



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 171017 Malheur

Date Investigated: 10/17/2017

General Area: Beulah Reservoir area – private land

General situation and animal information: On the afternoon of 10/16/17, a dead ten-year-old, 1,200 lb. cow was found to have gone through a fence from an open land pasture to a county road right-of-way. Wolf depredation was suspected. The investigation was postponed due to darkness until the morning of 10/17/16. The carcass was intact with no scavenging. It was estimated to have died 24-30 hours prior to examination.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The entire carcass was examined and skinned. Numerous scrape marks were found on the hide, but none were consistent with predator bites. The external injuries could be attributed to the cow breaking through the fence and struggling on the ground adjacent to the fence and at the bottom of a steep bank below the fence. No bite-caused premortem hemorrhage was found in the hide or underlying tissues. There was postmortem lividity (blood pooling from gravity), but no muscle tissue tearing or trauma from predator bites. There was no evidence of predator attack found at the scene or on the intact carcass.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The entire intact carcass was skinned and examined. There were no bite scrapes on the hide, and no bite-caused premortem hemorrhage or muscle tissue trauma to indicate predator attack. The cause of death is unknown, but there was no evidence it was wolf-related.