



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140731 Union

**Date Investigated:** 7/31/2014

**General Area:** Ruckle Junction area– private land

**General situation and animal information:** On July 30, 2014 an ODFW Wildlife Research crew found a dead ewe while examining wolf GPS location points. ODFW examined the dead animal on July 31, 2014 since wolf depredation was suspected. The carcass had only wool and bones remaining, no hide or tissue remained. Many of the bones, including the skull were disarticulated but not widely scattered. No broken bones were present except the ends of 4 to 5 ribs had been chewed. The ewe was estimated to have died 3 to 4 weeks earlier.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** No evidence of attack by a predator could be found due to the lack of tissue on the skeleton. No disturbance or kill scene could be detected.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** N/A

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** A collared Mt Emily wolf (OR28) had GPS locations in the area of the carcass on July 19 from 9:30pm to 10:30pm and July 20 at 3:00am. There were no other GPS locations during June or July 2014.

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

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** There was no clear evidence of predation on the carcass or scene. It is unclear what caused the death of the ewe, but the ewe had been dead for 1-2 weeks before the collared wolf was present at the carcass.