



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 150804 Union

Date Investigated: 8/4/2015

General Area: High Ridge area – public land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 8/4/2015 a dead sheep (adult ewe) was reported to APHIS-Wildlife Services and they began the investigation. When initial evidence suggested wolves, ODFW was contacted and a joint investigation was conducted the same day. The carcass of the dead ewe was located near a large-band bedding area and had been mostly consumed. The sheep was determined to have died the previous night.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Numerous pre-mortem wounds and hemorrhaging were found in the throat and on one hind leg and hip. Bite punctures measured $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter with a canine tooth spread from 1.5" to 1.75"; both size and spread were consistent with a large predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Numerous fresh wolf tracks were found in the dust on a trail next to the carcass. Size and spread of tooth bites (noted above) were consistent with wolf.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:

GPS data showed three collared wolves from the Mt. Emily pack were at the location when the attack likely occurred. They also returned the next night to the same area.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: On 6/22/2015, ODFW confirmed wolf depredation by the Mt. Emily pack approximately 5.4 miles from this location.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The adult ewe died due to multiple predator bites to the throat and hind leg and hip. Size and spacing of tooth marks are consistent with wolves and fresh wolf tracks were present at the carcass. Telemetry data also showed that collared wolves of the Mt. Emily pack were at this location when the attack likely occurred.