



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140614 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 6/14/2014

General Area: Wildhorse Road area – private land.

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 6/11/2014 a livestock owner observed an injured adult cow in a timbered pasture in the area of the Umatilla Wolf Pack. The animal could not be caught at the time, but on 6/14/2014 the cow was gathered and its injuries were examined. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was contacted and examined the injured cow while in a squeeze chute on the same day. The conditions and disposition of the live animal made close detailed examination (esp. measurements) impossible; ODFW was able to observe enough evidence to make an accurate determination on this cow. Prior to discovery of its injuries on 6/11, the cow had been previously observed healthy on the evening of 6/8.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Multiple large-carnivore bite wounds were observed on this live cow on the right-side flank area, and on both hind legs between the hock and rump. The exposed bite-caused muscle tissue damage on the left hind leg was especially severe. No disturbance or attack scene could be detected, but remaining cows showed clear evidence of having been bunched in the corner area of the pasture (near the road) for some time, a fairly common result of any type of predation event or severe disturbance.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The large size, high number, and especially location (i.e., flank and hind-end) of the bite wounds were consistent with many other confirmed wolf attacks in Oregon.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: It is unknown exactly when the injuries to this cow were incurred, but it likely occurred between 6/8 and 6/11. The pasture where this cow was injured is a relatively high wolf use area, and GPS collar data shows that at least two wolves (OR14 and OR23) were present within the pasture early on the morning of 6/9.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: The Umatilla Pack has depredated livestock irregularly since 2012. On 6/13/2014 ODFW confirmed wolf depredation of sheep in a pen less than 1 mile from this pasture.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW examined the injuries to the adult cow and found clear evidence of wolf bites by one or more wolves. At the time of this report the cow is alive, but it is unknown if the cow will survive the injuries. This is the first confirmed wolf depredation of a cow by this pack.