

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 1/28/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Three Lakes Country -- Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of an adult cow in a grassland pasture on the morning of 1/28/13. At the time of discovery wolves were observed at the scene of the carcass and were suspected in killing the cow. ODFW was asked to investigate the remains for signs of wolf predation and investigated the same morning.

ODFW finding: Confirmed wolf

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: Upon discovery, the livestock producer reported observing wolves at the site of the carcass. GPS collar data confirmed the report and shows that OR4 (Imnaha pack) was at the site and in the area of the carcass from 11PM the evening prior to 8AM the morning of discovery. In addition, the very high number of tracks found at the scene suggests the pack was present.

Summary of evidence: The estimated time of death of the cow was early the morning of 1/28/13. A clear struggle scene was observed in the snow which showed multiple wolf tracks and large amounts of blood scattered over a large area of the carcass. Though partially consumed, ample carcass remained for investigation. The cow had suffered multiple bites in the typical wolf attack areas – behind the front shoulders, in front of the front shoulders and brisket area, groin and anterior portion of hind legs, and rump/udder area. Bites clearly showed heavy internal hemorrhage indicating pre-mortem attack. The fetus of the cow had been removed and mostly consumed – similar to past confirmed depredations of adult cows by the Imnaha Pack. All evidence (wolves present at scene, bite marks and locations, struggle scene with multiple wolf tracks, and internal hemorrhage) indicates wolf attack.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 4/7/2013

County: Baker

General Area: Medical Springs/Big Creek Area – Private land

Situation: A livestock producer found a dead adult ewe in the corner of his paddock adjacent to his home on 4/7/13 at 0800. The ewe was last seen alive at 1600 hours on 4/6/13. Approximately 25 other sheep were in the paddock. A portion of the animal had been eaten and the owner suspected wolves had killed it. Oregon State Police were first contacted and ODFW was asked to investigate. ODFW and OSP personnel responded the same day.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No tracks or physical evidence was found on the carcass or in the paddock to indicate that wolves were present at the site. No known wolves in the area.

Summary of evidence: There was no sign of a struggle or kill scene. The carcass muscle tissue on the left (upper) hip and flank and some posterior organs had been consumed. An 8 inch area at the left (upper) chest was eaten, penetrating past the intact ribs to the heart. The entire carcass was skinned and no pre mortem wounds or hemorrhage was found. Post mortem marks were consistent with scavenging by birds and coyotes.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 4/18/2013

County: Union

General Area: Pumpkin Ridge Area – Private land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a young steer in the top corner of a grassland pasture late in the afternoon of 4/18/13. The steer was reported to have been seen alive 3 days earlier. Wolves were suspected and ODFW was asked to investigate. ODFW responded the same evening.

ODFW finding: Possible/Unknown

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No tracks or physical evidence on carcass to indicate that wolves were present at the site. Two wolves were reported to have been seen early in the week in the nearby area.

Summary of evidence: There was no sign of a struggle or kill scene observed. The carcass muscle tissue and organs had been consumed by scavengers (bird droppings, coyote feeding, tracks and scat were observed). The hind legs and ribs were attached to the skeleton, the front legs were unattached and one was missing. The hide was skinned from the top of the tail and 3 lower legs. The subcutaneous tissue under the hide was mostly white and normal in appearance with no sign of premortem bites or bruising. No physical evidence of predation was found on the carcass.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 4/22/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Three Lakes Country -- Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found the partially eaten carcass of a 1 ½ month old calf in a grassland pasture on the morning of 4/22/2013. Wolf depredation was suspected as the area is a frequently used by the Imnaha Pack and has experienced wolf depredation in the past. ODFW was asked to investigate the remains for signs of wolf predation and an investigation was initiated the same morning.

ODFW finding: Confirmed wolf

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: The area had received approximately an inch of snow through the night, but had melted off before the landowner arrived on the scene. A possible wolf track was found in mud near the carcass, but this was unconfirmed. GPS collar data showed that the two wolves with collars were not at the scene but were approximately 4.5 miles away on the night of the 21st. It is important to note, however, that one wolf (OR17) did travel to the area of the dead calf on the night of the 22nd indicating knowledge of the dead calf or was travelling with another pack member with knowledge of the calf.

Summary of evidence: The cattle (including this calf) had been moved into an adjacent pasture on the previous day (4/21). There was little evidence observed of a struggle or kill scene, though snow the previous night would have likely obscured much of this. Several old dry "cow pies" near the carcass were freshly turned over – likely the result of the mother cow defending the calf's carcass. The mother cow was very agitated and was aggressive during the investigation – a commonly observed behavior following any type of predation. The partially eaten carcass showed significant hemorrhage on its back just forward of the hips indicating pre-mortem injury. This is not a typical area of wolf attack, but the muscle tissue under the hide showed shredding along the right side of the vertebrae with associated hemorrhage. This "shredding" of muscle tissue is similar to what has been observed on other wolf depredations in this area. The hide near rear flank of right side shows hemorrhaging in subcutaneous tissue and two holes (1/4 and 1/2 inches in diameter) appears to be the result of canine teeth, pre-mortem. Torn muscle tissue (3 inches diameter) above the hock of right rear leg appears to be the result of post-mortem canine bite. Large area of hemorrhage (4 inches in length) in muscle tissue along left side of vertebrae below ribs appears to be the result of canine bite pre-mortem. Subcutaneous hemorrhage under the hide covering the right elbow appeared to be the result of a canine bite. Feeding on the carcass was relatively light, with a portion of the viscera removed and muscle tissue on the right hind leg mostly consumed. The light nature of feeding on the carcass suggests a single or few wolves.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 4/24/2013

County: Union

General Area: Pumpkin Ridge Area – Private land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a foal at the base of a rocky ridge near a hayfield. The mare was checked 3 days earlier and had not yet foaled. Wolves were suspected and ODFW was asked to investigate. ODFW responded the same day.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: There was no sign at the scene or physical evidence on the carcass to indicate that wolves were present at the site. Two wolves were seen two weeks earlier in a nearby area.

Summary of evidence: Tracks showed that the mare and foal had run down a ridge. The mare had stopped but the foal went off several rocky drop offs. Coyote tracks were present in the horse tracks. The carcass had been scavenged by coyotes and birds; only the head, spine and one leg remained. None of the bones in the back, neck, ribs or leg were crushed or broken.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 4/26/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Three Lakes Country -- Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a cow in a stock pond in a rangeland pasture on the morning of 4/26/2013. The cow was last checked on 4/16/2013 and the producer suspected wolf depredation. ODFW was asked to investigate and responded the same morning.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No wolf tracks or other sign were found in the mud around the pond. Data showed that the two Imnaha pack wolves with GPS radio-collars were not at the scene.

Summary of evidence: The carcass was mostly consumed by scavengers (bird and coyote sign present). The skeleton was intact. The portions of the head, neck, front legs, shoulder and hind legs that were underwater had not been consumed. When skinned a small hemorrhage was found in the muscle of the right shoulder, there were no matching bites, cuts or scrapes in the hide. There were no bites, scratches, injury or hemorrhage on the remaining muscle tissue. There was no evidence on the scene or the carcass to indicate a predator attack.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 5/10/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Little Sheep Creek Area -- Private Land

Situation: ODFW was notified on the evening of 5/9/2013 that an injured calf had been found in the Little Sheep Creek area. Wolf attack was suspected and ODFW examined the injured calf the following morning.

ODFW finding: Confirmed wolf (injury)

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: Though the specific location of the calf at the time of injury was unknown, this property had been used recently by wolves of the Imnaha Pack. Radio-collar data showed that wolf OR4 had been at or near the area on May 6, 8, and 9th.

Summary of evidence: The calf was alive at the time of examination and the visible injuries were limited to the right rear leg (rump area) of the calf. The entire leg was severely swollen. A large wound in the hide of the right rear leg was observed which measured 1.5 inch across and 1.5 inch deep into the muscle tissue. The wound was estimated to be approximately three days old based on maggot development. Immediately ventral to this wound were three parallel horizontal scrapes each 2 ½ inches long and ¼ inch wide which clearly appeared to be large bites. Recent use of the area by wolves, recent wolf depredations in the area, and the nature and size of the bite wounds on this live calf indicate wolf depredation.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 5/11/2013

County: Union

General Area: Pumpkin Ridge Area -- Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found an injured two-day old calf on the evening of 5/10/2013. Wolf depredation was suspected as wolves were recently confirmed in the area. ODFW investigated early the next morning.

ODFW finding: Other

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: ODFW confirmed that two wolves were in the area as recently as 4/25/2013.

Summary of evidence: The injured calf had a kinked spine and six punctures on its back that appeared to be bite marks. In addition, several fine claw marks were visible on the calf's back and side. The injuries were determined to be feline in origin – probably bobcat or young cougar.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 5/15/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Hayden Creek Area -- Private Land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a yearling cow in a grassland pasture on the morning of 5/15/2013. Wolf depredation was suspected as the area is a frequently used by the Imnaha Pack and has experienced wolf depredation in the past. ODFW investigated the same day.

ODFW finding: Confirmed wolf

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: Radio-collar data showed that wolf OR4 had been present at site of the dead cow from 09:00 am on 5/14/2013 until 03:00 am on 5/15/2013. Numerous wolf tracks were observed at the scene, and sizes of tracks indicated that at least two wolves had been present. Fresh wolf scat was also observed near the carcass.

Summary of evidence: The cow was estimated to have died 1 day prior to the investigation and the carcass was mostly consumed. However, the hide from upper right rear leg, right flank, and right front leg was still present. Canine tooth bites on upper right rear leg (rump area), and associated subcutaneous hemorrhage on underside of the hide indicated the animal was attacked and not just scavenged. Multiple canine tooth bite wounds were also observed in the udder area.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 5/17/2013

County: Baker

General Area: Medical Springs/Big Creek Area – Private land

Situation: A livestock producer found a dead adult ewe in his pasture on the morning of 5/17/13. The pregnant ewe was last seen alive at 2 pm on 5/16/13. The owner suspected wolves had killed it. ODFW was asked to investigate and personnel responded the same day.

ODFW finding: Possible/Unknown

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No tracks or physical evidence were found on the carcass or in the paddock to indicate that wolves were present at the site. No known wolves in the area.

Summary of evidence: There was no sign of a struggle or kill scene. The majority of the muscle had been eaten, but the skeleton including ribs was intact. No premortem injuries were found on the lower legs, neck or head when they were skinned. Coyotes had scavenged the carcass as evidenced by the tracks, scat and small teeth marks on the scapula and pelvis.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 5/21/13

County: Umatilla

General Area: Weston Mountain area – private land

Situation: A private landowner found four dead sheep (1 ewe, 3 lambs) and one injured sheep (ram) in a small pasture near their house on the morning of May 21, 2013. One lamb was also reported to be missing. Large canid tracks were observed and wolf depredation was suspected. ODFW examined the sheep the same day.

ODFW findings: Confirmed

Evidence of wolf presence in the area? Three single, large, canid tracks were observed in the pasture within 50 yards of the dead sheep. A GPS collared wolf (OR14, Umatilla River Pack) was recorded as being within 0.8 miles of the dead sheep at 3am and 1.2 miles at 6am that morning.

Summary of evidence: After a field investigation and available evidence was identified and collected, the dead sheep were transported to the ODFW Pendleton office and skinned. All three lambs showed bite wounds over their back and sides and all bites showed corresponding marks or holes through the hide. Bite wounds on all three lambs showed subcutaneous hemorrhage indicating attack on live animals. The ewe showed no bite wounds and the cause of death could not specifically be determined by physical evidence. Her proximity to the other dead sheep in the pasture and the estimated same time of death are compelling that her death was directly related to the overall depredation event which killed the lambs. The injured ram showed multiple bite wounds on its rear legs, anus, tail, and it also had an unspecified injured neck (crooked). The ram also showed signs of extreme stress and physical exhaustion consistent with its wounds. It is unknown if the ram will survive. The bite wounds on the ram were similar (in appearance and location) to previous wolf depredation events in this area in 2012. Wounds on all of the examined sheep were consistent with wolf bites (size and spacing), and combined with confirmed wolf presence in the nearby area, and tracks observed within the pasture, represent clear evidence of wolf depredation. The reported missing lamb is presumed to be a wolf-caused loss as part of the same incident.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 5/29/2013

County: Union

General Area: Willow Creek area – Private land

Situation: A livestock producer found the carcass of a 17 year old ewe near his house. The ewe had been seen alive the evening before. Wolves were suspected and ODFW was asked to investigate. ODFW responded the same day.

ODFW finding: Possible/Unknown

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No wolf sign was found. Two wolves were known to be in the area several weeks earlier.

Summary of evidence: The ewe was found lying on her right side. Portions of both hindquarters and most of the muscle on the neck, spine and ribs on the left side had been consumed. The internal organs, except for the heart, were present. The left leg was detached from the carcass at the shoulder. Four postmortem puncture marks and one large hole were found in the hide on the top of the neck indicating scavenging. The remaining carcass was skinned and no other marks were found in the hide. The right side (down-side) was intact and had no trauma. No signs of predation were found, though the cause of death is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130603 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 6/3/2013

General Area: Weston Mountain area – Private land

General situation and animal information: A livestock producer found a dead 4 year old ewe in his pasture on the morning of 6/3/13. Wolf predation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The carcass was located within a grass pasture in a partially dried up creek bed. The ewe had been dead for several days and had been partially consumed by scavengers. The owner reported last observing the ewe on 5/23/2013 or 5/24/2013.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No chase, struggle or kill location could be identified. Premortem injuries were observed on three portions of the carcass. 1) A single puncture in the hide was observed on the inside left rear leg. It appeared to be a bite wound and showed associated hemorrhage. 2) Punctures and associated hemorrhage which appeared to be bite wounds were observed across the back, posterior to the ribs. 3) Five puncture holes which appeared to be bite wounds were observed on the right side of the neck, all averaging 5/16" in diameter and about 2" across for matching bites. One puncture hole was observed on the left side of neck. Overall the neck region had deep bite-caused muscle trauma and premortem hemorrhage affecting the entire neck region from just behind the ear to the base of the neck. The neck had been broken mid-section between the base of the skull and the shoulders.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The size and spacing of the premortem bite wounds observed are consistent with wolf. The injuries are similar in location and appearance to previous wolf depredations of adult sheep in this area. This, combined with evidence of wolf presence near where the carcass was found is strong evidence that the death of the sheep was wolf caused.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The estimated date of death was on or about 5/28/2013. Radio-collar data shows that OR14, the breeding male of the Umatilla River pack, had 2 GPS locations in the vicinity on 5/26/2013. On 5/28/2013, he was within 550 yards of the carcass location at 3am, 110 yards at 9am and 480 yards at 12pm. Collar data also shows that he was within 100 yards at 6am on 6/3/2013. Two older suspected wolf tracks were inside the fladried pasture (3 feet and 25 feet from the dead ewe). Three fresh verified wolf tracks were found outside the pasture (33, 41 and 105 feet from the dead ewe).

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: This producer had confirmed incident of wolf depredation on 6 sheep on the same property on 5/21/2013.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The cause of death was wolf attack as evidenced by the wolf-sized bite marks combined with hemorrhage and tissue damage in the typical locations found on adult sheep attacked by wolves (neck, back, haunches) and the presence of one or more Umatilla River wolves.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 6/13/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Hayden Creek Area -- Private Land

Situation: On 6/13/2013 an injured calf was observed in a grassland pasture in the Hayden Creek area. The injuries were not recent, but wolf attack was suspected and ODFW examined the injured calf the same day.

ODFW finding: Confirmed wolf (injury)

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: The specific location of the calf at the time of injury was unknown. However, the pasture the calf was in had been used until mid-May by Imnaha pack wolves. GPS radio collar locations for Imnaha pack member OR-4 indicate that wolves were in or near the area where the calf was pastured on May 8, 9, 14, and 15. No radio-collared Imnaha wolves have been in the area since that time. One yearling was confirmed killed by Imnaha pack wolves on 5/15/13 in the same pasture as this calf.

Summary of evidence: The calf was alive at the time of examination and the visible injuries were limited to both rear legs. The calf is expected to survive. Injuries observed were estimated to be 3-5 weeks old based on the extent of healing. Multiple large bite wounds, consisting of tooth scrapes and puncture holes were observed on the upper and inside portions of the calf's hind legs. Bite wounds and associated infection was also observed around the nipple area. All bite wounds were healing. The location and nature of the wounds (i.e., large bites on the inside portions of the hind legs) is very similar to previous confirmed Imnaha pack wolf injuries over the past three years. Imnaha pack wolf presence within this pasture in mid-May (within the estimated period of injury) brings the possibility that this depredation may have occurred at or near the same time period as the 5/15/13 incident.

ODFW Wolf Depredation Investigation Summary

Date: 6/24/2013

County: Wallowa

General Area: Hayden Lake Area -- Private Land

Situation: On 6/24/2013 a mostly-consumed carcass of a young calf was found in a grassland pasture in the Hayden Lake area. Wolf attack was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day.

ODFW finding: Possible wolf/Unknown

Evidence of wolf presence in the area: No sign of wolf presence was observed in the area. Radio collar data (OR4 and OR17) shows no locations in or near this area since May of this year.

Summary of evidence: The carcass was mostly consumed and no muscle tissue remained which could be examined. Most of the hide was present and only small post-mortem marks were observed indicating that the carcass was scavenged. No evidence of predator attack was observed. There was no evidence of any type of struggle and the cause of death was not determined.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130703 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 07/03/2013

General Area: Upper Threebuck Cr – Private Land

General situation and animal information: On 07/02/13 the owner was moving cattle to a new pasture and observed a calf with injuries to its hind leg. The area is within the Imnaha Pack home range and wolf attack was suspected. ODFW was asked directly by the owner to examine the calf and on 07/03/13 the owner captured the calf and transported it to a nearby ranch for examination. The animal was alive and in relatively good condition at the time of examination and the injuries appeared to be approximately 2 weeks old.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Possible large bite wound on the upper right rear leg, and possible tooth punctures on the underside of the right rear leg indicate the animal may have been attacked by predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Wound on upper right rear leg is 2 inches long, 1 ½ inches wide and ½ inch deep and indicates possible bite with large teeth. Numerous scrapes were observed on the upper part of both hind legs, and 4 small punctures on upper right hind leg were difficult to confirm as bites due to the age and healing of wounds.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No known presence of wolves in the immediate area where calf was being pastured. Radio-collared Imnaha pack wolves were approximately 4-5 miles south of area where calf was pastured during the estimated period of injury.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One calf was confirmed killed by Imnaha wolves on 4/22/13 approximately 5.0 NW of this site. One calf was confirmed attacked by Imnaha wolves on 5/10 approximately 2 miles north of this site. One yearling was confirmed killed by Imnaha wolves on 5/15/13 approximately 4.5 miles north of this site. One calf was confirmed attacked by wolf(s) during mid May 2013 approximately 4.5 miles north of this site.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW was not able to confirm that the scrapes and punctures were the result of canine teeth due to the age and healing of injuries, and also due to the lack of matching or parallel scrapes which would normally suggest canine teeth. The large scabbed hole or tear on the upper right rear leg was also difficult to confirm as a canine bite for the same reasons mentioned above. However, the general appearance of some of the injuries, the location (hind- end area) of these injuries, and the history of wolf depredation in this specific area warrants a finding of probable.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130703 Union

Date Investigated: 7/3/2013

General Area: Indian Creek area –Private land

General situation and animal information: A calf was found dead on 7/2/2013 near a shed and house. It had been seen alive 8 days earlier. The livestock owner expressed concerns that wolves were involved in the death of this calf and ODFW investigated within 3 hours. No scavenging had occurred prior to the investigation and the calf was intact except for a ruptured rumen, probably a result of decomposition. The entire carcass was skinned and examined by ODFW.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by any predator was observed. No sign of a struggle or evidence of any wounds (pre or post mortem) was found.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None, this is not an area of known wolf use.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: It is unknown why the calf died, but there was no evidence of predation. Thus, a determination of “other” is warranted.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130704 Union

Date Investigated: 7/4/2013

General Area: Indian Creek area-Private land

General situation and animal information: A small calf was found dead late in the evening of 7/3/2013 about 300 yards southwest of a house and near where another calf was investigated earlier on the day. This calf had died in a sternal position with its head and neck resting on a forked limb, and was last known alive 8 days earlier. The owner suspected wolves and ODFW investigated the following morning. The calf was estimated to have been dead for approximately 3 days and some scavenging had occurred by birds and possibly small mammals or coyotes along the back midline.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None. A thorough exam of the carcass including scanning with a metal detector (there was some speculation the animal may have been shot) revealed no evidence of any type of trauma pre mortem injuries. No evidence of a struggle was observed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None, this is not an area of known wolf use.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: It is unknown why the calf died, but there was no evidence of predation. Thus, a determination of "other" is warranted.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130719 Willowa

Date Investigated: 07/19/2013

General Area: Lower Big Sheep Creek drainage -- private land.

General situation and animal information: On 07/18/2013 the owner was gathering cattle to move to a new pasture and observed an adult cow with injuries on the right hind leg and vulva. Wolf attack was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the cow on 07/19/2013. The owner had moved the cow with other cattle to a corral with a squeeze chute for examination. The cow was alive in good condition at the time of examination, and injuries appeared to be approximately 2-3 weeks old.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: One vertical scrape 8 inches long and 1/8 inch diameter on the skin of the upper right rear leg which could possibly be the result of a bite from a large canine tooth, but with no matching or parallel tooth mark it is likely the result of a scrape against a sharp object. One long vertical scrape on the upper portion of the tail could be a result of a bite, but there were no matching tooth marks or scrapes on underside of the injury.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None determined.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No known presence of wolf or wolves in the immediate area where the cow was being pastured. Radio-collared Imnaha pack wolves were approximately 13 miles southwest of area where cow was pastured at estimated date of injury.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One yearling cow was confirmed killed by Imnaha wolves on 5/15/13 approximately 11.5 miles southwest of this site.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW was not able to confirm that the injuries on this cow were the result of canine tooth bites due to the age and healing of injuries, and the lack of matching or parallel scrapes which would normally suggest canine teeth. However, the location (hind-end area) of these injuries is similar to those observed on confirmed Imnaha pack depredations, and warrants a finding of possible/unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130723 Union

Date Investigated: 7/23/2013

General Area: Grande Ronde Valley below Mt Emily – Private Land

General situation and animal information: A livestock producer found a dead lamb on the morning of 7/23/2013. He reported that he saw 3 wolves in or near the pasture, so ODFW was called to investigate.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: There was a blood trail on the grass and blood on tufts of wool scattered around the intact carcass. Hemorrhage and tissue damage was visible in a small area from the lower jaw to the front of the neck at the throat. The loose blood clots in the nasal cavity and throat also indicated premortem damage. Four small puncture holes through the hide matched up to bone damage on the posterior of the lower left jaw bone. The entire carcass was skinned. No other marks were found under the hide or in the tissue. Coyote tracks and scat were found nearby.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There was no evidence that the depredation was by a wolf.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No wolf sign (tracks or scat) was found on the scene or adjacent property. No evidence was found on the carcass. No wolves are known to use this area.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The lamb was killed by a predator. The location of the single wound area was under the throat which is indicative of a small predator biting upwards. The bite marks were too small to be wolf canines. The owner reported seeing a wolf which warrants a finding of possible/unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION 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.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130727 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 7/27/2013 and 7/28/2013

General Area: Upper Pine Creek – Private Land

General situation and animal information: An 800 lb. yearling cow was found dead in a forested pasture by an attending cattleman at approximately 11:00am on Saturday 7/27/13. The cattleman suspected wolf involvement and ODFW responded the same day. The cattlemen’s assistant reported seeing 5 wolves (1 adult and 4 pups) on the road within 100 yards of the carcass at 5:30 Saturday morning, 7/27/13. He also reported seeing a large male black bear near the same location on Wednesday 7/24/13 at 6:30am.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The area surrounding the carcass was searched within 200 yards for evidence of a struggle or chase. No evidence was found at the scene to indicate a predator attacked the cow. A large number of bald faced hornets had found the carcass and were active on it, making skinning it impossible. The carcass examination was delayed until the next morning when cool temperatures would subdue the hornets. By 5:15am the next morning the carcass had been further consumed, limiting the value of carcass evidence. The remains were examined including a large 4 foot by 2 foot piece of skin from the left side of the animal with attached legs. No evidence of premortem trauma or bite marks indicating predation was observed. There was no evidence at the scene or on the carcass to suggest a predator killed the cow.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The yearling was estimated to have died between 7/21 and 7/23/13. The GPS radio-collar locations of the breeding male of the Umatilla River pack showed that he was in the area of the dead yearling on Tuesday, 7/23/13. However, he did not remain at the location and did not return until Friday night 7/26. On Sunday 7/28, the ODFW investigator heard at least two adults and numerous pups howling approximately 400 yards from the carcass location.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Umatilla River pack wolves were confirmed to be responsible for depredating on sheep at one location in two incidents in late May and early June of 2013. The location of these incidents is approximately 1.75 miles from where the carcass was found.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The yearling cow appeared by the evidence to have died with little or no struggle. At the time of discovery, after no less than one night of multiple wolves scavenging, the remains of the carcass weighed approximately 300 lbs. and approximately 60% had been consumed. The carcass had lain in three locations (15-25 feet apart) long enough to leave stains from decomposition, and cause vegetation death under the carcass. Only a large black bear would have the strength to move such a heavy carcass. Based on the sign found, it is believed a bear discovered the carcass first and moved it twice. Based on GPS radio-collar data, the wolves scavenged the carcass between Friday night, 7/26 and Sunday 7/28. The lack of a significant amount of carcass to examine made a clear determination of cause of death difficult. That combined with the lack of a struggle scene led to a determination of Possible/Unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130727 Union

Date Investigated: July 27, 2013

General Area: Pumpkin Ridge area – Private Land

General situation and animal information: An injured calf was found in a grassland pasture on the morning of 7/27. The calf was alive at the time of discovery but had severe injuries to its hind end. The owner reported that the calf was approximately 10 days old, weighed about 110 lbs., and was last observed on July 25. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to investigate the calf. Because of the calf's severe injuries, it had been euthanized prior to ODFW arrival by a Union County Sheriff Deputy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A blood trail was observed for approximately 70' leading to the carcass. A disturbed area where the blood trail originated may be where the attack occurred. Both hind quarters showed extensive bite trauma and some of the muscle tissue on the rump and thigh appeared to have been consumed. The calf's tail showed small scrapes which appeared to be small bite wounds. One bite was found on the inside of the right thigh bone with 1" spacing and no paired marks observed in the hide. Several tooth holes and scrapes were found on the trailing edge of skin on the right thigh. Tooth spacing ranged from 1" to 1.5", though it was difficult to determine which marks were paired. The carcass was entirely skinned and the area forward of the hind quarters was intact and had no trauma.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None observed. The nature and location of the bite wounds on this calf were consistent with coyote.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. Though tracking conditions were poor (mostly grass or hard soil).

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None. The area is near (within 2 miles) of the current Area of Known Wolf Activity for the newly discovered Mt. Emily pair, but no locations at or near this property have been documented.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The small calf sustained severe bite wounds to its hind end and was euthanized as a result. The size and location of the bite wounds on this calf were consistent with coyote and a determination of "other" is warranted.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130802 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/02/2013

General Area: Middle Fork Whiskey Creek – private land

General situation and animal information: On 08/02/2013 the owner was checking cattle he had recently moved to a new pasture and found a dead calf partly consumed. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the calf on 08/02/2013. The animal carcass appeared to have been dead for 3-4 days, and some parts of the carcass had been fed on.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Seven bruise marks, ¼ inches in diameter, were found underneath the skin above and below the elbow of the right front leg which could possibly be the result of bites, but the distance between marks did not match expected canine teeth spread and no associated hemorrhaging in subcutaneous or muscle tissue was found.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None determined.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No evidence of wolf presence in the area where the calf was found.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No known wolf depredation in the same or nearby area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW was not able to confirm that the injuries on this calf carcass were the result of bites due to the spacing between bruise marks and the lack of associated hemorrhaging which would normally suggest canine teeth. Though the location (elbow area of right front leg) of these injuries is similar to those observed on other confirmed wolf depredations, the cause of death of this calf is unclear and warrants a finding of possible/unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130809 Union

Date Investigated: August 9, 2013

General Area: Stubblefield Mountain area – Private land

General situation and animal information: The landowner found an 8 year old dead cow and reported the loss to the owner of the cow on 8/3/2013. The carcass was found ¼ mile from the house on forested rangeland. The livestock producer reported seeing the cow alive in mid or late June. Wolves were suspected and ODFW was asked to investigate on 8/9/2013.

The carcass was estimated to be between 4 to 6 weeks old. Only bones and the hide remained when the investigation was conducted. There was a substantial amount of coyote and bear scat in the vicinity. One or more bears had disturbed much of the woody debris near the carcass. The site had a substantial amount of cattle use. Postmortem bite marks were found on the skin on the forehead and the outer edge of the upper scapula. The paired bite punctures were 1 inch apart.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No definitive sign of a chase or struggle was found. Due to its age and lack of flesh on the carcass, it was not possible to detect if the cow was attacked by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There was no evidence of predation.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS location data shows that a radio-collared Minam Pack wolf had been in the area of the dead cow on 6/21, 6/22, 6/24 and 7/02.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: Very little carcass remained as the carcass had been heavily scavenged – likely by at least the three species known to be present (coyotes, bears and wolves). As a result, there was no evidence to determine if the death of the cow was caused by a predator or other causes. A determination of possible/unknown is appropriate.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130812 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/12/2013

General Area: Zumwalt Prairie – Private Land

General situation and animal information: On 08/12/2013 a cattle manager was checking cattle and found one bull missing. Later the same day he found the adult bull dead and partly consumed. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf on 08/12/2013. The bull appeared to have been dead for 2-3 days, and the entrails had been removed from the abdominal cavity.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None. No sign of a struggle was observed in the area of the dead bull. In addition, no pre-mortem injuries were observed on the carcass.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No evidence of wolf presence was found in the area of this bull. The area is within the home range of the Imnaha pack, but radio collar data shows no use of this portion of the prairie to date this summer.

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

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary:

ODFW was not able to determine the cause of death of this large bull. The lack of evidence of a struggle by such a large animal suggests this animal may have died quickly. Furthermore, the lack of pre-mortem injury indicates that death was not a result of predation. This warrants a finding of possible/unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130815 Union

Date Investigated: August 15, 2013

General Area: Grande Ronde Valley near Mt Emily – Private land

General situation and animal information: An adult cow bison was found dead by the landowner on 8/15/2013. The owner reported seeing the bison alive on 8/13/2013. The owner suspected wolves and ODFW responded the same day. The carcass was intact except for approximately 20 pounds of flesh that had been scavenged.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: There was no sign of a chase or struggle. No bite or claw marks were found on the carcass. There was no evidence that a predator attacked the bison.

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 evidence of wolf presence. No wolves are known to use this area.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: There was no evidence of predation on the intact carcass or the scene.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130821 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/21/2013

General Area: Upper Threebuck Creek - Private land.

General situation and animal information: On 8/21/13 a person working for the livestock owner was on horseback checking cattle in a rangeland pasture and found a dead calf partly consumed. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the carcass. The calf carcass appeared to be dead less than 2 days, and some parts of the carcass had been fed on.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A large premortem bite wound on the left front leg near the elbow and premortem bite wounds on both upper hind legs indicate the animal was attacked by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The severe damage of the 5 inch diameter wound in the muscle tissue of the left front leg indicates a predator bite with large teeth. Multiple vertical scrapes visible on the skin of both upper hind legs along with associated hemorrhaging and muscle tissue damage underneath provide evidence of multiple bites from a large predator. Location of bite wounds are at similar locations (front leg elbow and hind-end area) where bites have been observed on other confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Nine GPS radio-collar locations of OR-4 (Imnaha pack) indicate that he was in the area from 6:00am on 8/18/13 until 8/19/13 at 6:00am. Two of the locations were 0.6 and 0.9 miles distant on 8/18/13.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One calf was confirmed attacked by Imnaha wolves on 5/10/13 within the same drainage approximately 4.7 miles northeast of this site. ODFW has confirmed other livestock depredations on this property (2011 and 2012).

Cause of death/injury:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Confirmed Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Probable Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Possible/Unknown	<input type="radio"/> Other
---	-------------------------------------	--	-----------------------------

Summary: ODFW examined the calf carcass and found a large bite wound on the left front leg (elbow) along with multiple bite wounds and torn muscle tissue on both upper hind legs. The location of these bite wounds are similar to those observed on other confirmed wolf depredations. The confirmed wolf presence and common use of the area by Imnaha pack members led ODFW to confirm this calf as being killed by members of the Imnaha pack.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130822 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/22/2013

General Area: Upper Griffith Creek - Private land

General situation and animal information: On 8/17/13 a livestock owner was moving cattle to a new pasture and observed an adult cow with injuries to the upper right hind leg and udder. Five days later the animal was relocated and hauled to a veterinary clinic for examination. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the animal. The injuries on the cow appeared to be 7-10 days old, and the animal was otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A large bite wound on the upper portion of the udder, and bite wounds on the upper right hind leg indicate the animal was attacked by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There were multiple scrapes ranging from 1 – 5 inches long and 1/8 – 1/4 inch wide visible on the skin of the upper right hind leg, along with two 3/8 inch diameter punctures at the base of the tail providing evidence of bites from a large predator. The severe damage of the 6 x 7 inch wound on the udder indicates a predator bite with large teeth. The location of the bite wounds are at similar locations (udder and upper hind legs) where bites have been observed on other confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS data from 2 Imnaha wolves indicate that for more than a month members of the Imnaha pack frequented an area near the pasture the cow was in when injured.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One calf was confirmed attacked by Imnaha wolves on 5/10/13 approximately 5.5 miles northeast of this site. Another calf was confirmed as a loss on 8/21/13, about 1.5 miles north of this location.

Cause of death/injury:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Confirmed Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Probable Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Possible/Unknown	<input type="radio"/> Other
---	-------------------------------------	--	-----------------------------

Summary: ODFW examined the cow and found a large bite wound on the upper portion of the udder along with multiple bite wounds on the upper right hind leg and lower portions of the udder. The location of these bite wounds are similar to those observed on other confirmed wolf depredations. The confirmed wolf presence and common use of the area by Imnaha pack members led ODFW to confirm this cow as being attacked by members of the Imnaha pack.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130823 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 8/23/2013

General Area: Upper Pine Creek – Private Land

General situation and animal information: A mature milking goat was found dead and partially consumed in the early morning near the owner's house on 8/23/2013. Wolf attack was suspected and the carcass was examined by ODFW the same day.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Premortem hemorrhage and muscle tissue damage was observed on the posterior portion of both hind legs in the thigh area. Premortem hemorrhage was also observed across the back indicating the animal was attacked, and killed by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The depth and amount of tissue damage (shredding) is similar to damage caused by wolf bites. The number of bites and locations of the damage (thigh area and along the back) is characteristic of wolf depredation and has been observed in other wolf depredations in this area.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A GPS radio-collar location for OR-14 (Umatilla River pack) was recorded at 3:00 am inside the pen approximately 40 yards from where the goat was found. The time of the GPS location was consistent with the approximate time of attack.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Depredations attributed to wolves from the Umatilla River pack occurred approximately 2.5 miles to the west on 5/21/2013 and 6/03/2013.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: Once the carcass was skinned, premortem hemorrhage and deep muscle tissue damage were observed in locations which are consistent with wolf attack. In addition OR-14 was present in the pen where the goat was killed near the time of death. These factors warrant a confirmation of wolf depredation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130830 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 08/30/2013

General Area: Braham Meadows – private land

General situation and animal information: On 08/30/13 a family member of a livestock owner was checking cattle in a rangeland pasture and found a dead adult cow partly consumed. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the carcass. The cow appeared to have been dead about 4 days and the udder and upper left hind leg had been fed on.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Only one small injury was found on the carcass at the hock of the left hind leg, but was not the result of attack by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No recent evidence of wolf presence in the area where the cow was found.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No known wolf depredation in the same or nearby area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW did not find any injuries on the carcass to suggest attack by a predator. The cause of death of this cow was not predator related and warrants a finding of "other".



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130904 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/4/2013

General Area: Weston Mountain area - Private Land

General situation and animal information: About 6pm on 9/3/2013 a 6 month old lamb was found dead and partially eaten. The owner reported that the lamb was alive at 6am that morning. The owner believed wolves were involved and called ODFW on 9/4/2013.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: An area that appeared to be a struggle site of matted down vegetation, traces of blood and large clumps of wool was found about 20 feet from the carcass. Areas of hemorrhage that appeared to be caused by bites were present on the ventral neck and throat indicating an attack had occurred.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There is no evidence that the attack was made by a wolf. The abdomen was opened at a location on the upper flank atypical for wild canids. All internal organs were present, though a significant amount of muscle had been eaten from the upper hindquarters and along the ribs. These are not normal locations for feeding to begin by wild canids. The lack of trauma in the areas where wolves characteristically bite and the lack of major tissue damage created by wolf bites are inconsistent with how other livestock have been killed by the Umatilla River wolves.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: There was no sign on the scene or the carcass to indicate wolf presence. The GPS radio-collar locations for OR14 (Umatilla River pack) were 6 miles away.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: This investigation was about .8 mile from a confirmed goat depredation on 8/23/13 and 3.5 miles from a location where sheep depredations were confirmed on 5/21/2013 and 6/3/2013.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The lamb was killed in a way inconsistent with how other livestock have been killed by the Umatilla River wolves. The injuries found on the lamb are consistent with domestic dog kills.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130909 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 09/09/2013

General Area: Upper Little Sheep Creek – private land

General situation and animal information: During late August a livestock owner was moving cattle to a new pasture and observed an adult cow with injuries on her udder. Later the animal was hauled to a pasture near the owner's home for veterinary examination. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the animal. The injuries on the cow appeared to be 2-3 weeks old, and the animal was otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Two puncture wounds on the right side of the udder, and 2 tears on the lower and rear portions of the udder could possibly be the result of predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None determined.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No known wolf presence in the vicinity of injured cow. On 8/18/13 radio collared OR-4 was located approximately 3 miles southeast of the pasture where the cow was observed with injuries.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One calf was confirmed killed by Imnaha wolves on 08/21/13 approximately 3 miles southeast of pasture where cow was observed with injuries. Another adult cow was confirmed attacked by Imnaha wolves on 8/22/13 approximately 3.8 miles southeast of the pasture where cow was observed with injuries.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW was not able to confirm the injuries on this cow were the result of wolf attack due to the lack of additional evidence of bites anywhere else on the animal. Though the punctures on the right side of the udder and injuries on the rear and lower portions of the udder could possibly have been the result of bites, the cause of injury to this cow is unclear and warrants a finding of possible/unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130922 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 9/22/2013

General Area: Upper Griffith Creek – Private land

General situation and animal information: A livestock owner found the carcass of a 14-15 year old cow in a forested pasture on 9/19/2013. The carcass was within 50 feet of a small roadway and this cow was reported last observed by the owner around June 1st. The owner suspected wolves and ODFW investigated on the same day of notification. The carcass had been scavenged by a number of bears, and only hide and bones remained. The livestock owner reported that he and neighbors had been seeing or hearing 4-5 wolves in an area approximately 2 miles east of this location off and on all summer, most recently "a couple" of weeks ago.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: This cow is estimated to have died 3-6 weeks prior to the investigation. No wolf sign was found in the area of the carcass and there are no wolf radio-collar locations within a mile of this location. Radio-collar data indicates that the Imnaha pack wolves have been primarily upslope during the time period except for 2 locations within 2 miles.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: A cow was confirmed injured by Imnaha pack wolves on 8/22/2013. In addition, a calf was confirmed to have been killed by Imnaha pack wolves several miles north of this site in upper Three Buck Creek on 8/21/2013.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW was not able to determine the cause of death of this cow. The long time since death and amount of scavenging on this carcass precluded a determination of what caused the death of this animal. This warrants a finding of possible/unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 130926 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/26-27/2013

General Area: Meacham Area - Private Land

General situation and animal information: On 9/26/2013 a producer discovered an injured adult bull while riding a forested pasture in the Upper Meacham Creek area. The bull was subsequently moved to a corral system near Meacham so its wounds could be examined and treated. Though no resident wolf activity is known in the area of the wounded bull, wolf attack was suspected and ODFW was asked to examine the bull's wounds. The first examination was made on the same day (9/26), and then a second examination was made on 9/27 when the bull could be restrained.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None. The specific area that the bull received wounds was unknown, and thus there was no scene to investigate. The bull's wounds were limited to relatively long tears in the crotch, leg, and scrotal area which appeared to be the result of contact with one or more sharp objects. The shoulders, flanks, and hind quarters were also examined and no bite marks or edemas were observed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. The general area of this bull has had irregular wolf use reported, but no knowledge of recent or regular use is known. An area of known wolf activity occurs about 7 miles from the location of this bull.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The injuries to the groin and scrotal area of this bull appear to be the result of contact with one or more sharp objects. No bite caused wounds were observed and none of the injuries appeared to be bite or predator related. Thus, a finding of "other" is warranted.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 131015 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 10/15/2013

General Area: Freezout Saddle Area – public land

General situation and animal information: On October 14, a livestock producer was checking cattle in a forested allotment and observed a cow moving quickly down a hill. Shortly after, the producer reported observing 4 wolves (3 black, 1 gray) immediately upslope of where the cow had just been running. He immediately hazed the wolves away from the area by making loud noises. The following morning (10/15) the producer returned to the area to check cattle. He reported the cows were very agitated and one injured calf was found. The calf was loaded and taken to the ranch house where its injuries could be examined and treated if necessary. Wolf predation was suspected and ODFW investigated the calf's wounds on the evening of October 15th. The 250 lb calf was alive at the time of the investigation and its wounds were estimated to have occurred the previous night.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Numerous deep bite-caused wounds to the rear legs resulted in severe damage to the underlying muscle tissue. Several of the wounds on the hind-right leg showed clear evidence of opposing teeth which indicated a large jaw clamping over the leg. Multiple, gaping holes in the hide and muscle tissue (approximately 1cm in diameter) appeared to be from large canine teeth.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: A high number of bite wounds on the hind end of the animal were observed on both the inguinal area, and the medial and lateral portion of the leg and with clear opposing bites. Bite wounds were a result of large carnivore teeth (size of the wounds). In addition, the location and high number of bites were similar to other confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS collar data shows that on the night of 10/14-15, both OR15 and OR18 of the Snake River pack were in the specific area of the calf at the time of its injury.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No confirmed depredation by the Snake River pack has been documented to date.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW was able to determine the cause of injury to this calf. The multiple, large bite wounds on the hind end and inguinal area of the calf, the known location of the two collared wolves of the Snake River Pack, and the agitated behavior of the remaining cattle are adequate evidence to confirm this incident as a wolf depredation. Though the wounds were severe, the fate of the injured calf was unknown at the time of the investigation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 131025 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 10/25/2013

General Area: Weston Mountain area – private land

General situation and animal information: A livestock producer found a dead lamb near a sheep pen on the morning of 10/25/2013. The Suffolk lamb was estimated to have weighed around 120 lbs and got outside the protective fenced area the evening prior. Wolf predation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The carcass was located approximately 8 yards from the pen in a recently created clearing, though there was evidence that the site of death was at the fence line. The lamb was estimated to have died the previous evening and had been partially consumed and all injuries and consumption occurred on the hind half of the lamb. Additional investigation of the carcass was also made on 10/28. The owner reported last observing the animals the evening of 10/24/2013. The owner also reported a second sheep, which had gotten out of the pen at the same time, to be missing.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The location of the carcass near the pen indicated that very little chase occurred. Blood and wool patches were observed in a scuffed area at the fenceline, identifying the spot as the likely kill site. Premortem injuries were observed on two portions of the carcass. 1) A bite mark with associated hemorrhage on the hide was observed on the upper right rear leg. 2) Muscle tissues of the hind end showed evidence of premortem trauma, several hematomas within the tissue. Entrails were removed during predator's feeding on the carcass (though not all of the heart and lungs were removed) and much of the hind end muscle tissue was consumed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: No clear evidence. The size and spacing of the premortem bite wounds could not be clearly identified as wolf – one bite had spacing located in the hide with a 1.5" spacing. The torso, front legs, head and neck showed no injuries of any kind.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A fresh track set from a single wolf was observed in a muddy section of road approximately 80 yards from the carcass. No radio collar locations were near the site of the dead lamb. However, OR 14 was shown to be in the area much of the day on 10/26.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: ODFW confirmed sheep predation by the Umatilla River wolves on this property in 2012. More recently a confirmed depredation of a goat occurred approximately 3.25 miles west of this site on 8/23/13.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: Bite wounds, including some with hemorrhage, is evidence that the lamb died as a result of predation. Though the wounds could not be clearly identified as wolf-caused, there was evidence of wolf presence (a single track set 80 yards distant) in the immediate area. This producer had experienced confirmed wolf depredation in this same pasture in 2012. More recently, wolves of the Umatilla River pack area recently depredated a goat in the general area. These factors, combined, warrant a probable determination.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 131104 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 11/04/2013

General Area: Upper Freezeout Creek – public land

General situation and animal information: On October 30, a livestock owner was checking and gathering cattle in a forested area and observed a 5-month old calf with injuries to the hind legs and flank. Two days later the calf was captured and taken to a barn near the ranch house. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf on November 4. The injuries on the live calf were estimated to be approximately 12 – 16 days old, and the animal appeared otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A large bite wound was observed on the right flank, and large bite wounds on both hind legs above the hocks indicate the animal was attacked by a predator. Both of the hind leg wounds showed large tooth scrapes near the edges indicating large carnivore attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There was a large, open hole (approximately 4 inches across) in the muscle tissue of the right flank, and a large open wound (approximately 4 x 3 inches) on the medial portion of the left hind leg, and a large open wound (approximately 3 x 2 inches) on the medial portion of the right hind leg. Three parallel scrapes (each 2 inches long, ¼ inches wide) were observed at the edges of the wounds indicating predator bites with large teeth. The location of the bite wounds (flank and upper medial hind legs) are at similar locations where bites have been observed on previously confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The specific location where the calf received its injury is unknown. However, GPS collar data indicate that wolves of the Snake River pack frequented the general area of the pasture where the calf was found during the estimated time period of injury.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One calf was previously confirmed attacked by Snake River wolves on 10/15/13 approximately 1.5 miles north of the site where this injured calf was found.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf and found a large bite wound on the right flank along with large bite wounds (with large tooth scrapes) above the hocks on medial portion of both hind legs – the location and appearance of the bite wounds are very similar to those observed on previously confirmed wolf depredations. In addition, Snake River pack members were known to be in the area during the estimated period of injury. These factors combined are indicators that this calf was attacked by wolves of the Snake River pack.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 131120 Jefferson

Date Investigated: 11/20/2013

General Area: Dry Canyon area – Private Land

General situation and animal information: An adult cow was found dead in an open land pasture on 11/18/2013. Wolf predation was suspected and ODFW investigated on 11/20/2013. The carcass was estimated to be approximately 10 days old. There was evidence of scavenging by coyotes and birds. The cow was largely intact except for the hindquarters and internal organs. The hide was intact on the downside of the carcass and anterior to the ribs on the upside. The skeleton, including the pelvis, was intact and no bones were broken.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None. The outside of the hide of the entire cow was examined; no premortem injuries or marks were found. The shoulders and elbow areas were skinned and examined; no marks or hemorrhage were found on the hide or in the muscle. No premortem marks were found on the inside of the hide of the left hindquarter. No sign of an attack was found on the scene.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: There was no evidence of predation.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: There was no evidence of wolf presence in the area. No wolves are known to use the area.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: A determination of other is appropriate since there was no evidence of predation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 131121 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 11/21/2013

General Area: Morgan Ridge area - public and private land.

General situation and animal information: On November 20, a livestock owner found an adult cow in the lower portion of a pasture walking a fence line along the Imnaha River. The cow had injuries on both hind legs. That evening the cow was brought into a corral near the ranch house. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the cow the following morning on November 21. The injuries on the live cow were estimated to be 10 – 14 days old, and the animal was otherwise healthy. The pasture that the cow was in had a mixture of both public and private land.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Numerous bite wounds were found on both the right and left rear legs below the vulva and above the hocks. Large tooth scrapes were also found on the upper hind portion of the udder and on the tail.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Observed 12 mostly vertical tooth scrapes approximately ½ to 3 inches long on the medial portion of the right hind leg; 5 horizontal scrapes approximately 1 to 2 inches long, and one vertical scrape approximately 5 ½ inches long on the medial portion of the left hind leg. One large vertical scrape approximately 10 inches long on the right side of the tail below vulva. Two mostly vertical scrapes approximately 3 inches long on the upper medial portion of the udder. The size and location of the bite wounds (upper medial hind legs, tail, and udder) are at similar locations where bites have been observed on previously confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The specific location within the pasture where the cow received its injuries is unknown. However, GPS collar data indicate that wolves of the Snake River pack were in the general area where the cow was being pastured during the estimated time period of the injury.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Two calves were previously confirmed attacked by Snake River wolves on 10/16/13 and 11/04/13 approximately 4.0 and 2.5 miles north of this area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow and found bite wounds on the right and left rear legs, tail, and udder; the appearance and location of the bite wounds are very similar to those observed on previously confirmed wolf depredations. The Snake River pack members were known to be in the area during the estimated period of injury. This information indicates that this cow was attacked by wolves of the Snake River pack.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 131209 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 12/09/13

General Area: Mid Prairie Creek area – private land.

General situation and animal information: On December 8, 2013 a livestock owner observed injuries on an adult cow and her calf while gathering and moving cattle to a new pasture. The cow and calf both had injuries on their lower right hind legs. The cow and calf were brought to a corral near the ranch house. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the live animals on December 9. The injury on the live cow was estimated to be approximately 2 days old, while the calf injury was estimated to be 2 weeks old. Both animals appeared otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator. Leg injuries on the adult cow appear to be a result of contact with sharp object, not teeth. The tear injury on the calf is unknown, but does not appear to be bite related.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N.A.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No known wolf activity near the area where the cow and calf received their injuries.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Most recent confirmed wolf depredation occurred on August 21 approximately 10 miles southeast of where cow and calf received injuries.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow and calf and found injuries on lower right hind legs of both animals. The cause of the injuries is unknown, but not the result of predator bites. No known recent wolf activity has been documented in the area where the cow and calf received their injuries. It is unknown how the cow and calf received their injuries, but the injuries were not the result of wolf attack.