



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160328 Lake

**Date Investigated:** 3/28/2016

**General Area:** Silver Lake Bed - private land

**General situation and animal information:** A livestock producer found 4 dead calves in a large feed/calving pasture on the morning of 3/28/16. The calves had been checked the prior evening. The dead calves were 2 males, 1 female and one unknown. Their ages ranged from 1 to 2 weeks. All 4 had some signs of scavenging; one calf completely scavenged with ribs, spine and major leg bones still articulated, the other 3 had the eyes and anus scavenged by birds. One of the 3 also had the thoracic cavity opened and the heart and lungs were missing, but most of the ribs were intact. On the morning the calves were found there was a light dusting of snow and the only tracks reported by the landowner were from cattle. Behavior of the cattle in the pasture was normal and unremarkable.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** None. There was no sign of struggle, chasing or any tracks indicating an attack. There was no sign of hemorrhage caused by injury prior to death on any of the dead calves.

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

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** OR28, a radio-collared female wolf, was located 1 mile south of the location of the dead calves at 6am on 3/28/16. Her locations at 3am and 9am were farther away.

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

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** At the scene there was no evidence of predator attack and evidence on the carcasses was of scavenging by ravens, crows and eagles but not mammalian predators. The cause of death is unknown but not predator related.