

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 4/7/2013

County: Baker

General Area: Medical Springs/Big Creek Area – Private land

Situation: A livestock producer found a dead adult ewe in the corner of his paddock adjacent to his home on 4/7/13 at 0800. The ewe was last seen alive at 1600 hours on 4/6/13. Approximately 25 other sheep were in the paddock. A portion of the animal had been eaten and the owner suspected wolves had killed it. Oregon State Police were first contacted and ODFW was asked to investigate. ODFW and OSP personnel responded the same day.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No tracks or physical evidence was found on the carcass or in the paddock to indicate that wolves were present at the site. No known wolves in the area.

Summary of evidence: There was no sign of a struggle or kill scene. The carcass muscle tissue on the left (upper) hip and flank and some posterior organs had been consumed. An 8 inch area at the left (upper) chest was eaten, penetrating past the intact ribs to the heart. The entire carcass was skinned and no pre mortem wounds or hemorrhage was found. Post mortem marks were consistent with scavenging by birds and coyotes.