



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130904 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/4/2013

General Area: Weston Mountain area - Private Land

General situation and animal information: About 6pm on 9/3/2013 a 6 month old lamb was found dead and partially eaten. The owner reported that the lamb was alive at 6am that morning. The owner believed wolves were involved and called ODFW on 9/4/2013.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: An area that appeared to be a struggle site of matted down vegetation, traces of blood and large clumps of wool was found about 20 feet from the carcass. Areas of hemorrhage that appeared to be caused by bites were present on the ventral neck and throat indicating an attack had occurred.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There is no evidence that the attack was made by a wolf. The abdomen was opened at a location on the upper flank atypical for wild canids. All internal organs were present, though a significant amount of muscle had been eaten from the upper hindquarters and along the ribs. These are not normal locations for feeding to begin by wild canids. The lack of trauma in the areas where wolves characteristically bite and the lack of major tissue damage created by wolf bites are inconsistent with how other livestock have been killed by the Umatilla River wolves.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: There was no sign on the scene or the carcass to indicate wolf presence. The GPS radio-collar locations for OR14 (Umatilla River pack) were 6 miles away.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: This investigation was about .8 mile from a confirmed goat depredation on 8/23/13 and 3.5 miles from a location where sheep depredations were confirmed on 5/21/2013 and 6/3/2013.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The lamb was killed in a way inconsistent with how other livestock have been killed by the Umatilla River wolves. The injuries found on the lamb are consistent with domestic dog kills.