Investigation ID: 171210 Union

Date Investigated: 12/10/2017

General Area: Starkey area - private land

General situation and animal information: An adult alpaca was found dead, and reported to ODFW as a wolf depredation by the owner on the morning of 12/10/17. ODFW staff investigated the same day. The carcass was still warm and intact except for feeding on the hindquarters.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: An attack scene was visible in the snow and bite marks with premortem hemorrhage were evidence of an attack by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: An approximately 800-yard chase and attack by three wolves was evident by tracks and blood in the snow. Premortem bite marks on the carcass were consistent with wolf canine tooth measurements and bite locations of a wolf attack.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Collared wolf OR30 was about 130 yards from the carcass at 5am the same morning.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None.

Cause of death/injury:

- Confirmed Wolf
- Probable Wolf
- Possible/Unknown
- Other

Summary: Evidence of wolf presence, attack scene, and premortem bite wounds and hemorrhaging gathered during the investigation, shows that the alpaca was chased and killed by wolves. A radio-collar GPS location and tracks put wolves at the scene.