



QUALIFICATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140613 Umatilla

Investigation ID # **140613** Umatilla was confirmed by ODFW as a wolf-caused depredation incident. This depredation occurred within an Area of Depredating Wolves (ADW), Umatilla River Pack, posted on 2/20/2014. The depredation incident occurred on the night of 6/12-13/2014 and the depredated animals (13 sheep in total) were lawfully present on private land during that time. ODFW initially developed and posted an Area of Depredating Wolves (ADW) and an Area-Specific Conflict Deterrence Plan (Deterrence Plan) on the ODFW wolf web page on 7/2/2013. The Deterrence Plan was revised on 9/20/2013.

Unnatural Attractants: No known unnatural attractants at the time of depredation or within the 7 days prior. The pen where the depredation incident occurred is relatively small in size (est. 5,000 sq. ft.) and the on-site investigation by ODFW revealed no indication of current or recent bone piles, carcasses, or other likely attractants to a predator. The sheep owner has been observed to be diligent regarding carcass removal and has contacted ODFW on a number of occasions since 2012 to seek assistance in removing sheep or goats that had died so the carcass would not be on site to attract wolves or other predators. Most recently this included two ODFW carcass removal trips in May, 2014 and in both cases no carcasses were allowed to remain overnight.

Non-lethal Measures: ODFW observed the use of one non-lethal measure per the Deterrence Plan. The night pen where the sheep were housed was protected by electrified fladry provided by ODFW and installed with ODFW assistance in 2012. The fence was observed by ODFW to be in good working order, and had been recently mowed under it and flagging regularly unfurled. 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. Two gates were not protected by the fladry fence and these were interior to the barn/compound area and were adjacent to the barn wall. They were constructed from a wood and mesh material at a 5 foot or higher level. ODFW does not believe this was the point of entry for the depredating wolves.

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