



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160610 Jackson

Date Investigated: 6/10/2016

General Area: Grizzly Peak area – Private land

General situation and animal information: On 6/10/16 a goat producer contacted ODFW regarding a goat they found dead on their property. The producer reported hearing a commotion early in the morning from their livestock guard dog. Later, the producer was outside to check the goat herd, and saw a large black "wolf" leaving the field. At the same time the other owner was inside the house and observed the same black animal through a window. The producer then noticed a goat carcass in the bottom of the field with vultures around. The goats appeared nervous, and stayed in the field close to house. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the partially consumed carcass that day. Other goats were present in the pasture, and one had a fresh injury. ODFW returned on 6/13/16 to examine the injured goat but was unable catch it. The goat was limping and had injuries with dried blood on the upper left rear leg and top of back near the tail.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The dead goat was skinned and had pre-mortem subcutaneous hemorrhage and muscle tissue trauma to the lower and upper neck and left shoulder, as well as the upper and lower left thigh. There was deep tissue damage to the throat area near the jaw. The trachea was extensively crushed/torn. There was also damage to the cervical vertebrae.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The carcass had extensive pre-mortem trauma to posterior left thigh. There was pre-mortem trauma to the throat and top neck area with deep bruising and tissue damage. The extent and nature of the hemorrhage and attack locations are consistent with wolf caused trauma.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS radio-collar location data at 6pm on 6/11/16 indicated OR33 was .4 miles from the kill site. No collar data downloaded for 6/9/16 or 6/10/16.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Wolf depredation was confirmed on one adult ewe sheep for an incident that happened the night of 6/11-6/12/16 approximately ½ mile away.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW skinned and examined the goat carcass and found pre-mortem muscle tissue damage in locations consistent with wolf depredation. The locations of the wounds on the injured goat are also consistent with wolf attack. The GPS location of OR33 indicates wolf presence in the vicinity. The evidence gathered during the investigation is adequate to classify this incident as confirmed wolf depredation, resulting in one dead goat and one injured goat.