ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 180104 Jackson

Date Investigated: 1/4/2018

General Area: Boundary Butte area – private property

General situation and animal information: On 1/4/18 a producer discovered a dead, 250lb calf in a fenced pasture within 500 yards of a residence. The producer reported hearing wolf howls the night before. The calf was partially consumed with entrails and muscle tissue from the front of the hind quarters missing. It is estimated the calf died after dark on 1/3/18.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Multiple premortem bite wounds and tissue damage were observed on the back of the calf's hind legs, behind the elbows of the front legs and the lower neck near the brisket. A chase and attack scene were indicated by calf tracks, hair and blood and wolf tracks a short distance from the carcass.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Numerous wolf tracks were observed throughout the chase and kill sites. Tooth scrapes, bite marks and premortem trauma consistent with large canine bites were found on the back of both hind legs above the hock and the back of each front leg above the elbow.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Fresh wolf tracks were observed around the carcass and throughout the pasture. GPS collar data from OR54 (Rogue Pack) places it 0.9 miles north of the carcass at 5:00am the morning the carcass was found. GPS data also places OR54 within two miles of the carcass at four locations from 1/3/18 at 8:00pm to 1/4/18 at 5:00am.

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

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf   Probable Wolf   Possible/Unknown   Other

Summary: ODFW found a chase and kill scene indicated by wolf and calf tracks near the carcass. Premortem hemorrhage and bite wounds were found behind the elbows of the front legs and on the back of the hind legs above the hocks. The evidence on the carcass and at the scene were enough to confirm this depredation by wolves of the Rogue Pack.