

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 9/14/12

County: Wallowa

General Area: Threebuck Creek area – Private Land

Situation: On the evening of 9/14/12 a rider found a dead calf on his neighbor's ranch. Wolves were suspected and ODFW investigated the same evening.

ODFW findings: Confirmed Wolf

Evidence of wolf presence in the area? No wolf sign was found in the area around the carcass; it was near a pond with heavy cattle use. Earlier in the evening two partial wolf tracks were found 1 mile away at another depredation investigation. There was no GPS radio collar or telemetry data indicating that the 2 radio-collared members of the Imnaha Pack were in the area.

Summary of evidence: The carcass of the 450 pound calf was estimated to be about 24 hours old. The tissue on the carcass was mostly consumed with tissue remaining on the lower hind legs, neck, head and some along the spine. There was hemorrhage on the hide behind the front right shoulder. There was a 2 x 4 inch area of hemorrhage and deep tissue damage at the base of the neck. These premortem injuries are consistent with a wolf depredation.