



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 170722 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 7/22/2017

General Area: Harl Butte area – public land

General situation and animal information: On 7/21/2017 a livestock producer was moving cattle and noticed injuries on the hindquarters of a 250 lb calf. The cow and calf were removed from the public land grazing allotment and hauled to the home ranch. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf the following morning. The calf was alert and responsive; the injuries were estimated to be approximately seven days old.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Bite wounds were found on the right flank and both hindquarters above the hocks. Exposed tissue damage was evident on the left hind leg. These injuries are clear indicators of predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The injured calf had an open wound 4 inches long and 3 inches wide with deeply damaged muscle tissue on the posterior medial portion of the hind left leg above the hock. There were multiple bite scrapes (up to 3/8 inch wide and 5 inches long) above the hocks on both legs. There were bite scrapes and an open wound (1 by 1/2 inch) on the right flank. The size, location, and direction of the bite scrapes and location of the tissue damage on both hindquarters are consistent with common attack points for wolves.

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. GPS radio-collar data shows wolf OR50 was within this grazing pasture near the time the calf was estimated to have been injured.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: ODFW confirmed wolf depredation in this area in the fall of 2016.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The size, directionality, and location of the bite marks, coupled with the severity of tissue damage and location of open wounds, are consistent with wolf depredation. This evidence is adequate to confirm the injuries as wolf depredation attributed to a wolf or wolves of the Harl Butte Pack.