

Wolf Management Update

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

October – December 2024

Population Monitoring

Packs

**Note regarding wolf activity in the Sierra Valley area (Plumas & Sierra counties):*

In October 2024, the collared female in the Beyem Seyo pack (LAS23F) shifted her area of activity significantly, moving south into Sierra County. Her collar remained active, and she began using portions of what were previously reported as the Beckwourth and Antelope pack areas. Multiple wolves continued to be detected in the historical Beyem Seyo pack area after the collared female's departure.

Due to LAS23F's activity in the Antelope Pack area, the status of the Antelope Pack was unknown. During helicopter captures in January 2025, WHA08M was confirmed to be traveling with LAS23F and several younger Beyem Seyo wolves, suggesting that the Beyem Seyo and Antelope packs have merged. Additional winter surveys are currently underway to help determine the status of wolves across this area.

The Diamond Pack remains active and is reported on below.

The Beckwourth Pack, having no confirmed detections in 12 months, is no longer thought to be active.

Beyem Seyo pack (Sierra County)

Status: The pack is active, but LAS23F has shifted her range and is now utilizing areas in eastern Sierra County. WHA08M from the Antelope pack is now known to have joined this group.

Fieldwork: Additional camera traps have been added to the historical Beyem Seyo pack area to confirm how many wolves remain in that area.

Collared wolves: The breeding female (LAS23F)

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

Diamond pack (eastern Plumas and southern Lassen County)

Status: There was a minimum of two wolves traveling together: LAS28F and an unknown individual.

Fieldwork: Biologists continue to survey the area and deployed camera traps during the reporting period.

Collared wolves: None

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

Harvey pack (southern Lassen and eastern Shasta counties)

Status: The pack is active.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: The breeding female (WHA05F)

Depredation Events: There was one confirmed depredation during the reporting period.

Ice Cave pack (western Lassen, northern Plumas, southern Shasta, and eastern Tehama counties)

Status: The pack is active, with two adults and two pups recorded on a camera trap in August 2024.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored, with camera trap deployments and ground surveys continuing during this reporting period.

Collared wolves: None

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

Lassen pack (northern Plumas and southern Lassen counties)

Status: The pack is active.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored, with camera trap deployments and ground surveys continuing during this reporting period.

Collared wolves: None

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

Whaleback pack (*eastern Siskiyou County*)

Status: The pack is active.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: The breeding male (OR85)

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

Yowlumni pack (*southern Tulare County*)

Status: The pack is active.

Fieldwork: The area continues to be monitored.

Collared wolves: The breeding female (YOW01F), a yearling female (YOW03F), and yearling male (YOW06M).

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

Areas of Wolf Activity

Central Lassen County – Two wolves were detected during the quarter, LAS32F and DIS04M (a male from Oregon who is known to be a sibling to OR103). Six confirmed depredations have been attributed to this pair during this quarter.

Southern Modoc County – Three wolves were detected at a livestock depredation investigation through genetic analysis. All three wolves were genetically determined to be from the Whaleback pack and it is not known if this group is persistent in Modoc County. One confirmed depredation has been attributed to this group this quarter.

Southern Plumas County – Camera traps detected two wolves in the historical range of the Beyem Seyo pack during this quarter.

Eastern Shasta County – Cameras traps detected two wolves during the quarter.

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

Dispersing wolves

A collared male wolf from Oregon (OR158) was briefly recorded in Modoc County at the end of this quarter. He has since returned to Oregon and has not been detected back in California.

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 Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, 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
October	6	1	5
November	11	0	10
December	7	0	3
Total	24	1	18

Date	Determination	Type	Pack Area	County	Investigators
10/3/2024	Confirmed	1 Cow	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDA Wildlife Services
10/7/2024	Confirmed	1 Yearling	Yowlumni	Tulare	CDFW
10/15/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Beyem Seyo	Plumas	USDA Wildlife Services
10/24/2024	Confirmed	1 Yearling	AWA	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services

10/28/2024	Confirmed	2 Steers	AWA	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
10/30/2024	Probable	1 Calf	Yowlumni	Tulare	CDFW
11/1/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Yowlumni	Tulare	CDFW
11/5/2024	Unknown	2 Yearlings	Beyem Seyo	Sierra	CDFW
11/7/2024	Confirmed	1 Yearling	AWA	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
11/12/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	AWA	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
11/16/2024	Confirmed	1 Yearling	Harvey	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
11/19/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	AWA	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
11/20/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	AWA	Lassen	USDA Wildlife Services
11/23/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
11/24/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
11/27/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
11/28/2024	Confirmed	1 Calf	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
12/7/2024	Confirmed	1 Heifer	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
12/17/2024	Non-Depredation	1 Calf	N/A	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
12/17/2024	Non-Depredation	1 Calf	N/A	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
12/18/2024	Confirmed	1 Steer	Whaleback	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
12/19/2024	Non-Depredation	1 Calf	N/A	Siskiyou	Siskiyou County
12/23/2024	Confirmed	1 Yearling	AWA	Modoc	USDA Wildlife Services
12/31/2024	Non-Wolf Depredation	1 Alpaca	N/A	Shasta	CDFW

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:

- October 1 – Nevada County Fish & Game Commission Meeting – Truckee, CA
- October 2 – CDFW Director Field Trip with county officials – Plumas County
- October 8 – Wolf Update with U.S. Forest Service Region 5 – Virtual
- October 11 – Interagency Wolf Meeting (CDFW/USDA/USFWS) - Virtual

- October 20 – Panel discussion on wolves with California Cattlemen’s Association & University of California Berkeley at Los Angeles Natural History Museum – Los Angeles
- October 31 – Wolf Update with the Tule River Tribe – Tulare County
- November 7 – Presentation on Wolf Management at Cal Poly Humboldt – Arcata, CA
- November 14 – Presentation on Wolf Management with Department of Water Resources and affiliated members of the public – Auburn, CA
- December 5 – Wolf and compensation program update to California Cattlemen's/Cattlewomen’s Association – Reno, NV