



QUALIFICATION REPORT

Investigation ID: **140820 Umatilla**

Investigation ID # **140820 Umatilla** was confirmed by ODFW as a wolf-caused depredation incident. This depredation occurred within an Area of Depredating Wolves (Umatilla River Pack) posted on the ODFW wolf web page on 7/2/2013 (revised 2/4/2014). The depredation incident occurred on the morning of 8/20/2014 and the depredated animal (1 sheep) was lawfully present on private land during that time.

Unnatural Attractants: The landowner or lawful occupant of the land where the depredation occurred, had removed, treated or disposed of all intentionally placed or known and reasonably accessible unnatural attractants of potential wolf-livestock conflict at least seven days prior to the incident of depredation. On the day of the investigation ODFW searched the property for 3 ½ hours (searching for the missing sheep) and the on-site investigation revealed no indication of current or recent bone piles, carcasses, or other likely attractants to a predator. In addition, ODFW has worked regularly with this producer and has direct accounting of the number of all livestock owned by this producer (17 sheep) up to the time of this depredation incident and all, excepting of the depredated sheep, are accounted for.

Non-lethal Measures: Prior to and on the day of the incident of depredation the landowner or lawful occupant was implementing at least one non-lethal measure identified in the Umatilla River Conflict Deterrence Plan (posted 8/30/2013 and revised on 9/20/2013) developed under OAR 635-110-0010(7)(d)(B) that is specific to the location, type of livestock operation, time of the year, and/or period of livestock production associated with the depredation.

The night pen where the sheep were housed had been constructed in a manner to deter wolf entry after their 2012 depredation. Wolves of the Umatilla River Pack had been in close proximity of this pen many times over the past two years with no depredation problems having occurred within the pen. During daytime grazing, the sheep are let out of the night pen to feed in the area immediately adjacent to the house. The owner was home at the time of the depredation. The depredation incident is believed to have initiated within ½ hour after turnout and the sheep were in relative close proximity to the occupied house during daylight hours. In this case the human presence occurred at a proximate time prior to and in an area proximate to where the depredation was confirmed, and there was no wolf location information of a situation of potential wolf-livestock conflict that required a timely response. Therefore, under these circumstances, human presence could have reasonably been expected to deter wolf-livestock conflict and is considered an appropriate non-lethal measure.

Qualification Status: This confirmed incident of depredation **qualifies** under OAR 635-110-0010(8).