LIVESTOCK LOSS DETERMINATION
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Investigation ID: 100319-PLU

Date Investigated: 10/03/2019

Cause of Death:

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

General Area: Eastern Plumas County, private land

General situation and animal information: On October 3 a livestock producer reported a possible wolf predation on a 2 day-old, approximately 70-pound calf. A USDA Wildlife Services specialist investigated the carcass that day.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Multiple bite marks and associated subcutaneous hemorrhage on the top of the calf’s back. The size of the bite marks was consistent with coyote predation. A kill site (patches of blood and flattened grass) was identified, and the carcass had been dragged from that site into a nearby culvert. Coyote tracks were found in the culvert.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The satellite collar data from OR-54 indicated that she was in the general vicinity at the estimated time of death.

Summary: The cause of the calf’s death was determined to be coyote depredation due to the size of the bite marks and tracks. There was no evidence of wolves at the site.