

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 6/13/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Hayden Creek Area -- Private Land

Situation: On 6/13/2013 an injured calf was observed in a grassland pasture in the Hayden Creek area. The injuries were not recent, but wolf attack was suspected and ODFW examined the injured calf the same day.

ODFW finding: Confirmed wolf (injury)

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: The specific location of the calf at the time of injury was unknown. However, the pasture the calf was in had been used until mid-May by Imnaha pack wolves. GPS radio collar locations for Imnaha pack member OR-4 indicate that wolves were in or near the area where the calf was pastured on May 8, 9, 14, and 15. No radio-collared Imnaha wolves have been in the area since that time. One yearling was confirmed killed by Imnaha pack wolves on 5/15/13 in the same pasture as this calf.

Summary of evidence: The calf was alive at the time of examination and the visible injuries were limited to both rear legs. The calf is expected to survive. Injuries observed were estimated to be 3-5 weeks old based on the extent of healing. Multiple large bite wounds, consisting of tooth scrapes and puncture holes were observed on the upper and inside portions of the calf's hind legs. Bite wounds and associated infection was also observed around the nipple area. All bite wounds were healing. The location and nature of the wounds (i.e., large bites on the inside portions of the hind legs) is very similar to previous confirmed Imnaha pack wolf injuries over the past three years. Imnaha pack wolf presence within this pasture in mid-May (within the estimated period of injury) brings the possibility that this depredation may have occurred at or near the same time period as the 5/15/13 incident.