



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160502-A Wallowa

Date Investigated: 5/2/16

General Area: Lightning Creek drainage – private land.

General situation and animal information: On 5/1/16 a local stockowner was checking his cattle in the Lightning Creek area and found a dead calf with muscle tissue on both hind legs mostly consumed. ODFW was notified of the dead calf on 5/2/16. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf carcass the same day on 5/2/16. It was estimated that the calf had died the night of 4/30/16.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None observed. Tooth marks were found on the hide covering the back. The marks were made postmortem with no associated subcutaneous hemorrhage or muscle tissue damage observed – this indicated scavenging. No evidence of struggle or kill scene was observed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. The nearest GPS wolf collar location was approximately 2.7 miles east of the calf carcass on 4/17/16. No wolf tracks were observed at the investigation site or at the carcass.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Most recent confirmed wolf depredation occurred on 3/30/16 approximately 7.0 miles northwest of this investigation.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf carcass and found postmortem tooth marks on the hide covering the top of the back, indicating the carcass had been scavenged by coyotes. No wolf sign was found in the vicinity. No premortem injuries were found on the carcass and cause of death could not be determined.