



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140814 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/14/2014

General Area: Zumwalt Prairie, Pine Creek drainage – private land

General situation and animal information: On 8/14/2014, an injured calf was observed by the livestock producers while branding calves. Due to the location of the injuries, wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf the same day. The cattle had been checked on 8/10/2014 and gathered from the large fenced pasture on 8/13/2014. The injuries on the 300 lb calf were estimated to be 7-14 days old; the animal appeared otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Numerous tooth scrapes were observed on both rear legs, the right flank, and around the base of the tail. There were open bite wounds on the medial portion of both hind legs that measured 4" to 5" vertically and 3" to 4" horizontally and were up to 1" deep. All of the tooth scrape marks had scabbed over and were healing.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Most tooth scrapes were 1/8" to 3/16" wide and 2" to 3" long. Several were in pairs that were spaced about 2" apart. Several of the wounds on the hind-right leg showed clear evidence of opposing teeth which indicated a large jaw clamping over the leg. The depth and extensive damage as well as the location of the injuries have been observed on previously confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None observed, however the injuries were sustained at least 1 week earlier.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: A calf was confirmed killed by Chesnimnus wolves 13 miles away on 7/16/2014.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW was able to determine the cause of injury to this calf even though there was no scene to examine. The bite scrape size and 2" spacing of the tooth scrapes on the flank and hind end and multiple, large deep bite wounds above the hocks on the medial portion of the hind legs of the calf is adequate evidence to confirm this incident as a wolf depredation.