



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140905 Wallowa

**Date Investigated:** 9/5/2014

**General Area:** Chesnimnus Creek area - public land

**General situation and animal information:** On 9/2/14 hunters found a dead adult cow on a ridge. Wolf depredation was suspected and on 9/5/14 ODFW was asked to respond. ODFW investigated the same day. Scavengers had removed muscle tissue and hide from the left side of the neck, the left hindquarter and the medial portion of the right hindquarter. All entrails were gone from the body cavity except for the rumen contents. The skeleton was intact. The entire cow was skinned during the investigation. The cow was estimated to have died 9/1/2014.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** There were no signs of predation on the carcass or the scene. The majority of the hide, including most of the areas commonly bit by wolves, was present and had no bite wounds on them. There was a scrape from a large blunt object on the outside of the front right leg above the knee. There was diffuse premortem bruising and blood clots just below the scrape under the hide at the knee, but no damage into the muscle fascia. There was pocket of pus next to the right hind leg hamstring (rear flank above the hock), but no bruising or damage found to the hide or muscle nearby. No signs of a chase or attack were found in the area around the carcass.

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

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** There was no wolf sign at or near the carcass or a nearby pond.

**Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area:** One calf was confirmed killed by Chesnimnus wolves 5.5 miles away on 7/16/2014 and one calf was confirmed injured by Chesnimnus wolves 10 miles away on 8/14/2014.

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** The cause of death is unknown, though there were no signs that predation was involved.