

Wolf Management Update

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

April – June 2024

Population Monitoring

Packs

Antelope pack (Sierra and Nevada counties)

Status: There was a minimum of two wolves traveling together.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: None

Depredation Events: There were no depredation investigations during the reporting period.

Beckwourth pack (Plumas and Sierra counties)

Status: While wolves were not detected in the Beckwourth pack area during the reporting period, there was a minimum of two wolves last fall.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: None

Depredation Events: There were no depredation investigations during the reporting period.

Beyem Seyo pack (Plumas County)

Status: There was a minimum of ten wolves, including the breeding wolves LAS23F and LAS19M, three yearlings, and five pups.

Fieldwork: Biologists spent 10 days attempting to capture and collar additional Beyem Seyo wolves, without success.

Collared wolves: The breeding female (LAS23F)

Depredation Events: There were four confirmed depredations during the reporting period.

Harvey pack (Lassen and Shasta counties)

Status: There was a minimum of three adult and yearling wolves and seven pups in the Harvey Pack, including the breeding wolves WHA05F & HAR01M and one yearling.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: The breeding female (WHA05F)

Depredation Events: There were two confirmed depredations during the reporting period.

Lassen pack (Plumas and Lassen counties)

Status: There are at least six adult and yearling wolves and five pups in the Lassen pack, including the breeding wolves LAS09F and LAS16M and adult female LAS32F.

Fieldwork: Biologists spent 32 days attempting to capture and collar Lassen wolves. Individual wolves have been exhibiting trap avoidance and therefore capture activities have been unsuccessful.

Collared wolves: The collar on LAS32F failed in January 2024.

Depredation Events: There were no depredation investigations during the reporting period.

Whaleback pack (Siskiyou County)

Status: There was a minimum of seven adult and yearling wolves and six pups in the Whaleback pack, including the breeding wolves OR85 and WHA01F.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: The breeding male (OR85)

Depredation Events: There were six confirmed depredations and one probable depredation during the reporting period.

Yowlumni pack (Tulare County)

Status: There was minimum of 15 wolves in the Yowlumni pack, including the breeding wolves YOW01F and LAS24M, six yearlings, and seven pups.

Fieldwork: Biologists spent five days attempting to capture and collar Yowlumni wolves. One collar was deployed (the second active collar in the pack).

Collared wolves: The breeding female (YOW01F) and a yearling female (YOW03F).

Depredation Events: There were no depredation investigations during the reporting period.

Areas of Wolf Activity

Northern Modoc County - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has documented two wolves near the California/Oregon state line. No wolves were detected during the reporting period, but periodic surveys for presence are ongoing.

Southern Modoc County – Two wolves were detected during the prior quarter. Surveys for presence are ongoing.

Eastern Plumas County – Two wolves were detected during this quarter. Genetic analysis determined one to be LAS28F of the Lassen Pack. Surveys for presence are ongoing.

Eastern Tehama County – Camera traps detected two wolves during the quarter.

Dispersing wolves

CDFW detected no new collared dispersing wolves during this period (from California packs or from other states). An unknown number of uncollared dispersers likely exist in the state at any time. CDFW has regularly detected dispersing wolves in California since December 2011. More information is available on the CDFW Gray Wolf webpage in a document called “California’s Known Wolves – Past and Present.”

CDFW continues to receive and investigate reports of wolf presence from many parts of California. Public reports are an important tool for us. Please report wolf sightings or sign on the CDFW Gray Wolf web page: www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Gray-Wolf/Sighting-Report.

Survey for presence (areas of suspected wolf presence)

CDFW continues to survey for the presence of uncollared and collared animals, based on wolf sighting reports and other sign of wolf activity (e.g., suspected wolf depredation, DNA, tracks). Survey areas include the “Areas of Wolf Activity” in Modoc, Plumas, and Tehama counties and several additional areas of suspected wolf presence in Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, and Shasta counties.

Livestock Interactions

Depredation Investigations

Month	Number of Investigations	Total Probable Wolf	Total Confirmed Wolf
April	2	0	2
May	6	1	5
June	8	0	5
Total	16	1	12

Date	Determination	Type	Pack Area	County	Investigators
4/7/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Harvey	Shasta	USDA Wildlife Services
4/28/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
5/5/2024	Confirmed	1 Llama	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
5/8/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDS Wildlife Services
5/16/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
5/21/2024	Probable	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
5/28/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDA Wildlife Services
5/30/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
6/3/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDA Wildlife Services
6/4/2024	Non-Depredation	1 Calf	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDA Wildlife Services
6/5/2024	Unknown	1 Calf	N/A	Sierra	CDFW
6/10/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDA Wildlife Services
6/26/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
6/28/2024	Non-Depredation	1 Calf	N/A	Plumas	CDFW
6/30/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Harvey	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
6/30/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County

Communication

CDFW staff are in regular communication and coordination with livestock producers, county agriculture departments, private timberland managers, USDA-Wildlife Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service, and conservation organizations. Ongoing communication also occurs in counties with known wolves and new areas of wolf activity including county Boards of Supervisors, agricultural commissioners, farm services advisors, local Cattlemen's, and Farm Bureau boards.

Agency and community engagement events:

- April 2 – Interagency Meeting with USDA and USFWS – Virtual
- April 3 – Wolf presentation to the general public - Weaverville, CA
- April 8 – CA wolf update for Lassen National Forest permittees at the Annual Allotment Meeting. - Susanville, CA
- April 25 –Wolf update for Collins Pine – Virtual
- May 1 – Wolf presentation to The Wildlife Society, Sacramento – Shasta Chapter - McCloud, CA
- June 4 - Presentation on Wolf Research at Cultivating Connectivity Forum (Friends of Plumas Wilderness and Plumas Audubon) – Quincy, CA
- June 13 – Wolf Management Update at Regional Association of Northern Counties Agricultural Commissioners & Sealers – Hat Creek, CA
- June 21 – Wolf Management Discussion with Sierra and Plumas County Boards of Supervisors – Virtual