

# LIVESTOCK LOSS DETERMINATION

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Investigation ID: 090520-PLU

Date Investigated: 09/05/20

### Cause of Death:

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

**General Area:** Northern Plumas County, private land

**General situation and animal information:** On the morning of 9/05, CDFW contacted a producer to notify him of clustered GPS locations from a collared wolf that potentially indicated a carcass on a private grazing allotment. The producer located a 600-pound calf carcass, suspected wolf predation and followed up with CDFW. USDA Wildlife Services and CDFW were able to investigate the carcass that afternoon.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** Bite marks with associated hemorrhage were observed at the hocks of both rear legs and on the neck. Evidence of a struggle was indicated by disturbed vegetation and forest debris within 3 m of the carcass.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** Locations of wounds were consistent with attack patterns of wolves.

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** Location points from a satellite-collared female wolf indicated she was approximately 2000 m from the carcass site early on the morning of 9/4 and very close to the carcass during the night of 9/4-9/5. Wolf tracks and scat were observed at the site.

**Summary:** A 600-pound calf was found dead 9/05 and appeared to have died the within the last two days. The subsequent investigation revealed antemortem wounds in locations consistent with typical wolf attack patterns.

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