



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 170816 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 8/16/17

General Area: Sheep Creek area – private land

General situation and animal information: On the afternoon of 8/15/17 an employee of a livestock producer found an injured 550 lb. calf within a 4,000 acre forested pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected; ODFW was contacted the following morning and investigated the same day. The eight-month-old calf was examined inside a horse trailer and had multiple parallel scrapes on the back of both rear legs above the hock, as well as an open wound in the same area of the left leg. It is estimated that the calf sustained these injuries on the afternoon of 8/15/17.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Multiple bite scrapes were found on both rear legs and a 3”L x 5/8”W open wound with an approximately three inch deep hole in the muscle tissue in the same area as the bite scrapes on the left leg. Two pieces of muscle tissue observed in a nearby attack scene is clear evidence of an attack by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Numerous parallel bite scrapes measuring up to 4”L x 1/4”W exposing muscle tissue were found on the back of both rear legs above the hock. Wolf tracks found in a nearby attack scene with muscle tissue lying on the ground are clear indicators that the predator was a wolf.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Two sets of fresh wolf tracks alongside fresh calf tracks were found at the scene of an attack.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: A confirmed wolf depredation was investigated three days earlier, a half mile from the location of the injured calf.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The number, location, and size of the bite scrapes, as well as, wolf tracks observed at a nearby chase and attack scene involving a calf are adequate to confirm this incident as wolf depredation by wolves of the Meacham Pack.