

LIVESTOCK LOSS DETERMINATION

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Investigation ID: 040725-PLU

Date Investigated: 4/7/25

Cause of Death/Injury:

- ☒ Confirmed Wolf
- ☐ Probable Wolf
- ☐ Possible Wolf
- ☒ Non-Wolf Depredation (coyote also)
- ☐ Non-Depredation
- ☐ Unknown

General Area: Private property and working ranch in Vinton area, South of 70, Southeast Plumas County

General situation and animal information: RP reported 6 injured calves requesting investigation. All calves were alive and presented with 3-4 day old injuries to their left flank (5 calves), lumbar spinal area (1 calf), and one also with potential bite mark punctures in inguinal region (1 calf).

Physical evidence of wolf predation: Lacerations and potential bite marks on left flanks (about 3 in in length), lumbar region, and inguinal area. Could potentially be other species based on look of injury. Swabs collected for DNA off one of the L flank lacerations and one from the lumbar wounded animal.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Location data of individual radio collared wolf present in the general area around the estimated time bites may have occurred. One uncollared wolf also observed around the property the same evening. No other physical evidence of wolf at time of investigation. Multiple coyotes were observed the evening of the investigation by CDFW staff and RPs.

Summary: Six calves found with older looking wounds. Calves shipped into area 8 days prior to finding injuries (vs. born on site). Lacerations and wounds looked similar across animals. Swabbed two individuals (4 swabs total) for DNA. DNA indicative of both wolf and coyote presence.

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