



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160617 Jackson

**Date Investigated:** 6/17/2016

**General Area:** Butler Creek/Grizzly Peak area - private land

**General situation and animal information:** On 6/17/16 ODFW received a call from a livestock producer reporting that he had 3 dead and 2 injured sheep that were attacked late 6/15/16 or early 6/16/16. One of the sheep carcasses was dragged about 300 yards and only spinal column, rib cage, skull and two back legs remained with all tissue scavenged from the carcass. Two other sheep carcasses were intact with minimal feeding on one, and two other live sheep had wounds to neck and rear leg. The producer learned that there was confirmed predation by OR33 on a local goat herd and sheep flock only 1.3 miles away and thought that perhaps the wolf may have been involved in this attack.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** Two dead sheep were skinned and both had pre-mortem subcutaneous hemorrhage to the throat and upper neck, and one had pre-mortem hemorrhaging on right side flank and entry into abdominal cavity. There were pre-mortem bite marks on the throat area, one matched set below the ear of one carcass with approximately 1 inch spacing and a 4 inch scratch on back that did not penetrate the hide. One live sheep was observed with injury to the neck noted by labored breathing and swallowing and one other live sheep was observed limping with rear hind quarter injury.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** None

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** No wolf sign was found at the scene. GPS radio collar data shows OR33 3.75 miles away on 6/15/16 at 6pm and at the same location on 6/16/16 at 6:00am.

**Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area:** Confirmed wolf depredation occurred 1.3 miles away on the nights of 6/9/16 and 6/11/16.

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** ODFW skinned and examined two sheep carcasses and found pre-mortem muscle tissue damage in throat and neck area. The narrow bite spacing, lack of severe pre-mortem hemorrhaging, and the location of the damage on both dead sheep and the two injured sheep are not consistent with wolf attack. The evidence gathered during the investigation is adequate to classify this incident as other depredation, resulting in three dead sheep and two injured sheep.