



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130727 Union

Date Investigated: July 27, 2013

General Area: Pumpkin Ridge area – Private Land

General situation and animal information: An injured calf was found in a grassland pasture on the morning of 7/27. The calf was alive at the time of discovery but had severe injuries to its hind end. The owner reported that the calf was approximately 10 days old, weighed about 110 lbs., and was last observed on July 25. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to investigate the calf. Because of the calf's severe injuries, it had been euthanized prior to ODFW arrival by a Union County Sheriff Deputy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A blood trail was observed for approximately 70' leading to the carcass. A disturbed area where the blood trail originated may be where the attack occurred. Both hind quarters showed extensive bite trauma and some of the muscle tissue on the rump and thigh appeared to have been consumed. The calf's tail showed small scrapes which appeared to be small bite wounds. One bite was found on the inside of the right thigh bone with 1" spacing and no paired marks observed in the hide. Several tooth holes and scrapes were found on the trailing edge of skin on the right thigh. Tooth spacing ranged from 1" to 1.5", though it was difficult to determine which marks were paired. The carcass was entirely skinned and the area forward of the hind quarters was intact and had no trauma.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None observed. The nature and location of the bite wounds on this calf were consistent with coyote.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. Though tracking conditions were poor (mostly grass or hard soil).

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None. The area is near (within 2 miles) of the current Area of Known Wolf Activity for the newly discovered Mt. Emily pair, but no locations at or near this property have been documented.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The small calf sustained severe bite wounds to its hind end and was euthanized as a result. The size and location of the bite wounds on this calf were consistent with coyote and a determination of "other" is warranted.