



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 170624 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 6/24/2017

General Area: Harl Butte area – public land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 6/24/17 a stock owner was moving cattle and noticed injuries on the back leg of a young calf. The approximately 1.5 month-old calf was trailed to a nearby corral for examination. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf the same day. After examination ODFW estimated the injuries to be 7 -10 days old. The calf appeared alert and healing well.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Bite wounds were found on both hind legs, both front legs and shoulders, neck, and back. Slight swelling was observed on upper right hind leg. These injuries are clear indicators of predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None. Bite wounds with paired canine tooth spacing of approximately 1.25 inches were observed on the left hind leg, left front leg, and the back. This canine tooth spacing is too small to be wolf, but common for coyote. The numerous bite wounds did not result in severe tissue trauma characteristic of wolf bites.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Radio collar data indicate wolf OR50 (Harl Butte Pack) was in the vicinity during the past 2 weeks.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: A wolf depredation was confirmed on 4/7/2017 about 5 miles southeast.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The bite wounds found on this live calf were too small to be caused by wolf. This is sufficient to classify this incident as not wolf related.