



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

**Investigation ID:** 140522 Wallowa

**Date Investigated:** May 22, 2014

**General Area:** Alder Slope Area – private land

**General situation and animal information:** On May 22, 2014 a ranch hand found a dead 175-pound calf. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The cows in this pasture were last checked on May 19, 2014. The calf was estimated to have died the night of May 20, 2014. Most of the muscle tissue had been removed from the left side of the calf. The skeleton was intact except for the front left leg which was still attached to the carcass by the hide.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** The remaining carcass was skinned and examined. There was severe hemorrhaging in the throat area, as well as the left front knee and left rear hock. There was a small point bruise on the rear of the lower jaw that appeared to be from a canine tooth. There was premortem bruising that matched punctures that were 1.25 inches apart on the right side of the hide believed to be from a coyote bite.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** None. Bite marks were significantly smaller than wolf bites. The bite wounds are not in places typically attacked by wolves.

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** None. Though wolf presence was documented in January and February, 2014, resident wolf activity has not been confirmed in this area.

**Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area:** None

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** ODFW examined the carcass and the scene and found the appearance, location (throat), and small size of the bite wounds to be consistent with coyote predation.