

Wolf Management Update

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

July – September 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.
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of five pups via genetic analysis.
- **Collared wolves:** CA124
- **Depredation events:** No confirmed or probable depredations 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.
- **Reproduction:** No evidence of reproduction has been recorded in 2026.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars.
- **Depredation events:** No confirmed or probable depredations during the reporting period.

Grizzly pack (southern Plumas County)

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Capture effort:** Biologists conducted four days of ground capture operations and successfully collared CA131.
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of five pups via genetic analysis.
- **Collared wolves:** CA131
- **Depredation events:** There were three confirmed livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

Harvey pack (southern Lassen and eastern Shasta counties)

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Reproduction:** Biologists confirmed via genetic analysis that the Harvey breeding male and Tunnison adult female produced a litter of at least four pups in 2026.
- **Collared wolves:** CA107 and CA150
- **Depredation events:** There were 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.
- **Capture effort:** Biologists conducted 26 days of ground capture operations.
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of five pups via trail camera observations.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars. However, CA157 has a non-functioning collar.
- **Depredation events:** There were one confirmed and one probable livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

Interstate pack (northern Modoc County)

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Reproduction:** No evidence of reproduction has been recorded in 2026.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars.
- **Depredation events:** No confirmed or probable depredations during the reporting period.

Lassen pack (northern Plumas and southern Lassen counties)

- **Status:** The pack is active. CA168 (a previously undetected wolf from the 2025 Lassen litter) was detected via genetic analysis.
- **Capture effort:** Biologists conducted 23 days of ground capture operations.
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of four pups confirmed via visual observation and tracks.
- **Collared wolves:** No active collars. However, CA019 (adult female, 2018 Lassen litter) has a non-functioning collar.
- **Depredation events:** There was one confirmed livestock depredation loss during the reporting period.

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

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Capture effort:** Biologists conducted 13 days of ground capture operations and successfully collared CA195 (juvenile male, 2026 Long Valley litter).
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of five pups via genetic analysis
- **Collared wolves:** CA195.
- **Depredation events:** There were two confirmed livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

Tunnison pack (central Lassen County)

- **Status:** The pack is no longer considered active. In July, biologists confirmed that the adult female previously associated with the Tunnison pack bred with the Harvey breeding male, resulting in a litter of at least four pups confirmed through genetic analysis (see above). Since that time, the female has continued to associate with the Harvey pack, while the individual previously identified as the Tunnison male has not been detected. Therefore, the Tunnison pack is no longer considered active, and the Harvey pack will continue to be reported on.

Whitehorse pack (western Modoc and eastern Siskiyou counties)

- **Status:** The pack is active.

- **Fieldwork:** The area continues to be monitored with camera trap deployments and ground surveys.
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of five pups confirmed via genetic analysis.
- **Collared wolves:** CA077
- **Depredation events:** There were two confirmed and three probable livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

Whaleback pack (eastern Siskiyou County)

- **Status:** The pack is active.
- **Capture effort:** Biologists conducted four days of ground capture operations and successfully collared CA146 (adult male, 2024 Whaleback litter), whose non-functioning collar was replaced.
- **Reproduction:** Confirmed for 2026, with a minimum of nine pups confirmed via trail camera.
- **Collared wolves:** CA146, CA147, CA121, CA127
- **Depredation events:** There were six confirmed livestock depredation losses during the reporting period.

Areas of Wolf Activity

Central Sierra County – Multiple observations of individual wolves continue to be detected and reported in this area.

Northern Butte/Plumas counties – At least two wolves were detected in northern Butte and northwestern Plumas counties in August and September.

Dispersing wolves *

CA091, a collared female wolf from the Beyem Seyo Pack's 2023 litter, continued to be observed without other wolves and remained in Tulare and Kern counties.

A single wolf whose identity and origin are unknown was detected in northern Lake County in August.

**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".*

Public Reports of Wolf Observations

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

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 Butte, Plumas, Sierra, and Nevada counties and several additional areas of suspected wolf presence in Lake, Nevada, and Siskiyou counties.

Livestock Depredations

Depredation Investigations in July, August, and September 2026.

Month	Investigations	Probable Wolf-Livestock Losses	Confirmed Wolf-Livestock Losses
July	12	1	2
August	19	3	8
September	18	3	7
Total	49	7	17

Compensation for Livestock Losses

CDFW continues to accept Wolf-Livestock Compensation Program (WLCP) applications for eligible losses (confirmed or probable wolf depredations). During the reporting period, CDFW received 6 new applications for 13 eligible depredated livestock. In partnership with the California Bountiful Foundation, \$40,943.55 was granted to livestock producers.

For more information and/or assistance with the WLCP application process, please visit the [CDFW Wolf Livestock Compensation Grants](#) or email wolfcompensation@wildlife.ca.gov.

Partnership Communications

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. During these efforts, CDFW engages in 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:

- July 8th, CDFW depredation investigation & DNA sampling refresher training, Yreka, CA
- July 14th, Siskiyou County Fish & Game Commission

- July 15th, CDFW-USDA interagency coordination meeting - Virtual
- July 18th, Packer Lake Fish Day, Sierra County, outreach and education table
- July 29th, Modoc County Fish & Game Commission
- August 13th, Interagency Wolf Coordination meeting (USDA, CDFW, USFWS) - Virtual
- August 25th, Sierra County Fish & Game Commission
- August 26th, Wolf-Livestock Compensation Program Evaluation Workshop #6
- September 3rd, Plumas County Fish & Game Commission
- September 23rd, California State Parks and CDFW interagency coordination meeting.
- September 10th, Less than Lethal Gray Wolf Management Training (USDA, UCCE, CDFW), Sierraville, CA
- September 11th, Less than Lethal Gray Wolf Management Training (USDA, UCCE, CDFW), Taylorsville, CA
- September 15th, Less than Lethal Gray Wolf Management Training (USDA, UCCE, CDFW), Susanville, CA
- September 16th, Less than Lethal Gray Wolf Management Training (USDA, UCCE, CDFW), Alturas, CA