



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160901 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/1/2016

General Area: Northeast Mt. Emily Wildlife Management Unit – public land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 9/1/2015, a herder found 2 dead sheep and 2 injured sheep on or near a sheep bed ground in a forested allotment. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. Of the two dead sheep, one had been fed on into the abdominal cavity and between the rear legs in the bag area and the other dead sheep was intact and exhibited outward signs of pre mortem hemorrhaging tissue damage on the neck and both rear legs. One injured sheep (examined on 9/5/16) had an 8"x12" section of hide hanging from the right rear leg. The other injured sheep was limping on the front and rear legs and died after the initial investigation.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Both dead sheep were skinned and displayed severe subcutaneous and intramuscular pre-mortem muscle hemorrhage on the dorsal, ventral and lateral sides of the neck and posterior portion of both back legs. These injuries are clear indicators of a predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There was deep (greater than 1 inch) pre-mortem hemorrhage to underlying tissue on the posterior portion of both back legs and on the dorsal side of the neck. There was a canine spread measurement of 1 7/8" on one carcass. Also, the location of bite wounds to the posterior side of both rear legs and neck on both carcasses are consistent to other wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Wolf tracks were found within 20 feet of one of the carcasses. The tracks were deemed to be fresh since they were not yet obliterated by sheep disturbance which occurs daily in the area where the carcasses were found.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Confirmed Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Probable Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Possible/Unknown	<input type="radio"/> Other
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Summary: ODFW investigated and determined a wolf attack had occurred through physical evidence. The severity and locations of the injuries to the sheep is consistent with other wolf depredation on sheep and wolf tracks at the carcass as the only predator evidence at the scene warrant a designation of confirmed depredation on 4 adult ewes. This depredation event occurred within the Mt Emily Pack area.

Addendum 10/18/2016: Due to a typographical error, the herder found the 2 dead sheep and 2 injured sheep on 9/1/2016, not on 9/1/2015.