

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 10/4/12

County: Wallowa

General Area: Rail Canyon Area – Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a dry adult cow in a grassland pasture on 10/4/12. Wolves were suspected and ODFW responded the same afternoon.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No sign of wolves at the scene. Tracks of one wolf were found on 9/11/12 about 1.5 miles away.

Summary of evidence: The carcass was estimated to be 3-4 weeks old. There was no soft tissue remaining and only about 30% of the dried hide remained. The skeleton was partially disarticulated. The legs were still intact and attached to the carcass by the hide, except for one that was moved a short distance from the carcass. There were signs of birds and coyotes scavenging the carcass, but no marks were found on bones from larger carnivores. From the position of the carcass it appeared that the cow had lain down and died.