



LIVESTOCK LOSS DETERMINATION

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Investigation ID: 091918-LAS

Date Investigated: 9/19/18

Cause of Death:

- ☒ Confirmed Wolf
- ☐ Probable Wolf
- ☐ Possible Wolf
- ☐ Non-Wolf Depredation
- ☐ Non-Depredation
- ☐ Unknown

General Area: Western Lassen County, public land

General situation and animal information: A ranch hand located the carcass of a partially consumed, approximately 450-pound calf on September 19. USDA Wildlife Services (WS) was contacted, and WS and CDFW investigated the site and carcass that afternoon. Based on condition of the carcass, the calf was estimated to have died the night of September 18 or early morning of September 19.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Multiple bite marks and scrapes with associated significant subcutaneous and muscular hemorrhage. The hemorrhage is evidence of predation, as it shows he bites occurred while the animal was alive.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Bites and scrapes with associated hemorrhage were observed on the upper right front leg, the upper left rear leg, right side of the throat, and under the jaw. Wounds at these locations are consistent with typical wolf attack locations. Significant portions of the left front and right rear leg were too consumed for additional observation.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS locations from the Lassen Pack's collared wolf indicate it was at the carcass at 6:00 AM on September 19. Wolf tracks and scat were also observed at the site. Tracks suggested a minimum of three wolves were present.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: A confirmed depredation approximately 9 miles away on September 7 and confirmed depredation approximately 22 miles away on August 15.

Summary: The calf killed by wolves during the late hours of September 18 and the early hours of September 19. Although much of the carcass was consumed prior the investigation, sufficient portions remained to allow a thorough investigation and a confident determination.

