



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 161006 Wallowa

**Date Investigated:** 10/6/2016

**General Area:** Harl Butte area – public land

**General situation and animal information:** On the afternoon of 10/5/2016 a stock owner was gathering cattle and noticed injuries on the back leg of a 500 lb calf. The calf was trailed to a nearby corral and kept overnight. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf the following morning. After examination ODFW estimated the injuries to be 5 – 7 days old.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** Bite wounds were found on the right front shoulder and elbow, right and left flanks, base of the tail, and right and left hind legs above the hocks. Underlying tissue damage was evident at base of tail and left hind leg. These injuries are clear indicators of predator attack.

**Evidence that the predator was a wolf:** Open bite wounds and severe underlying tissue damage were observed on the left hind leg and base of tail. Severe swelling was associated with bite wounds on right front shoulder and elbow. Bite wounds were found on right and left flanks. These are all commonly observed attack points for wolves. The numerous bite scrapes in the hide were 1/8 inch wide and up to 5 inches long. Paired canine bite scrapes had a 1 ½ - 1 ⅝ inch spacing.

**Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury:** ODFW confirmed wolf tracks in the vicinity on 9/28/16.

**Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area:** ODFW confirmed wolf depredation on 7/15/16 eight miles away and in a nearby pasture on 9/28/16.

**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:** The locations, size, and number of bite wounds found on this calf, coupled with associated underlying tissue damage are similar to those observed on other confirmed livestock depredations by wolves. This evidence is adequate to confirm the calf was attacked by wolf(s).