



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 160929 Lake

Date Investigated: 9/29/2016

General Area: Timber Fall Butte area – public land

General situation and animal information: On 9/28/16 a cattle producer was gathering cattle off his Forest Service grazing allotment and noticed a live calf with severe injuries between its rear legs. The calf was brought to a holding facility. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf the following day with a follow-up examination on 10/1/16. It was estimated the calf had received the injuries 14-21 days prior to being found.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: On the posterior and inside of both rear legs were numerous bite scrapes to the hide as well as two areas of hide missing exposing underlying muscle tissue; one measuring 9 X 6 inches and the other 3 X 5 inches. These injuries are indicators of predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The location of the bite scrapes and tissue damage on both back legs are consistent with common attack points for wolves. The bite scrapes in the hide were up to ¼ inch wide and up to 4 inches long. The paired puncture wounds and bite scrapes had a 1 ¾ to 1 7/8 inch spacing.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The calf's exact location at the time of injury is unknown but was within a defined Forest Service grazing allotment. GPS radio-collar data shows wolf OR28 was within this grazing allotment during the period the calf is estimated to have been injured.

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

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The location, size, spacing, and number of bite wounds found on this injured calf are similar to those observed on other confirmed livestock depredations by wolves. This evidence is adequate to confirm the injuries as wolf depredation.