



Mountain Echo

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WOLVES



Photo courtesy of Forest Service

June 30 remote camera image released by the U.S. Forest Service shows a female gray wolf and her mate with a pup born this year in of Lassen National Forest. The pair are parenting at least 3 pups.

Second wolf pack found in Northeastern California



California Fish and Wildlife map showing general

SUSANVILLE — California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) confirmed the presence of a second family of gray wolves were in the southwestern portion of Lassen County outside of Susanville and the neighboring portion of Plumas County.

Known as the Lassen Pack, the family includes both parents and three pups.

The mother and babies were tracked in public, private and industrial timberlands throughout western Lassen County and Plumas earlier this summer, according to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The first pack was confirmed two years ago. It was the first spotted in the area since the 1920s.

The state wildlife authorities placed gray wolves to California's endangered species list in 2014 after the existence of the first pack was confirmed.

Biologists became aware of the second pack last summer when their game cams picked up a pair of gray wolves traveling together along remote trails in Lassen County.

They collected scat samples and found one of the wolves was male. The wolf came from Oregon and was born into a group known as the Rogue Pack. The samples indicated the other wolf was female of unknown origin.

They were successful in catching the 75-pound adult female June 30.

They discovered she had given birth to pups that spring, Deana Clifford, the department's senior wildlife veterinarian, said in a statement.

They also collected genetic and other biological samples from which they determined she was "in excellent condition," Clifford said. She was fitted with a collar so her movements in the Lassen National Forest could better be tracked.

When she conducted a follow-up check on the mother the next day they found pup tracks.

The pack had also been photographed by U.S. Forest Service playing in front of the cameras.

After a wolf was photographed by trail cameras in Lassen County in fall 2015 and spring 2016, CDFW added additional trail cameras in the area and regularly looked for wolf scat and tracks. It paid off. Recently photographs, tracks and sightings suggested the presence of the new pack.

Scat samples were collected and sent to the University of Idaho's Laboratory for analysis. The lab confirmed the presence of the adult wolves but nothing the lab or CDFW. There is no current evidence beyond the USFS trail camera photo that indicated the wolves produced pups this year.

Testing of the scat indicated that the male was born in 2014 and was a member of Rogue Pack founded by OR7. and most likely dispersed to Lassen County in late 2015 or 2016. The founder of the Rogue Pack is the well-known gray wolf OR7, the founder of their first pack known to be in the area around northern California in 2011 and 2012 before eventually finding a mate and establishing a territory in southern Oregon in 2013. SEE WOLVES-A3

History of the latest migrations

Little is known about the historic abundance and distribution of wolves in California. The human population and human development have increased dramatically since wolves last occurred here, so CDFW is uncertain about where and how many wolves will establish when they naturally recolonize the state. CDFW has encouraged and investigated numerous reports of wolf sightings by members of the public, most of which have, to date, turned out to be coyotes, dogs, or wolf-dog hybrids.

In 2011 a 2½-year-old male gray wolf designated as OR7 left its pack in northeastern Oregon and, after traveling hundreds of miles, entered California in December that year. OR7's behavior, referred to as dispersal, is typical of young adult wolves, and is the principle way that wolf populations expand into new areas.

CDFW trail camera in Siskiyou County recorded a lone canid in May and July, 2015. Additional cameras deployed in the vicinity took multiple photos showing two adults, and five pups which appear to be a few months old. This group has been designated as the Shasta Pack by CDFW.

OR7 has since returned to Oregon, found a mate, and established a pack there, but his presence in California prompted members of the public to petition the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) to list the gray wolf as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). On June 4, 2014 the Commission made the finding that such listing was warranted and voted to list gray wolves under CESA. In addition, CDFW has prepared for the return of wolves to California by convening a Stakeholder Working Group to assist in the development of a California Wolf Plan.

Suggested Techniques for Discouraging Wolf Presence

These techniques are generally more effective when used in combination. They may also discourage the presence of other potential livestock predators, such as coyotes and black bears.

Livestock and carcass management - make pastures and other areas less attractive to wolves.

- Remove diseased, injured, or dying animals from pastures and open range areas.
- Dispose of carcasses where they are not readily accessible to wolves and other scavengers.
- Clean up/remove old carcass disposal areas (bone piles)
- Placement of Barriers
- Fence or pen livestock at

SEE DISCOURAGE -B-5

PG&E closes Pit 5 Power House to fix road damage

REDDING — Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) temporarily has closed to the public the Pit 5 Powerhouse Road near Big Bend while a contractor safely repairs road damage caused by winter landslides.

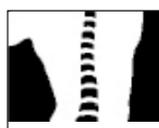
Repairs are expected to be completed by late fall and the road reopened. PG&E owns the 4-mile road, which leads to its Pit 5 power-

house and James B. Black Day Use Area along the Pit River in eastern Shasta County. The day use area is also closed for the recreation season due to access and storm damage.

The road also leads to the James Black Bridge, which leads to Oak Mountain Road.

The public can still reach Iron Canyon Reservoir via Big Bend Road.

Dr Michael Maier
Chiropractor



43123 Hwy 299E
Fall River Mills
336-6547

Accident story correction

The facts as reported in last week's issue of Mountain Echo regarding the Nash-Hetzel accident were in error. According to the report it should have read:

JOHNSON PARK — The five people involved in a two car crash the morning of June 30 walked away with only complaints of pain.

It occurred at 8:49 a.m. when Christopher Nash, 31, who had stopped at the stop sign at Garden Lane and Highway 299E, Ray Hetzel, 80, was eastbound in the num-

ber one lane of Highway 299E at an estimated 50 mph.

Nash pulled out and hit Hetzel broadside.

Nash had his wife, a 2-year old child and a 1-month old baby in the car with him.

There were no serious injuries reported and no one was transported to the hospital.

The crash tied up much of the highway and forced traffic control for over two hours.

Mountain Echo apologizes for the error.

What's up! Public meeting

There will be a public meeting at the Veterans Hall in Burney at 6 p.m., July 11, to discuss issues related to crime, homelessness, in Burney and the Intermountain area.

Soldier Mt. BBQ is 23rd

GLENBURN — The Soldier Mountain Volunteer Fire Company is having its 34th annual Chicken & Ribs BBQ on Sunday, July 23rd from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the fire hall in Glenburn.

The meal includes chicken, ribs, salad, beans, rolls, watermelon and dessert. Lemonade, coffee and iced tea are included. Beer and wine may be purchased.

Show & Shine set

The Norcal Road Gypsies will host their summer show and shine, on the Inter Mountain Fair's lawn in the shade under the trees this year, Sunday, July 16, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Profits from the show will go to help support the Intermountain Hospice.

For more information call Bob (530) 335-4682 or Greg at (530) 304-8533.

Register by July 8 for \$20.



Weather



Tues 7/11
Clear
91/57



Wed 7/12
Clear
92/58



Thur 7/13
Clear
92/58



Fri 7/14
Clear
96/61



Sat 7/15
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