

# Wolf Management Update

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife

### January – March 2026

#### 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:** No active collars.
- **Depredation Events:** There was one confirmed livestock depredation loss during the reporting period.

##### Diamond pack (eastern 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:** No active collars.
- **Depredation Events:** There were no confirmed or probable 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:** No active collars.
- **Depredation Events:** There was one confirmed livestock depredation loss during the reporting period.

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

- **Status:** The pack is active. HAR04F dispersed into Oregon during the reporting period. HAR07M, following his capture, traveled through Lassen, Plumas, Modoc, and Siskiyou counties prior to dispersing into Oregon. Both have remained in Oregon. During the reporting period, HAR11M entered the state of Nevada during a short foray through Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, and Placer counties. Upon his return to the historical pack range, the entire group left Lassen County and entered Oregon by traveling through the Warner Mountains in Modoc County. The pack returned to California and was moving between Lassen, Shasta and Modoc Counties by the end of the reporting period.
- **Fieldwork:** Four wolves were collared in January during helicopter operations. During this effort, a fifth wolf, an adult female (WHA05F), died after capture.
- **Collared wolves:** HAR06F (female, 2024 litter), HAR11M (male, 2024 litter), HAR12F (female, 2025 litter), and HAR13F (female, 2025 litter).
- **Depredation Events:** There were three confirmed and two probable livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

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

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys. Ground and aerial efforts were made to determine ICE04F's collar status.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars. In early January, the GPS portion of ICE04F's collar stopped transmitting. CDFW confirmed from fixed-wing aircraft that the collar's VHF was still functioning.
- **Depredation Events:** There were no livestock depredations during the reporting period.

**Interstate pack** (*northern Modoc County*)

- **Status:** Two adult wolves were detected by camera traps, scat, and tracks by CDFW biologists in the summer of 2025. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has detected two wolves in southwestern Lake County, north of this location, since 2023. In 2024 ODFW declared the group an Area of Known Wolf Activity, with the name "Interstate" due to its likely overlap with California. Genetic samples have not been found on the Oregon side to confirm that these two groups are the same, but it is likely due to the alignment and timing of ground data.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars.
- **Depredation Events:** There were no livestock depredations 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:** No active collars.
- **Depredation Events:** There were no livestock depredations during the reporting period.

**Long Valley pack** (*eastern Sierra, eastern Plumas, and south Lassen counties*)

- **Status:** In September 2025, three wolves were confirmed by genetic analysis at a livestock depredation investigation in Sierra County. A female wolf (BEY08F, 2024 Beyem Seyo litter) was confirmed through genetic analysis, as were two other wolves (one from the Whaleback pack and another from an unknown origin). At least two wolves continued to be recorded into 2026.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars.
- **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 depredation losses during the reporting period.

**Whitehorse pack (western Modoc and eastern Siskiyou counties)**

- **Status:** CDFW biologists have consistently detected two wolves via camera traps, scat, and tracks since August 2025. Genetic analysis confirmed the animals to be an unknown male wolf (DIS07M) and WHA23F, a female from the 2023 Whaleback pack litter.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars.
- **Depredation Events:** There were no confirmed livestock depredations during the reporting period.

**Whaleback pack (eastern Siskiyou County)**

- **Status:** The pack is active. In January, WHA39M was killed in a vehicle strike.
- **Fieldwork:** One wolf was collared in the Whaleback pack in January during helicopter operations. Another wolf was collared in northern Lassen County in January and was determined to be WHA40M through genetic analysis. After being collared, this animal walked back to Siskiyou County and rejoined the Whaleback pack, effectively adding another collar. One collared wolf, WHA26F, continued her dispersal and was observed traveling across Modoc, Lassen, and Shasta counties throughout the reporting period. WHA29F also dispersed from her natal pack and traveled across Shasta, Lassen, and Plumas Counties.
- **Collared wolves:** WHA01F (breeding female), WHA32M (male, litter 2024), WHA41F (female, litter 2025), WHA40M (male, litter 2025). In late March, WHA40M's collar stopped transmitting both GPS and VHF.
- **Depredation Events:** There were 10 confirmed and four probable livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

**Yowlumni pack (Central Tulare County)**

- **Status:** The pack is active. In February, BEY03F dispersed through Kern County and briefly into Los Angeles County before returning to Tulare County.
- **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 were no livestock depredations during the reporting period.

***Areas of Wolf Activity***

Central Sierra County – Multiple adult wolves continue to be detected in this area.

### ***Dispersing wolves***

HAR04F left Modoc County at the beginning of the reporting period and remains in Oregon.

HAR07M traveled briefly to Oregon in mid-January prior to re-entering California and traveling through Modoc and Siskiyou counties. He dispersed into Oregon once again by the end of January and has remained in the neighboring state since.

WHA26F has continued her dispersal foray, traveling across Modoc, Lassen, and Shasta Counties throughout the reporting period.

WHA29F left the Whaleback pack again at the end of 2025. Throughout January, she was observed in eastern Shasta County and was documented with the Ashpan pack via camera traps prior to traveling to Lassen and Plumas Counties alone. She returned to eastern Shasta County by the end of this reporting period.

WHA22M, uncollared male from Whaleback pack's 2023 litter, was detected via genetics at a depredation in southern Plumas County in late January.

HAR10M, uncollared male from the Harvey pack's 2024 litter, was detected via genetics in Mono County in March.

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, Modoc, Plumas, and Shasta counties.

### **Livestock Interactions**

#### **Depredation Investigations in January, February and March 2026.**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Investigations</b>	<b>Probable Wolf-Livestock Losses</b>	<b>Confirmed Wolf-Livestock Losses</b>
January	12	0	8
February	15	1	8
March	20	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>

## **Compensation**

During the reporting period, the Wolf-Livestock Compensation Program (WLCP) continued distributing the remaining funds of the \$600,000 grant appropriated to the Program by the legislature in July 2024. Between January and March 2026, WLCP received 16 new applications for 34 individual livestock. CDFW compensated 20 applications for a total of \$179,687.10. Seven applications are currently being processed and are expected to be paid out in the following quarter. CDFW continues to accept WLCP applications for eligible losses (confirmed or probable wolf depredations).

For more information and/or assistance with the application process, please visit the [CDFW Wolf Livestock Compensation Grants](https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Gray-Wolf/Grants) website at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Gray-Wolf/Grants> or email [wolfcompensation@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:wolfcompensation@wildlife.ca.gov).

During the reporting period, CDFW initiated conversations with stakeholder representatives to evaluate potential adjustments to future applications and funding opportunities for the WLCP as the program prepares to begin using the \$2 million appropriated in July 2025 by the legislature. CDFW welcomes input on current and potential future programs at any time at [wolfcompensation@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:wolfcompensation@wildlife.ca.gov).

## **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, non-governmental conservation organizations, and the general 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:**

- January 8-9, 2026 – California Missing Linkages Symposium – Sacramento, CA
- January 27, 2026 – CA State Assembly, Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife, Informational Hearing on Human Wildlife Conflict
- February 3, 2026 – Caltrans US 395 Red Rock Connectivity Project discussion - Virtual
- February 4, 2026 – Tribal roundtable discussion with CDFW and tribal partners – Virtual
- February 5, 2026 – Presentation at the Wildlife Society, Western Section Conference – Monterey, CA
- February 9, 2026 – Tahoe Basin Interagency Group meeting – Virtual
- February 9, 2026 – I-5 Connectivity Working Group meeting – Virtual.
- February 12, 2026 – Interagency wolf meeting (CDFW, USFWS, and USDA) - Virtual
- February 17, 2026 – SR-58 Connectivity Working Group meeting - Virtual
- February 23, 2026 – Wolf-Livestock Compensation Program Workshop #1 – West Sacramento, CA
- March 6, 2026 – Conflict Reduction Consortium meeting, hosted by Western Landowners Alliance – Virtual
- March 10, 2026 – Siskiyou County Fish & Game Commission meeting – Dorris, CA

- March 12, 2026 – Presentation to the Northern California Regional Land Trust – Chico, CA
- March 17, 2026 – Presentation to Chico Rotary Club – Chico, CA
- March 19, 2026 - Wolf-Livestock Compensation Program Workshop #2 – West Sacramento, CA
- March 25, 2026 – Modoc County Fish & Game Commission meeting – Alturas, CA
- March 26, 2026 – Depredation investigator meeting (CDFW, USDA) – Redding, CA