

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 8/6/12/12

County: Wallowa

General Area: South of Downey Lake – Private Land

Situation: On the morning of 8/6/12 ODFW received a report of a dead adult cow in a grassland pasture south of Downey Lake. Wolves were suspected and ODFW investigated the same morning.

ODFW findings: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area? None found upon examination of the carcass or surrounding area. The area has been used in the past by Imnaha Pack wolves, though primarily during winter and spring months. There was no radio collar data indicating that Imnaha Pack wolves were in the area.

Summary of evidence: The cow was estimated to have been dead approximately one day. The carcass was nearly complete, but had a large opening under the tail and between the hind legs. Some muscle tissue around the pelvis was consumed, and the pelvic bone was chewed on. There was no evidence of a chase or attack scene. The cow appeared to have been down and pulling itself along with its front legs as indicated by marks in the grass for approximately 25 yards. No hemorrhaging was observed in muscle tissue of the hind legs. No cuts or scrapes were observed on the animal. Several coyote scats were found near the carcass, and coyote fur was observed in the grass near the carcass.