

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 10/20/2012

County: Wallowa

General Area: Kinney Lake Area – Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a calf in a grassland pasture on the morning of 10/20/12. Wolves were suspected and ODFW responded the same morning.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No sign of wolves at the scene. No radio collared wolves in area.

Summary of evidence: The skeleton was essentially intact, although both front legs were attached only by skin. Only about 5-10% of the meat remained on the carcass and this was in a strip from the upper left front shoulder along the neck to the head. This area had been against the ground and protected from scavengers by the skeleton. All internal organs were gone and about 1/2 of the hide, as well. The ribs were essentially intact, although several had been chewed on near their tips. The meat between the ribs was nearly all intact. The right scapula had about a piece chewed off at the dorsal tip (5x5cm), and some of the pelvis had been chewed on. All evidence of the animals that consumed the carcass was of coyotes, eagles, and ravens. The presence of large amounts of coagulated blood in many veins and arteries on the down side of the carcass suggests that the calf did not bleed to death. The cause of death of this calf is unknown, but does not appear to be a result of wolf predation.