



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140410 Wallowa

**Date Investigated:** 04/10/2014

**General Area:** Deadhorse Ridge Area – private land

**General situation and animal information:** On April 9, 2014 the county range rider observed injuries on a young calf while attempting to locate a collared wolf in the general vicinity. The calf had a large open wound on the upper right rear leg, and smaller wounds below its right ear. On April 10, 2014 the calf and adult cow were brought to a corral near Enterprise. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the live animal on the same day, April 10. The injuries on the live calf were estimated to be approximately 6 days old. The calf appeared otherwise healthy.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** One large open wound in the muscle tissue of the upper left rear leg. A number of bite marks were found above the open wound on the upper left rear leg and inside of the right rear leg above the hock. Additional bite marks were found below the right ear and underneath the neck.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** None. Bite marks were small (1/16 inch in diameter) which is significantly smaller than wolf bites. . A parallel set of tooth marks under the right ear measured 1 ¼ inches apart which is significantly smaller than canine tooth spacing of wolves.

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** GPS collar locations on April 7-9, 2014 of radio collared wolf OR-4 (Imnaha Pack) were within 2 miles of where the injured calf was first observed.

**Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area:** No confirmed wolf depredations in the same or nearby area in recent months.

**Cause of death/injury:** Coyote depredation.

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** ODFW examined the live calf and found bite wounds on the upper portion of the left and right rear legs, underneath the neck, and below the right ear. The appearance, location, and small size of the bite wounds are very similar to those biologists have observed on coyote depredations on pronghorn and mule deer fawns. This information indicates that this calf was attacked by coyotes.