ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130724 Union

Date Investigated: 7/24/2013

General Area: Jarboe Creek area – Private land

General situation and animal information: A dead calf (about 500 pounds) was found near the road by a livestock producer on 7/24/13 at approximately 12:00pm. ODFW was called to investigate as the owner of the calf was concerned it could have been killed by a wolf. The carcass had been scavenged and the calf was estimated to have died 1-3 days earlier.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: There was no evidence on the scene of a struggle or chase. A black bear was viewed running away from the area of the carcass when the ODFW investigator arrived. The entrails and the majority of the flesh around the torso and pelvis area had been consumed. The head and neck showed no bite, claw, or scrape marks. Bite marks were found on the hide in the pelvis, torso, both back legs and the left front leg. However, the muscle tissue associated with the bite marks showed no hemorrhage or tissue damage, indicating that the marks were from scavenging after the calf was dead. No pre-mortem wounds were found on the carcass. There was no evidence that this calf died from a predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: There was no sign of wolf presence in the vicinity of the carcass. GPS radio-collar data from the Wenaha pack indicates that 2 wolves each had a single GPS location within 10 miles of the carcass between 7/19/13 and 7/24/13. OR13 was about 4.5 miles away on 7/21/13 at 6am and OR21 was 3 miles away on 7/22/13 at 6pm.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: There has been no confirmed wolf depredation in this area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf   Probable Wolf   (Possible/Unknown)   Other

Summary: There was no evidence on the scene of a struggle or chase. There is no evidence on the carcass to confirm that a predator was involved in the death of the calf.