

LIVESTOCK LOSS DETERMINATION

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Investigation ID: 112017-LAS

Date Investigated: 11/20/17 & 11/21/17

General Area: Private land, western Lassen County

General situation and animal information: On 11/20 a CDFW Wildlife Officer received a report of a wolf injuring a duck within a residential area, and later received a second report of a wolf attacking chickens near another residence. One chicken was found dead and two others were reported missing. The Wildlife Officer investigated the duck incident on 11/20, and, with a Wildlife Services specialist, investigated the chicken incident and reinvestigated the duck incident the following day. They learned from several people that a known local dog with some wolf-like characteristics was loose in the area on 11/20.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The injured duck was not available for investigation. The dead chicken had bite marks.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: No wolf sign was observed. Multiple witnesses reported a local dog with some wolf-like features had been loose in the area when the attacks occurred. A dog track was observed at the chicken scene.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: There was no evidence of wolf presence, including GPS collar locations, in or adjacent to the residential area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: Physical evidence and the reports of several witnesses indicate the duck and chickens were attacked by a local dog. No wolf sign was observed at either site.