



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 171001 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 10/1/2017

General Area: Marr Flat area – private land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 10/1/2017, a livestock producer found an injured calf in an open-land pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The live calf had a large open wound on the inside of the upper left rear leg. The seven-month-old calf weighed 570 pounds and was estimated to have been attacked about 9/25/2017.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Tooth scrapes were found on the inner and outer surfaces of both of the upper hind legs. The calf also had an open wound on its left hind leg. These injuries are clear indicators of predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Two paired bite wounds on the rear legs had a spacing measuring 1 3/4 inches. Tooth scrapes on the hide on both legs above the hocks were 1/8 to 1/4 inch wide and up to 2 inches long. The locations of the bite wounds on the hind legs are commonly observed 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. OR50 of the Harl Butte Pack was located by GPS radio collar data in the Marr Flat area from 9/23 to 9/25.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: There have been nine previous calf depredations attributed to the Harl Butte Pack between 7/15/2016 and 9/29/2017. All occurred within about eight miles of this site and the most recent was within about one mile of this attack.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The location, size, and spacing of the bite wounds are similar to those observed on other confirmed calf depredations by wolves. These combined with the presence of wolf tracks and GPS radio collar data made proximal to the estimated time of attack were adequate to confirm this incident as wolf depredation by a wolf or wolves of the Harl Butte Pack.