



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Grand Teton National Park News Release

Dead Wolf Found in Grand Teton National Park

The carcass of a sub-adult female wolf was discovered in Grand Teton National Park on Monday afternoon, June 12, along Highway 26/89/191, about 2.5 miles south of Moran Junction. A park visitor reported seeing a dead wolf-like animal near the Elk Ranch to staff at the Moran Entrance Station about 2:30 p.m. It appears that the dark grey wolf may have been hit by a vehicle and possibly died two days earlier, due to the condition of the carcass, which had been used by scavengers.

Park biologists, along with Mike Jimenez, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) project leader for the wolf recovery program in Wyoming, surveyed the site and collected the carcass for further examination. Since the wolf was not wearing a radio-collar, her pack affiliation is not known at this time.

In accordance with established protocols for wildlife mortality examination, park rangers investigated the area where the dead wolf was found. The carcass will be sent to the USFWS forensics lab in Ashland, Oregon. Further analysis by the forensics lab is required before a cause of death can be identified. The carcass will also be examined for genetic information that may identify its pack affiliation.

Motorists are reminded that animals actively cross and linger near park roadways. To avoid collisions with wildlife, drivers must observe posted speed limits, stay alert, and be prepared to stop suddenly for animals that happen to run across park roads. Driving slower than posted speed limits – especially at night – can increase the margin of safety for people and wildlife. Collisions between motor vehicles and wildlife may result in severe damage to a vehicle, serious or fatal injuries to the occupants of that vehicle, and/or death for the animal involved.

Drivers are reminded to report all motor vehicle accidents, including those involving wildlife. According to the Code of Federal Regulations 36, a motor vehicle operator is required to report an accident involving property damage, personal injury, or death. Accidents should be reported to any park ranger station, visitor center, or to Teton Interagency Dispatch at (307) 739-3300.

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