDID CRITTERS

NCCC Data Sheet

Camera Deployment Information

Volunteer Name:

Exact Date and Time of Camera Setup:

Camera Setup Checklist:

1. Secure camera tightly at KNEE HEIGHT
2. Check that the Date/Time are correct, record this on the datasheet
3. Check that batteries are sufficient (60% or 2 bars) and memory card is cleared
4. Clear vegetation within 4 feet
5. Make sure camera is pointing parallel with the ground. Use sticks to change angle if necessary.
6. Perform the Walk Test, record the Detection Distance on the datasheet.
7. Arm the camera and close it securely

Fill in the deployment location, note the negative on the longitude.

Deployment Coordinates:

Latitude: **Longitude: -**

Detection Distance (m):

Camera ID:

Memory Card ID:

Comments:

Camera Working at Pickup?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If NO what is wrong:

Uploading your Photos

See Wildlife. Do Science.

What could you find?

Over 40 species so far!

Super cool deer photos

Sign Up!

1. Go to www.NCCandidCritters.org
2. Can either borrow a camera or use your own
3. Make sure to ask your parents for permission!

Animal ID

Red Fox

Scientific name: *Vulpes vulpes*

Conservation Status: Least Concern

Distinctive Marks

Usually red, but can be gray or black
White-tipped tail
Black legs
Black ear tips
Dog-like face

White-tipped tail

Black legs

Grey Fox

Scientific name: *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*

Conservation Status: Least Concern

Distinctive Marks

Gray fur, but can also have red or brown

Black stripe down back

Black-tipped tail

More cat-like face than red fox or coyote

Black-tipped tail

Cat-like face

Coyote

Scientific name: *Canis latrans*

Conservation Status: Least Concern

Long, fluffy tail

Distinctive Marks

Varied coloration, typically gray, brown, or black

Long limbs, ears, and snout

Larger and taller than foxes

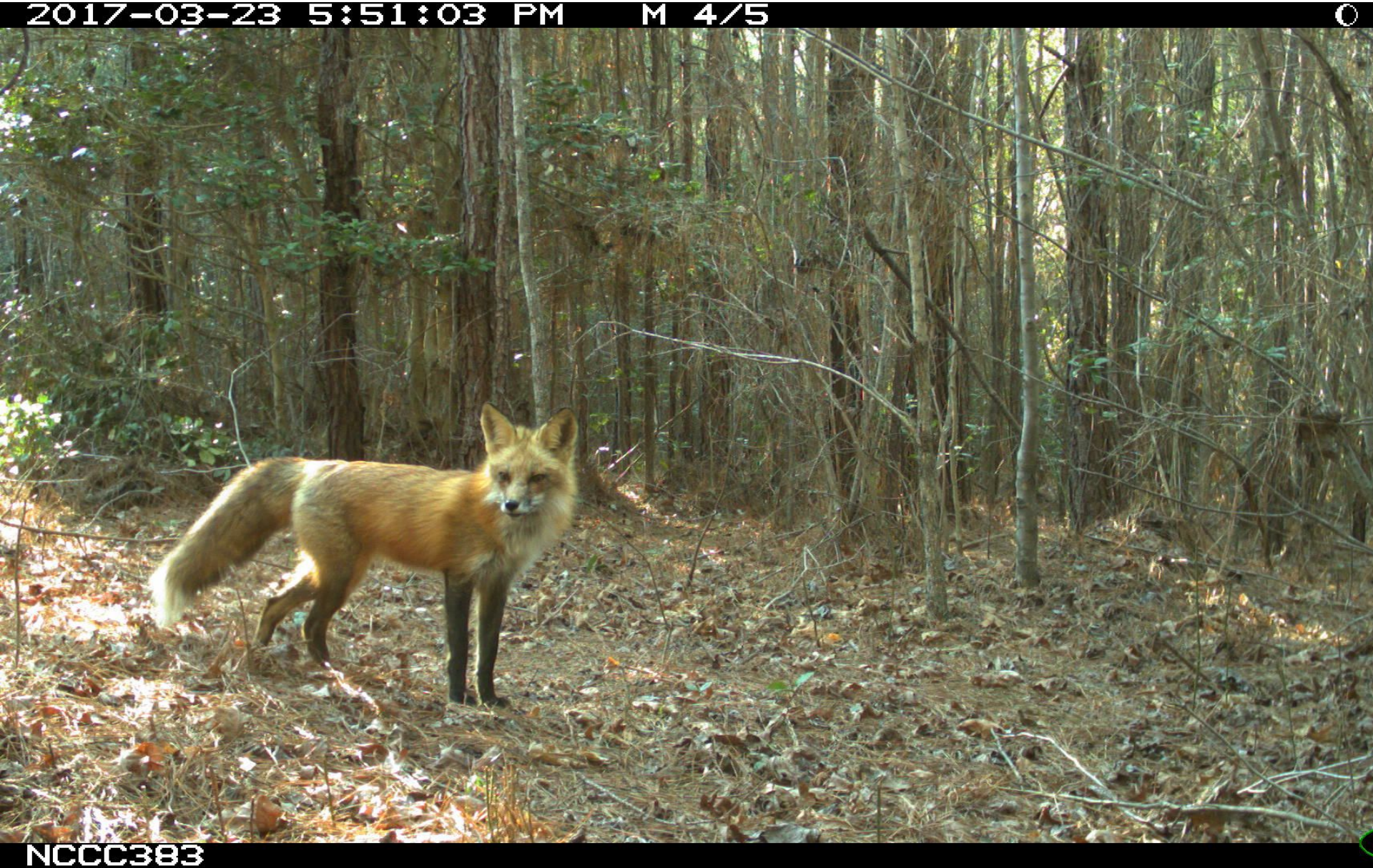
Long, fluffy tail

Dog-like face

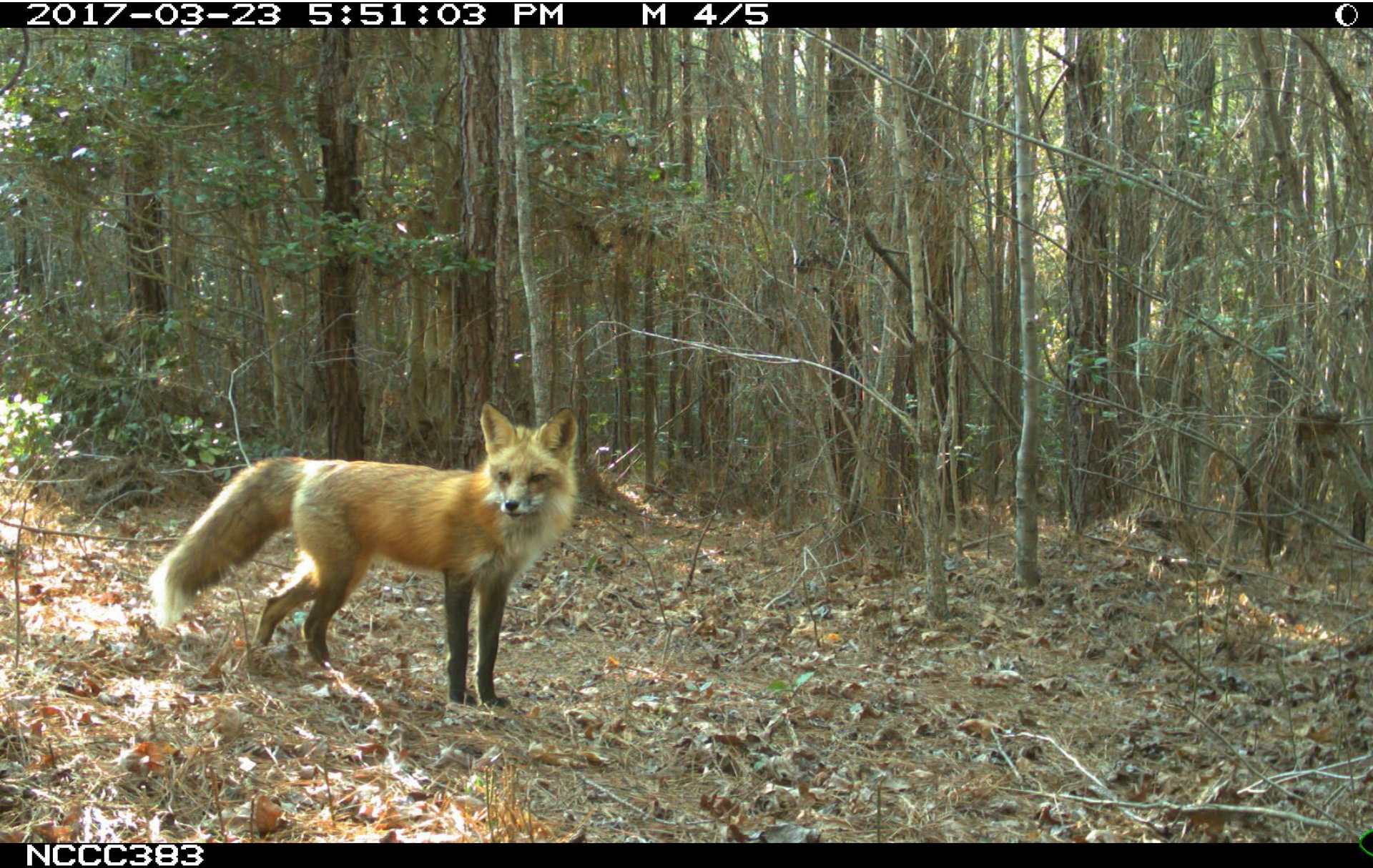
Dog-like face

Animal ID Quiz!

Q1: Grey fox, red fox, or coyote?



A1: RED FOX!



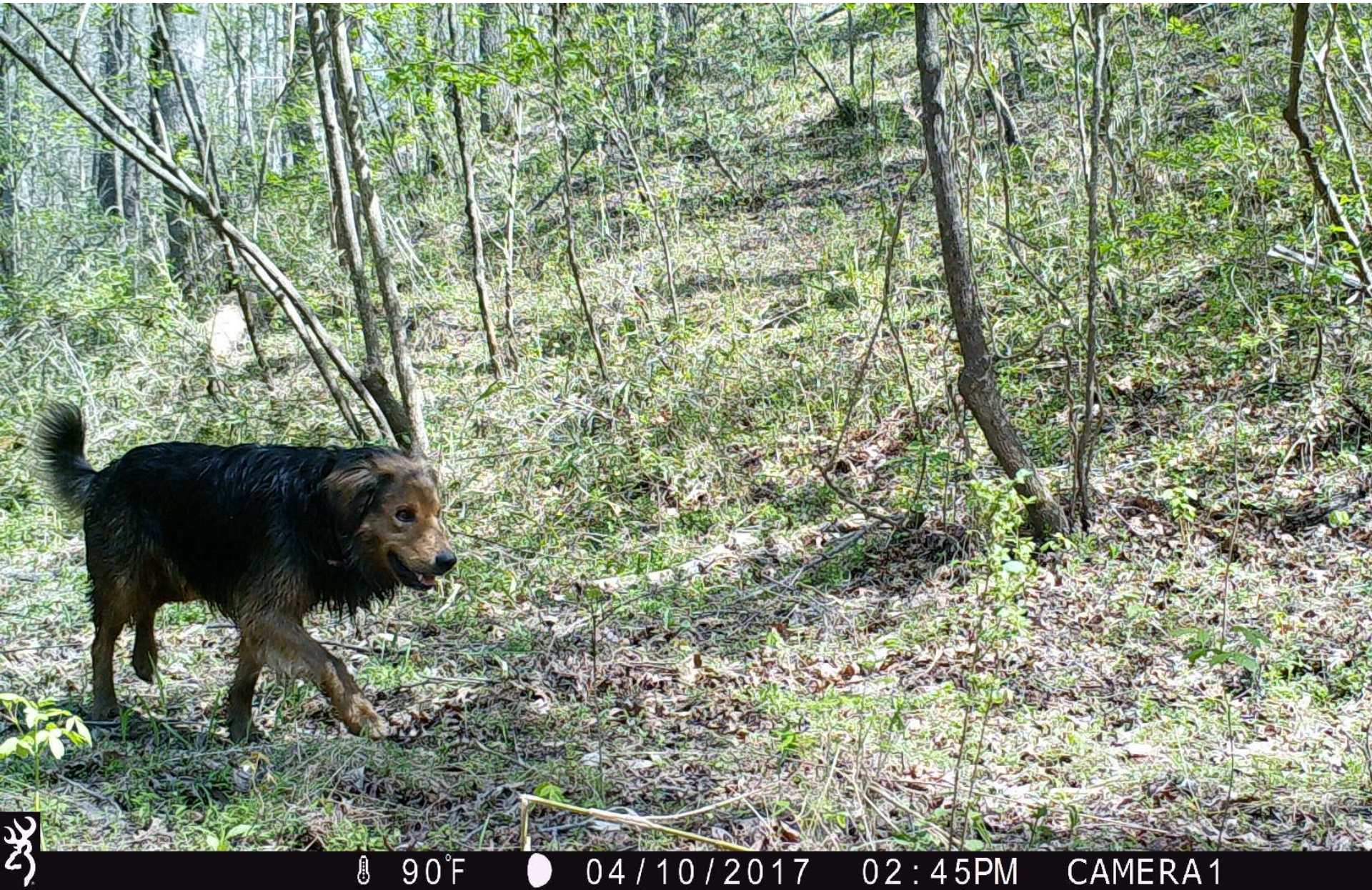
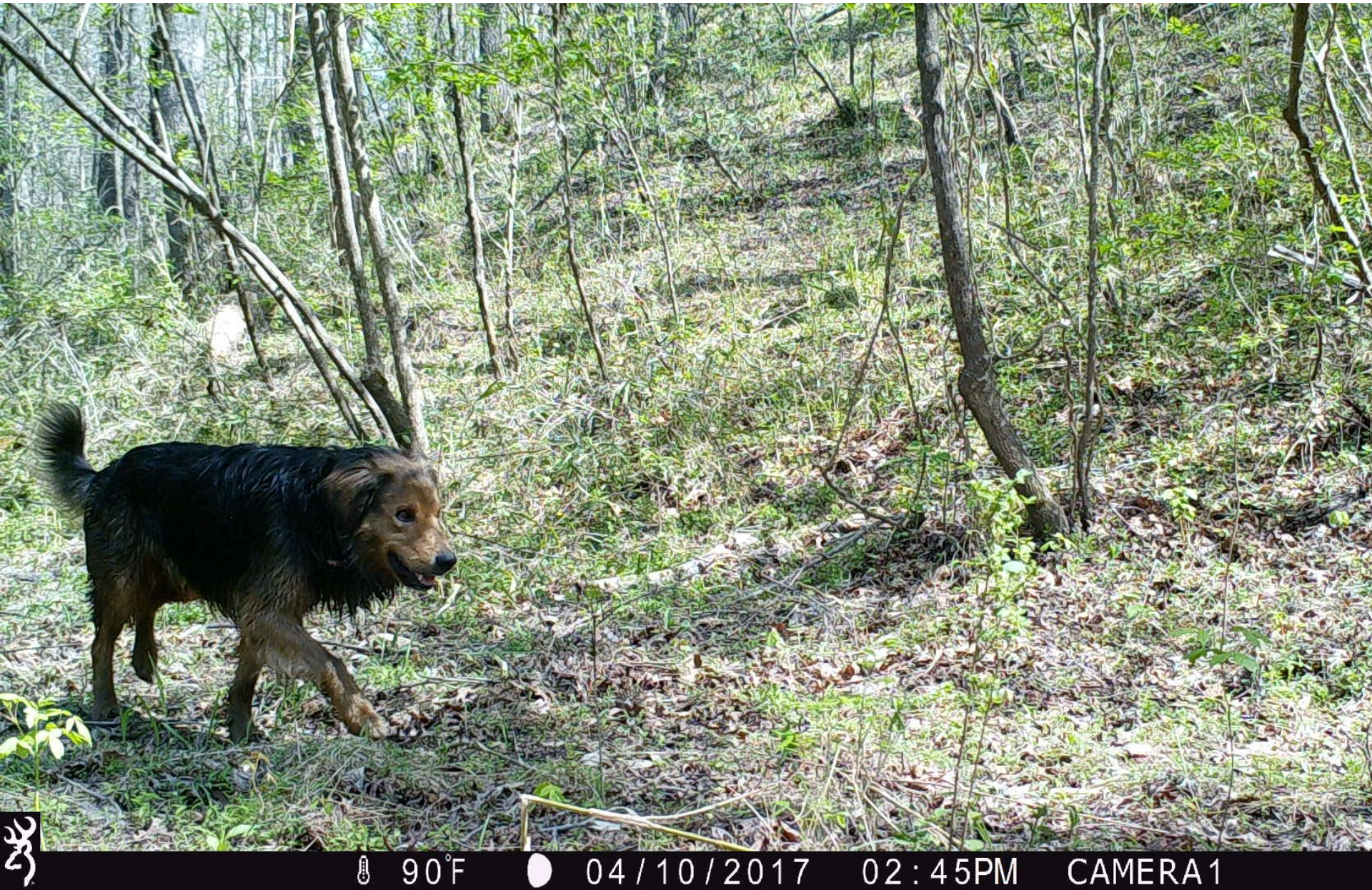
Q2: Grey fox, red fox, or coyote?

A2: GREY FOX!

Q3: Grey fox, red fox, or coyote?

A3: COYOTE!

Q4: Grey fox, red fox, or coyote?



TRICK QUESTION: DOG!