

*To report wolves that are killing livestock call the DNR RAP hotline 800-292-7800.*

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

##### MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)

Baraga 906-353-6651 Cadillac 231-775-9727  
Newberry 906-293-5131 Gaylord 989-732-3541  
Marquette 906-228-6561  
Crystal Falls 906-875-6622  
[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

##### MICHIGAN DNR WOLF COORDINATOR

906-228-6561

##### USDA APHIS WILDLIFE SERVICES

Toll-free number: 866-4USDAWS  
[www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/statereports/michigan.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/statereports/michigan.html)

##### MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

906-228-4830 (Regional Office)  
906-439-5880 (MSU - UP Extension)  
[www.msue.msu.edu](http://www.msue.msu.edu)

##### MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Toll-free number: 888-684-1158 (Escanaba)  
Toll-free number: 800-292-3939 (Lansing)  
[www.michigan.gov/mda](http://www.michigan.gov/mda)

##### INTERNATIONAL WOLF CENTER

[www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org)

##### PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATING PREDATION ON LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE ADAPTED FROM D. WADE & J. BOWNS

<http://texnat.tamu.edu/ranchref/predator/pred.htm>



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## DID A PREDATOR KILL OR INJURE MY LIVESTOCK?

### A Guide for Livestock Producers



Inside this pamphlet, you will find information to help determine cause of your livestock's death and the steps to report a livestock kill.

## DID A PREDATOR KILL MY LIVESTOCK? \*

How do you know a predator killed an animal? You should examine the evidence closely and make an educated judgement - this can be a difficult task. If you are unsure, ask the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for help. The more knowledge and experience you have, the more likely you will correctly determine cause of death.

### EXAMINE THE SURROUNDINGS

It is extremely important to examine the kill site for evidence. Search the ground for tracks, feces, and hair. Write down any clues and take pictures of the site if possible.

### PRESERVE THE EVIDENCE

- ✓ Secure the area from the entry of livestock. Curious animals or upset ewes and cows can destroy evidence quickly.
- ✓ Look for tracks or scat (droppings). Cover with a bucket or empty paint can.
- ✓ Cover livestock carcass or remains with a tarp and weight securely to keep other predators from destroying teeth marks or other evidence.
- ✓ Photograph or videotape the evidence. It is helpful to put some common object (such as a pencil or ruler) next to the evidence to document size.
- ✓ Do not disturb evidence until a DNR representative can investigate the site.

## STEPS TO REPORT A LIVESTOCK KILL

**STEP 1:** Carefully examine the kill site and carcass. Be cautious not to trample over animal tracks or disturb the site. A DNR representative may be able to read subtle clues that you may not recognize. If the examination suggests a wild animal killed your livestock, preserve the site by removing other livestock that may destroy the evidence.

**STEP 2:** If you suspect a wild animal killed your livestock, report the kill as soon as possible by calling the **RAP hotline, 800-292-7800**. Evidence of a suspected predator kill can disappear quickly due to rain or wind. For future reference, make a note of who on the RAP hotline took your report and the day and time of your report.

**STEP 3:** After receiving a report from the RAP hotline, a DNR representative will investigate the kill site and surrounding area and fill out a *Report of Livestock Depredation* form. If depredation by a wolf or coyote is verified, the report is sent to the Michigan Department of Agriculture for payment.

**CAUTION:** Wolves are protected under state and federal law. It is illegal to harm or kill a wolf, except in defense of human life. Private citizens are not allowed to kill a wolf during or after an attack on livestock or pets.

\*Adapted from Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture

# HOW DID MY LIVESTOCK DIE?

