



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130802 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/02/2013

General Area: Middle Fork Whiskey Creek – private land

General situation and animal information: On 08/02/2013 the owner was checking cattle he had recently moved to a new pasture and found a dead calf partly consumed. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the calf on 08/02/2013. The animal carcass appeared to have been dead for 3-4 days, and some parts of the carcass had been fed on.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Seven bruise marks, ¼ inches in diameter, were found underneath the skin above and below the elbow of the right front leg which could possibly be the result of bites, but the distance between marks did not match expected canine teeth spread and no associated hemorrhaging in subcutaneous or muscle tissue was found.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None determined.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No evidence of wolf presence in the area where the calf was found.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No known wolf depredation in the same or nearby area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW was not able to confirm that the injuries on this calf carcass were the result of bites due to the spacing between bruise marks and the lack of associated hemorrhaging which would normally suggest canine teeth. Though the location (elbow area of right front leg) of these injuries is similar to those observed on other confirmed wolf depredations, the cause of death of this calf is unclear and warrants a finding of possible/unknown.