



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140924 Umatilla

**Date Investigated:** 9/24/2014

**General Area:** Upper Meacham Creek area – private land

**General situation and animal information:** On 9/22/2014, an injured calf was observed by a livestock producer while gathering cattle in a large fenced pasture. Due to the location and type of the injuries, wolf depredation was suspected and the producer scheduled ODFW to examine the calf 2 days later on 9/24/14. The cattle were last checked on 9/21/2014 by a range rider. The injuries on the 435 lb. female calf were estimated to be 7-14 days old.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** Open wounds of exposed muscle tissue were observed on the inside of both rear thighs and posterior portion of the udder; approximately 2" of the distal end of the tail was severed and there was damage to two of the teats. The location and type of wounds are indicators of a predator attack.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** The wounds on the inside of both rear thighs consisted of the absence of skin and associated 1/8-1/4 of underlying muscle tissue measuring 4"x9" (right) and 1 ½ x 3 ½" (left) as well an area of muscle tissue separation measuring 2"x3" on the inside right thigh. Approximately 2" of the distal end of the tail was severed with a 1 5/8" x 1/2" area of hair loss and bruising occurring 1 1/2" anterior to the end of the severed tail. In addition, damage to two of the teats was examined, one of which was partially severed, exposing the milk duct. This type of damage, as well as the location of the injuries, has been documented on previously confirmed wolf attacks to livestock of this size and weight.

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** During the period of 9/10/14-9/17/14 (the estimated time that the injuries occurred), a collared Meacham Pack wolf (OR26) had over 40 GPS locations where the calf was pastured.

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

**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 location of the injuries to the skin and associated muscle tissue on the rear thigh, as well as the damage to the udder and tail is adequate evidence to confirm this incident as wolf caused.