



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160417-A Wallowa

Date Investigated: 4/17/2016

General Area: Little Sheep Creek area – private land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 4/17/2016 the range rider found a dead calf in a grassland pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The calf was examined and it was estimated to have died late in the day of 4/16/2016. The calf was estimated to weigh approximately 100 lbs. All entrails, muscle of rear end, plus much of the left shoulder and ribs had been consumed.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None. There was no evidence of premortem bite marks or trauma in the tissue (mostly consumed) or hide (mostly present). There was no evidence of attack by a predator on the scene.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS location data indicated that OR38 was upslope of this carcass at 6AM on 4/17/2016, and had been 2 miles north of the area for the previous 2-3 days.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Several confirmed calf and domestic sheep depredations occurred from 3/9/2016 to 3/28/2016 about 9-11 miles west of this location that were attributed to different wolves.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The size (1 to 1 1/8 inch spacing) of the tooth marks were similar to those caused by feeding coyotes. However, all bites were post-mortem indicating that the coyotes were scavenging rather than killing this calf. The cause of death is unknown.