



## ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 171024 Wallowa

**Date Investigated:** 10/24/2017

**General Area:** Big Sheep Creek area – private land

**General situation and animal information:** On the morning of 10/24/17, the range rider was checking cattle in the Big Sheep Creek area and found a dead, adult cow. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the cow carcass the same day. A small amount of muscle tissue around the anus was consumed by postmortem scavenging. It was estimated the cow died the previous day on 10/23/17.

**Physical evidence of attack by a predator:** None. There was no sign of predator attack on the scene. The intact carcass was examined, shaved and skinned to examine marks on the hide. There were no premortem bite scrapes on the hide or bite trauma in the tissue.

**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:** There have been eleven calf depredations attributed to the Harl Butte Pack between 7/15/2016 and 10/11/2017. All depredations occurred within ten miles of this site.

**Cause of death/injury:**

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

**Summary:** ODFW examined the cow carcass and investigated the surrounding area, but found no evidence of predation. The evidence gathered during this investigation is adequate to determine that the death of the calf was not wolf-related.