

LIVESTOCK LOSS DETERMINATION

California Department of Fish and Wildlife



Investigation ID: 091219-LAS

Date Investigated: 09/12/2019

Cause of Death:

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

General Area: Lassen County, private land

General situation and animal information: On September 12, a livestock producer found the carcass of an approximately 500-pound calf and suspected wolf depredation. A USDA Wildlife Services specialist was notified and investigated the carcass and surrounding area that day.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of predator attack (such as subcutaneous hemorrhage) was observed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Although there was no sign of depredation, GPS locations from a tracking collar indicated the Lassen Pack's breeding female was in and near the subject meadow on September 11 and 12. Birds were also observed scavenging on the carcass, and coyote tracks were seen nearby.

Summary: The calf was estimated to have died on September 11. By the time of the investigation, vital organs and some muscle had been scavenged, but most of the carcass remained intact. No sign of predation was observed. Based on the condition of its lungs, the calf likely died from pneumonia.