



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160417-B Wallowa

**Date Investigated:** 4/17/2016

**General Area:** Upper Imnaha River area – private land

**General situation and animal information:** On the morning of 4/17/2016 a livestock producer reported finding a dead cow in a creek in a grassland pasture the previous afternoon at about 3PM. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The cow was examined and it was estimated to have died on 4/16/2016. The cow was estimated to weigh approximately 1300 lbs. The cow was intact with a small amount of feeding from the top of the left hindquarter into the abdomen.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** None. There was no evidence of premortem bite marks or bite trauma on the carcass. There was no evidence of attack by a predator at the scene.

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

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** Several wolf tracks were found at the carcass and on a trail 20-40 yards away that approached the carcass at a walk. Post-mortem tooth scrapes with size and spacing consistent with wolf bites were found on the left flank. All bite marks were post-mortem.

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

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** The size and spacing (1 7/8 inch) of the bite marks were similar to wolf feeding. However, all bites were post-mortem indicating that the wolf or wolves were scavenging rather than killing this cow.