

# Wolf Management Update

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife

### November – December 2025

#### **Population Monitoring**

##### **Packs**

###### **Ashpan pack (eastern Shasta County)**

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored, with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** None
- **Depredation Events:** There was one confirmed livestock depredation during the reporting period.

###### **Diamond pack (eastern Plumas and southern Lassen County)**

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** None
- **Depredation Events:** There were no depredation investigations during the reporting period.

###### **Grizzly pack (southern Plumas County)**

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** None
- **Depredation Events:** There was one confirmed livestock depredation during the reporting period.

###### **Harvey pack (southern Lassen and eastern Shasta counties)**

- **Status:** The pack is active. At the beginning of December, all the collared wolves traveled to southeastern Modoc County, crossing the southern Warner Mountains and entering Surprise Valley. Prior to reentering Lassen County, the pack briefly crossed into Nevada. As of the end of December, the pack appears to have settled back within the historic pack range.
- **Fieldwork:** Helicopter captures were attempted in November but were not successful.
- **Collared wolves:** WHA05F (breeding female), HAR04F and HAR05F (both females, 2024 litter), HAR07M and HAR11M (both males, 2024 litter). In early December, the GPS portion of

HAR05F's collar stopped transmitting. CDFW confirmed from fixed-wing aircraft that the collar's VHF was still functioning.

- **Depredation Events:** There were seven confirmed livestock depredations during the reporting period. Six depredations occurred in Lassen County, and one occurred in Modoc County at the beginning of December.

Commented [LN1]: check depredations 12/18 12/19 - which wolves, report for Harvey or not.

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

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** An attempt was made to locate this group during helicopter operations in November, and biologists spent five days attempting ground captures in this area following helicopter operations. No successful captures occurred.
- **Collared wolves:** ICE04F (female, 2025 litter)
- **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.
- **Collared wolves:** None
- **Depredation Events:** There were no livestock depredations during the reporting period.

#### *Tunnison pack (central Lassen County)*

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars. However, LAS32F (adult female, 2022 Lassen litter) has a non-functioning collar.
- **Depredation Events:** There were three confirmed livestock depredations during the reporting period.

#### *Whaleback pack (eastern Siskiyou County)*

- **Status:** The pack is active. On December 25, the drop-off mechanism on OR85's GPS collar activated due to low battery. Biologists collected the collar in the field and detected OR85 on field cameras the following week.
- **Fieldwork:** Four wolves were collared in November during helicopter operations. One collared wolf, WHA26F (female, 2024 litter) dispersed during the reporting period and was in Modoc County at the end of December.
- **Collared wolves:** WHA01F (breeding female), WHA29F (female, 2024 litter), WHA32M (male, litter 2024), and WHA41F (female, litter 2025).
- **Depredation Events:** There were three confirmed livestock depredations during the reporting period.

Commented [AS2]: Do we want to discuss the movements of breeding pair vs WHA29F+dispersers and current presence in west Modoc?

Commented [LN3R2]: Seems like we would discuss WHA26f but maybe not the others since they were in the territory at the end of December, but WHA26 left and hasn't come back. I put in a possibility.

Commented [LN4]: There was also a depredation in Shasta Co by a subset of the collared wolves, some of which returned to the pack area during the reporting period (but didn't include breeders). Not sure if you want to report this, and if so, similar to how we did Harvey.

#### **Yowlumni pack (Central Tulare County)**

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** BEY03F (adult female, 2023 Beyem Seyo litter).
- **Depredation Events:** There was one probable livestock depredation during the reporting period.

#### ***Areas of Wolf Activity***

Southwestern Modoc County – Biologists detected two wolves by camera traps, scat, and tracks during the reporting period.

Northwestern Modoc County – Biologists detected two wolves by camera traps, scat, and tracks during the reporting period. These detections may be the Interstate pack (a wolf pack of two wolves detected just over the border in Oregon and reported by Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife).

Eastern Sierra County – Three wolves were detected at a livestock depredation investigation during the previous reporting period. A female wolf (BEY08F – dispersed from Beyem Seyo pack in early 2025) was confirmed through genetic analysis. Incomplete genetic results also indicated at least one male wolf and one wolf originally from the Whaleback pack. At least one wolf continued to be detected via camera traps and DNA during the reporting period.

Central Sierra County – Multiple adult wolves were detected in and around Sierra Valley, and two gray animals were detected between Truckee and Sierra Valley during the reporting period. In addition, CDFW continued to monitor the remaining Beyem Seyo pack juveniles.

#### ***Dispersing wolves***

HAR04F, HAR05F, and HAR07M left the main Harvey pack and were recorded in portions of northeastern Lassen County and portions of western Modoc County. WHA26F left the Whaleback pack and has been in southwestern Modoc County as well as northern Lassen County. WHA29F and WHA41F also made forays into southwestern Modoc County and northeastern Shasta County but had returned to the Whaleback territory by the end of the reporting period. There was one confirmed depredation by these wolves in Shasta County during the reporting period.

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 across California. Public reports are an important monitoring tool. Please report wolf sightings through the CDFW Gray Wolf web page: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Gray-Wolf/Sighting-Report](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Gray-Wolf/Sighting-Report)

#### ***Survey for presence (areas of suspected wolf presence)***

CDFW continues to survey the presence of wolves, based on sighting reports and other signs indicating wolf activity (e.g., suspected wolf depredation, DNA, camera-trap images, tracks). Survey areas include the "Areas of Wolf Activity" in Plumas and Modoc counties and several additional areas of suspected wolf presence in Butte, Kern, Madera, Modoc, Plumas, and Shasta counties.

## **Livestock Interactions**

### **Depredation Investigations**

Month	Number of Investigations	Total Probable Wolf	Total Confirmed Wolf
November	11	0	8
December	19	1	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>

## **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, conservation organizations, and the public where known wolf activities occur. Ongoing communications also occur in counties with known wolf activity. During these efforts, CDFW includes direct information sharing with county Boards of Supervisors, agricultural commissioners, farm service advisors, members of the local Cattlemen's Association, and Farm Bureau boards.

### **Agency and community engagement events:**

- November 6 – Plumas County Fish & Game Commission Meeting – Quincy, CA
- November 13 – Interagency Wolf Meeting (CDFW, USFWS, and USDA) - Virtual
- November 18 – Small Livestock Seminar – Raising Livestock with Predators (UCCE) - Loyalton, CA
- November 20 – Lassen County Fish & Game Commission Update – Susanville, CA

- November 21 – Presentation to Humboldt County at Science on Tap on wolf ecology, wolf-livestock conflict, and management – Blue Lake, CA
- November 25 – Sierra County Fish & Game Commission Meeting – Virtual
- December 5 – Presentation on Wolf Ecology at the Sierra Valley Nature Preserve, Sierra Valley, CA
- December 19 – Invited Stakeholder Wolf Meeting – Sacramento, CA