



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 151111 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 11/11/2015

General Area: Divide Area – public land

General situation and animal information: On 11/11/2015 a rancher reported a calf with injuries on the hindquarters had been found in a forested allotment. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The calf was examined at a veterinary office and it was estimated to have been injured during the morning of 11/10/2015.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Numerous bite marks were found on the skin of both hind quarters of the calf.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Paired bite wounds had a spacing of 1.75 inches. The width, length and number of the bite marks were consistent with wolf bites. The location of the bite wounds on the hind legs above the hock of the calf are a commonly observed attack point for wolves. Numerous wolf tracks in snow were found with the calf tracks over an area about 0.5 mile long from an apparent attack site to where the calf was later found.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Collared wolves of the Imnaha pack were located about 1.5 miles south of the area on 11/9 by VHF radio telemetry.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: There was a confirmed depredation on October 27, 2015 about 10 miles from this area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The location, as well as the number, size and spacing of the bite wounds are similar to those observed on other confirmed calf depredations by wolves. This combined with the presence of wolf tracks and blood in the snow and collared wolf locations near the area proximal to the time of injury were adequate to confirm this incident as a wolf depredation by wolves of the Imnaha pack.