



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140130 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 1/30/2014

General Area: Upper Prairie Creek, Private Land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of January 30, 2014, an owner of a small band of sheep discovered a dead ewe within his paddock. A fresh snow had fallen overnight and wolf tracks were observed in the area of the dead animal and the paddock. The ewe was partially consumed, still warm, and wolf predation was suspected. ODFW examined the ewe on the same morning.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Multiple, large, pre-mortem bite wounds were observed on this animal. Tissue damage with severe hemorrhage was observed on the ewe's flank/groin area. In addition, bite wounds with associated hemorrhage was observed above the left front shoulder, on the right hind leg, on the right rib cage, and on the ewe's neck. All tooth punctures and bite wounds observed were clearly a result of large canine teeth.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Numerous wolf tracks were observed both inside and outside the paddock and at the location of the carcass. The large canine tooth marks and the location of the bite wounds (flank/groin, behind front shoulder, neck, and hind legs) are commonly observed attack points for wolves. Severely damaged muscle tissue beneath several of the bite wounds showed evidence of 'shredding' – something commonly observed with sheep depredation by wolves. The shredding of tissue was observed in areas where the hide over the wound was relatively intact. This, combined with deep hemorrhage into the muscle tissues, are clear indicators of very powerful bites with relatively blunt teeth.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Numerous wolf tracks at the carcass and in the area of the paddock as noted above. Limited location data has shown that wolves of the Imnaha Pack have regularly frequented this portion of their home range over the past two weeks. Importantly, VHF locations of OR4 indicate his presence the day prior to and the day of the depredation in the area near this depredation.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: On 8/22/2013 a depredation (cow) by the Imnaha Pack was confirmed at a location approximately 5 miles east of this site.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW found that this ewe died as a result of trauma from many large bite wounds. Severe hemorrhage was present showing that the animal was depredated and not simply scavenged. The location and appearance of the bite wounds noted above are similar to those observed on other confirmed sheep depredations. In addition, at least some of the Imnaha Pack members were known to be in the immediate area on the night of this depredation – the scene of the attack and the presence of multiple wolf tracks corroborated this. These factors combined are clear evidence that this ewe was depredated by wolves of the Imnaha Pack.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140228 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 02/28/2014

General Area: Lower Imnaha River, private land.

General situation and animal information: On February 28, 2014 a local resident observed a dead cow on the east side of the lower Imnaha River. This person contacted the stock owner who later that day examined the carcass. The adult cow carcass was estimated to have died 3-4 days previous, was mostly consumed, and wolf depredation was suspected. ODFW was contacted and examined the carcass on the same day.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Unable to confirm physical attack by a predator – most of the carcass was consumed. Observed a massive hemorrhage, approximately 9 inch diameter, in muscle tissue and associated subcutaneous tissue on upper portion of right rear ribs, including one broken rib at this location. However, no associated bite or tooth marks were found on the skin at this location. Bruising on the bone and subcutaneous tissue below hock of right hind leg, appeared to be the result of contact with hard object(s), but no evidence of tooth marks. Four scrapes in skin along the animals back, appeared to be the result of the animal falling or sliding on the ground.

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

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Wolf tracks (2-4 days old) were observed at carcass site and in the vicinity. There was clear evidence, including tufts of hair on the ground, that the cow was alive and had slid and/or stumbled down slope for approximately 250 yards to where carcass was found. Wolf tracks were observed up slope at the initial point and at several locations (within 15 yards) adjacent to the path made by the struggling cow indicating possible chase and/or attack by wolf(s). There was a radio collar location of a Snake River wolf pack member (OR15) at this site on 2/26/14.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: An adult cow and two calves were previously confirmed attacked by Snake River wolves approximately 15 – 19 miles south of this site and November 21, November 4, and October 15, respectively.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow carcass and found injuries on the lower right hind leg, upper part of the right rear ribs, and along the top of the back. The cause of the injuries is unknown, but did not appear to be the result of predator bites. There was a struggle path made by the cow extending approximately 250 yards up slope of the carcass, and wolf tracks were found at several locations the full length of the path. It appears that a wolf attack/chase may have caused the cow to stumble and struggle down the slope to where she died, but ODFW did not confirm any pre mortem bite or tooth marks. Snake River wolf pack member OR15 was located at this site on February 26, two days prior to ODFW examining the carcass. Although the injuries found on the carcass did not appear to be the result of wolf bites, there is evidence to indicate wolves were present at the time the animal was struggling and probably were involved with the animals' injury/death.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140330 Baker

Date Investigated: 3/30/2014

General Area: Five-Mile Road area – private land.

General situation and animal information: On March 30, 2014 a livestock manager found a dead adult cow near a pond in the northern portion of the Lookout Mountain Unit. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The cow had been largely consumed and only the skull, skeleton, and a small portion of hide remained for examination. The cow was estimated to have died more than a week prior to the investigation.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator. No disturbance or kill scene could be detected. No muscle tissues remained and only a small amount of hide was present. No evidence of bite wounds was observed, only evidence of scavenging.

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 had died.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow remains and the area and found no sign of wolf presence or evidence of any type of predation. Scavenging had clearly consumed most of the cow and the cause of death is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140410 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 04/10/2014

General Area: Deadhorse Ridge Area – private land

General situation and animal information: On April 9, 2014 the county range rider observed injuries on a young calf while attempting to locate a collared wolf in the general vicinity. The calf had a large open wound on the upper right rear leg, and smaller wounds below its right ear. On April 10, 2014 the calf and adult cow were brought to a corral near Enterprise. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the live animal on the same day, April 10. The injuries on the live calf were estimated to be approximately 6 days old. The calf appeared otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: One large open wound in the muscle tissue of the upper left rear leg. A number of bite marks were found above the open wound on the upper left rear leg and inside of the right rear leg above the hock. Additional bite marks were found below the right ear and underneath the neck.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None. Bite marks were small (1/16 inch in diameter) which is significantly smaller than wolf bites. . A parallel set of tooth marks under the right ear measured 1 ¼ inches apart which is significantly smaller than canine tooth spacing of wolves.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: GPS collar locations on April 7-9, 2014 of radio collared wolf OR-4 (Imnaha Pack) were within 2 miles of where the injured calf was first observed.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No confirmed wolf depredations in the same or nearby area in recent months.

Cause of death/injury: Coyote depredation.

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the live calf and found bite wounds on the upper portion of the left and right rear legs, underneath the neck, and below the right ear. The appearance, location, and small size of the bite wounds are very similar to those biologists have observed on coyote depredations on pronghorn and mule deer fawns. This information indicates that this calf was attacked by coyotes.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140423 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 04/23/2014

General Area: Upper Prairie Creek Area – private land

General situation and animal information: On 4/23/2014 a livestock producer observed injuries on a young calf and took it to a veterinarian. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the live animal on the same day. The injuries on the calf were estimated to be 4-5 days old.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A large number of bite marks were found surrounding a wound on the right rear leg.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None. Bite marks were significantly smaller than wolf bites. Most bite marks that might have been paired canines were 1 ¼" – 1 3/8" apart.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No wolf tracks or sign were found in the pasture. GPS collar locations show that a radio-collared wolf from the Imnaha pack traveled past this area on 4/20 and 4/21 though none of the GPS locations were in this pasture.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: In January a wolf depredation was confirmed five miles away.

Cause of death/injury: Coyote depredation.

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the live calf and found bite wounds on the upper portion of the right rear legs. The appearance, location, and small size of the bite wounds are very similar to those biologists have observed of coyote predation on wildlife and livestock. This information indicates that this calf was attacked by coyotes.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140505 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 05/05/2014

General Area: Camp Creek Drainage – Private Land

General situation and animal information: On 05/04/2014, a rider found a mostly consumed calf carcass while moving cattle. He contacted the livestock owner who came out to examine the carcass and assist moving cattle. Later that same day the livestock owner found a dead but intact adult cow approximately 450 yards from the calf carcass in an adjacent canyon. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was contacted the following morning and examined the carcasses on 05/05/14. The calf and the cow were estimated to have been dead approximately four days and three days, respectively.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator. The calf carcass was mostly consumed, and the broken hind leg of the adult cow was likely the result of falling.

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

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: On the day of the investigation the livestock owner reported observing a single wolf on the evening of 05/04/2014 in the vicinity of the carcasses.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: Most recent probable wolf depredation occurred on 02/28/2014 approximately 7.5 miles northeast of this site (Snake River Pack area). A confirmed depredation occurred approximately 22 miles from this site on 01/30/2014 (Imnaha Pack).

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf and cow carcasses and did not find any evidence of predation. Most of the calf carcass had been consumed, and the injuries found on the adult cow carcass were believed to be the result of falls while running down a steep canyon slope. The stock owner did report a single wolf sighting in the vicinity the same evening the carcasses were found but no evidence indicated the deaths were the result of any type of predation. Thus, the cause of death is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140517 Wallowa

Date Investigated: May 17, 2014

General Area: Zumwalt Prairie – private land

General situation and animal information: On May 17, 2014 a livestock producer found a dead adult cow in a grassland pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The carcass was intact with a small amount of scavenging on the lips, ears and around the anus and udder. The cow was estimated to have died 2 to 3 days prior to the investigation. The cows had been checked on May 11, 2014.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator. The carcass was skinned and examined. No evidence of premortem bite wounds or injuries was observed.

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

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: This location is within the Imnaha pack territory. There were two 1-2 day old canine tracks near the carcass of that may have been from a wolf.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow remains and the area and found no evidence of predation. The cause of death is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140520 Wallowa

Date Investigated: May 20, 2014

General Area: North of Enterprise – private land

General situation and animal information: On May 20, 2014 a livestock producer found a 100-pound calf dead in a fallow field pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The calf was estimated to have died the night before the investigation.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: There was a 10' x 20' area of trampled grass with one side adjacent to a barbed wire fence and gate. There was a 5" diameter blood spot near the fence where it apparently died and then another smaller spot about 2' away near where the carcass was found. The carcass was intact with feeding on the hindquarters and entrails. The carcass was skinned and examined. No premortem bite wounds were observed on the calf's sides or front end. There were coyote tracks and scat present and teeth marks of feeding by coyotes on the hind end. No bones were chewed on.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. This location is not in an area of known wolf activity.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the carcass and the scene and found evidence consistent with coyote predation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140522 Wallowa

Date Investigated: May 22, 2014

General Area: Alder Slope Area – private land

General situation and animal information: On May 22, 2014 a ranch hand found a dead 175-pound calf. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The cows in this pasture were last checked on May 19, 2014. The calf was estimated to have died the night of May 20, 2014. Most of the muscle tissue had been removed from the left side of the calf. The skeleton was intact except for the front left leg which was still attached to the carcass by the hide.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The remaining carcass was skinned and examined. There was severe hemorrhaging in the throat area, as well as the left front knee and left rear hock. There was a small point bruise on the rear of the lower jaw that appeared to be from a canine tooth. There was premortem bruising that matched punctures that were 1.25 inches apart on the right side of the hide believed to be from a coyote bite.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None. Bite marks were significantly smaller than wolf bites. The bite wounds are not in places typically attacked by wolves.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. Though wolf presence was documented in January and February, 2014, resident wolf activity has not been confirmed in this area.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the carcass and the scene and found the appearance, location (throat), and small size of the bite wounds to be consistent with coyote predation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140530 Wallowa (Amended)

Date Investigated: 5/30/2014

General Area: Western portion of Zumwalt Prairie - private land

General situation and animal information: At 11:30pm on 5/29/14 a sheepherder heard wolves howling near his trailer and the bedded flock of domestic sheep. He went outside and reported seeing 3 tan colored wolves in the light from his flashlight. The herder fired several shots in the air from a .22 magnum gun and they moved away. For the next 20 minutes he could hear the sheep being chased in the dark. In the morning he found 3 dead lambs (1 mostly consumed), and 20 sheep that had bite injuries on them. There were about 425 ewes in the flock with 2 lambs each and also about 30 cow/calf pairs in a large grassland pasture. There were 1 adult and 2 half-grown Pyrenees livestock protection dogs with the flock. ODFW was called on 5/30/14 and examined the sheep that day.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Two dead lambs and 5 injured lambs were examined. One of the dead lambs was intact. There were premortem canine puncture holes in the hide. When skinned, severe hemorrhaging and muscle tissue damage was found on the neck (6"x8"), right side (6"x15"), brisket (6"x8"), and lower hind quarters on both sides (4"x8" left, 2"x3" right). A second dead lamb was mostly consumed, only the head, hide, and major leg bones with part of the pelvis remained. Five injured lambs were examined; each had fresh premortem puncture wounds to the neck, throat, or hindquarters.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The location of the bite wounds on the dead lamb are commonly observed attack points for wolves. Severely damaged muscle tissue beneath several of the bite wounds showed evidence of 'shredding' – something commonly observed with sheep depredation by wolves. The shredding of tissue was observed in areas where the hide over the wound was relatively intact. This, combined with deep hemorrhage into the muscle tissues, is clear indicators of very powerful bites with relatively blunt teeth. There were also canine puncture holes in the hide found on the dead lamb that measured 1 5/8" to 2" apart and 1/4" in diameter.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Large canid tracks were present at the 2 carcass sites, though it is possible that they were from the adult livestock protection dog.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW found that these lambs were depredated by wolves. The location and appearance of the bite wounds noted above are similar to those observed on other confirmed sheep depredations. There were additional sheep that were not available for examination that are included in this incident. A total of three lambs were killed and 20 sheep were injured (all lambs except one ewe). The current dispositions of the injured sheep are unknown, it is possible that some will succumb to their injuries.

8/19/2014 Addendum: Further information was received from the livestock producer on 8/15/2014 regarding the disposition of the injured sheep. In addition to the 3 dead lambs found during the investigation, 7 more lambs and 2 adult ewes died from their injuries. The producer reported that the other injured lambs survived.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140613 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 6/13/2014

General Area: Wildhorse Road area – private land

General situation and animal information: A livestock producer observed several dead sheep in a pen on the morning of 6/13/2014. The same sheep and pen had experienced confirmed wolf depredation by the Umatilla River Pack in 2012, and the situation initially appeared similar to the producer. Wolf predation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. Upon arrival ODFW observed 6 dead sheep (3 adults, and 3 lambs). In addition, 6 injured sheep and a single missing lamb was reported – and many of the injured sheep were observed as having injuries by ODFW. It was estimated the sheep had been dead less than 24 hrs with one lamb having been partially consumed and 5 sheep showing no consumption. The sheep pen is immediately adjacent to the ranch house and the owner reported last observing the sheep the previous evening

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Upon initial investigation, many large-predator bite marks were easily observed on both the dead and wounded sheep within the pen, indicating predation of live animals by one or more large predators. In addition, 3 of the dead adult ewes were necropsied confirming premortem bite wounds.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The large number and location of bite wounds on the dead adult ewes was typical of wolf – hind end, medial and lateral surfaces of hind legs, behind front shoulders, brisket area, and throat. On hind-end bite wounds, severe subcutaneous hemorrhage and severe muscle tissue damage which showed a shredding of muscle fibers – commonly observed with other confirmed wolf depredations in this area. Size and spacing of the premortem bite wounds (i.e., canine tooth marks) that could be reliably measured were at least 1.5” spacing, though the extremely high number of bite wounds made accurate measurements difficult.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Location data from wolf OR14 (adult male from the Umatilla River pack) confirmed at least his presence immediately adjacent (<10 yards, and within fladry enclosure) to the sheep which were depredated at 3AM the same morning of the investigation. Also, on the morning of the depredation, the property owner observed a single un-collared wolf feeding on a carcass in a field near the sheep pen which later was confirmed to be a sheep carcass – the description of the wolf indicates a likely yearling wolf. At the time of observation, the observer did not know what the wolf was feeding on.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: ODFW confirmed sheep predation by the Umatilla River wolves in this same sheep pen in 2012.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The bite wounds were clearly identified as wolf -caused, and there was direct evidence of wolf presence (at least two wolves) in the immediate area of the penned sheep at the time of this incident. At the time of writing this report, ODFW is aware of 7 dead sheep (4 ewes, 3 lambs), 5 injured sheep (4 ewes, 1 lamb), and one missing lamb associated with this incident. It is acknowledged that more sheep may succumb to injuries.



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.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140616 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 06/16/2014

General Area: Big Sheep Cr. Area – Private land

General situation and animal information: On June 15, 2014 a local stockowner was working in the Big Sheep Creek area and observed a coyote and several ravens near a lone adult cow in a pasture. He approached the cow and found a dead calf with muscle tissue on both hind legs mostly consumed. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf carcass the following morning on June 16, 2014. It was estimated that the calf had died early in the day on June 15, 2014.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None observed. Canine tooth marks were found on the hide behind and above the left front shoulder. The marks were made postmortem with no associated subcutaneous hemorrhage or muscle tissue damage observed – this indicated scavenging. Bite marks were small (1/16 inch in diameter) which is significantly smaller than wolf bites. One parallel set of tooth marks above the left front shoulder measured less than 1 ½ inches apart which is smaller than canine tooth spacing of most wolves. No evidence of struggle or kill scene.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No known reports of wolf activity in the vicinity, nearest GPS wolf collar location was approximately 5.7 miles southwest of calf carcass on June 15, 2014, and no wolf tracks were observed.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No confirmed wolf depredations in the same or nearby area in recent months.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf carcass and found postmortem canine tooth marks near the front left shoulder, indicating the carcass had been scavenged. The appearance and small size of the tooth scrapes are very similar to those biologists have observed on coyote depredations on other wildlife prey species. Cause of death could not be determined and no other injuries were found on carcass remains.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140709 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 07/09/2014

General Area: Carol Creek area – Wallowa Whitman N.F.

General situation and animal information: On 07/09/2014 a local stockowner was checking water and cattle and found a partly consumed calf carcass inside a fenced enclosure near a stock pond. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf carcass the same day. The calf was estimated to have been dead approximately 5-6 days.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None observed. Minor hemorrhaging was observed underneath skin in subcutaneous tissue of the left front leg and over the left rib cage, but there was no evidence to indicate the hemorrhaging was the result of predator bites. One set of canine tooth marks were found on the hide covering the right ribs. The tooth marks were made postmortem with no associated subcutaneous hemorrhage or muscle tissue damage observed – this indicated scavenging. The parallel set of tooth marks over the right ribs measured approximately 1.5 inches apart which is smaller than canine tooth spacing of most wolves. There was no evidence of struggle or kill scene.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Most recent GPS wolf collar location near the site was approximately 1.6 miles northeast of calf carcass on July 4, 2014. No wolf tracks were observed at the site.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No confirmed wolf depredations in the same or nearby area in recent months.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf carcass and found minor hemorrhaging underneath the skin at 2 locations, near the knee of the left front leg and over the left ribs. There was no evidence to indicate the hemorrhaging was the result of predation. Postmortem canine tooth marks over the right ribs indicated the carcass had been scavenged. The size of the tooth marks was smaller than those biologists have observed on other confirmed wolf depredations. Thus, the cause of death is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140716 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 07/16/2014

General Area: Cougar Creek area – Wallowa Whitman N.F.

General situation and animal information: On 07/16/2014 ODFW received a citizen report that a domestic calf (cattle) was found dead on a remote portion of a National Forest allotment in northern Wallowa County – Cougar Creek area. Two wolves were reported to be observed (and howling was heard) in the area, along with abundant sign (tracks and scat) at the site of the carcass. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was contacted at 6:30PM which resulted in an investigation on the same evening. The calf carcass was mostly intact (approximately 30% consumed), and was estimated to have died the previous evening.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: A struggle scene (approximately 15x30 feet) was observed immediately upstream of the carcass – vegetation trampled, and limbs broken. Blood was also observed on the ground and on branches in several locations near the carcass. Multiple and large bite wounds (see below) were clearly observed on the calf, and the associated hemorrhage in hide and muscle tissues beneath the bites was evidence that this calf was attacked by a large predator, and not scavenged.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The location of the most severe pre-mortem bite wounds was in soft tissues behind both front shoulders, and on both hind legs. Bite wounds were in the form of gaping holes in the hide (approx 2" diameter), canine tooth punctures (1/4-3/8" dia.), and tooth scrapes (1/8-3/16" wide). One pair of tooth scrapes that could be accurately measured was 2" apart.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Fresh wolf tracks (4"long x 3.75"wide) observed within 20 feet of the carcass during the investigation corroborated the initial report of a wolf or wolves at the scene. Scats which had been initially collected by the reporting party also appeared to be wolf scats. The number of wolves could not be specifically determined, but the amount of tissue consumed indicated a small number (est. 2-3) of wolves present.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: No confirmed or suspected wolf depredations in this area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf carcass on the same day of discovery and found significant hemorrhaging beneath the hide and in muscle tissues behind both front shoulders, and both hind legs. Multiple, large canine-tooth bite marks were ample evidence to indicate the hemorrhaging was the result of predation. In addition, the location and size of the bite wounds, combined with observed wolf tracks and scat is clear evidence that one or more wolves depredated this calf. The cause of death is confirmed as wolf depredation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140722 Baker

Date Investigated: 7/22/14

General Area: Lee Creek- Private Land

General situation and animal information: On 7/22/2014 a landowner found a dead horse in a fenced pasture in the southeast corner of the Keating Unit. The horse was an adult mare about 10 years of age and had been on the property for the last month, but moved to this pasture only last week. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated on the same day. There was clear evidence that the horse had run through the fence and caught its hind foot in the fence, and had been down and thrashed about for some time before it died. The fence was a field fence with two strands of barbed wire on top. The horse was last seen on 7/19/2014 and it was estimated that the horse died sometime around 7/20/2014. The carcass was about 90% intact with the eyes, tongue, udder and front shoulder having been scavenged.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator. Tracking conditions were good and there were tracks from other cattle and coyote in the area. Bird droppings on the hide of the horse and coyote tracks up to the carcass were abundant. There was one post mortem bite mark near the front right shoulder which measured about 1 ¼ inches across. There was bruising on the front legs and chest of the horse, likely a result of the horse running through the fence. The only bite evidence on the carcass was of post mortem scavenging.

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 horse had died. No wolf sign observed in the area of this horse.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the horse remains and the area and found no sign of wolf presence or evidence of any type of predation. It appears that the horse became spooked and ran through the fence where it became tangled and eventually died.

Addendum 7/29/2014 – A correction per the horse owner, the mare had only been present on the property since 7/3/ 2014.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140726 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 07/26/2014

General Area: Reservation Mountain - private land

General situation and animal information: On 07/26/2014, a group of recreational ATV users came across a dead cow. They notified the landowner who notified the livestock owner who called ODFW. ODFW examined the dead cow the same day. The cow showed signs of having been dead for 2-3 days previous to the date of investigation.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Upon examination, the carcass showed no marks on either the outside or inside of the skin of biting by any predator. Once skinned, the carcass showed no evidence of hemorrhage or muscle trauma.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No wolf sign was found. The closest evidence of wolf presence was on 07/26/2014 when OR-14 was approximately 2 miles to the east at 6:00 am on the day of the investigation. No collared wolf activity was recorded in the immediate area on the days before the investigation when the cow was believed to have died.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: On 06/13/2014 wolves attacked and either killed or wounded 13 sheep at a nearby location (less than 2 miles away). On 06/14/2014 wolves attacked and wounded a cow also less than 2 miles away from the location where this cow was found dead.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: A cow was found dead on a property in close proximity to other locations where wolf caused livestock loss had occurred within the last two months. ODFW examined the carcass and determined no evidence of predation existed on either the cow or at the scene of the cow's death.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140728 Union

Date Investigated: 7/28/2014

General Area: Ruckle Junction area– public land

General situation and animal information: On July 28, 2014 an ODFW Wildlife Research crew found a dead ewe while examining wolf GPS location points. ODFW informed the sheep producer and examined the dead animal on the same day, since wolf depredation was suspected. The carcass had been largely consumed; the front legs and head had been removed from the carcass. Very little muscle tissue remained and only a small amount of hide was present. The ewe was estimated to have died at least 4 days earlier.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator could be found due to the lack of tissue, prevalence of maggots and desiccation of the hide. No disturbance or kill scene could be detected.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A collared Mt Emily wolf (OR28) had GPS locations in the area of the carcass on July 25 from 130am to 400am.

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 clear evidence of predation on the carcass or scene. This producer reported having recent sheep depredation losses to bear and mountain lions. It is unclear what caused the death of the ewe.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140731 Union

Date Investigated: 7/31/2014

General Area: Ruckle Junction area– private land

General situation and animal information: On July 30, 2014 an ODFW Wildlife Research crew found a dead ewe while examining wolf GPS location points. ODFW examined the dead animal on July 31, 2014 since wolf depredation was suspected. The carcass had only wool and bones remaining, no hide or tissue remained. Many of the bones, including the skull were disarticulated but not widely scattered. No broken bones were present except the ends of 4 to 5 ribs had been chewed. The ewe was estimated to have died 3 to 4 weeks earlier.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator could be found due to the lack of tissue on the skeleton. No disturbance or kill scene could be detected.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A collared Mt Emily wolf (OR28) had GPS locations in the area of the carcass on July 19 from 9:30pm to 10:30pm and July 20 at 3:00am. There were no other GPS locations during June or July 2014.

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 clear evidence of predation on the carcass or scene. It is unclear what caused the death of the ewe, but the ewe had been dead for 1-2 weeks before the collared wolf was present at the carcass.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140812 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 08/12/2014

General Area: Butcher Creek/Meacham area - private land

General situation and animal information: On 08/12/2014, an ODFW employee working in the Mt. Emily Unit found the remains of a dead sheep. The landowner was contacted and ODFW investigated the same day. The sheep was estimated to have died at least 10 days prior to discovery and little remained of the carcass.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of predation was observed. The carcass was desiccated and little tissue remained. There was abundant evidence that the carcass had been primarily consumed by scavenging birds. No attack or kill scene was observed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: NA

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No evidence was found indicating a wolf was at the carcass near the time of death. GPS collar locations showed that wolf OR26 visited the site once on 8/5 and twice on 8/7. The carcass was very desiccated and showed evidence of having been on the landscape for no less than 10 days. Additionally, since nearly all of the scavenging sign appeared to have come from birds, the time necessary to scavenge a carcass of this size would be considerable.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The specific cause of this animal's death is unknown, but no evidence of predation was found. The carcass was consumed and desiccated with abundant evidence that birds scavenged it.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140812(b) Umatilla

Date Investigated: 8/12/2014

General Area: Weston Mountain area – private land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 8/11/14, a landowner turned out her sheep from her night pen for grazing. The sheep are accounted for on a daily basis, and when the sheep were night penned that evening the landowner suspected that her 4 year old Suffolk ewe sheep was missing. The following morning (8/12/2014), the ewe was confirmed as missing. The dead ewe was found later that same day approximately 825 feet to the NE of the night pen. The ewe was estimated to have died on 8/11 and little remained but skeletal parts and a small amount of hide – all muscle tissue had been consumed.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Track evidence of a chase was found which lead to the site of death. At the site of death, there were several pieces of wool with hide attached found near the carcass which were consistent with those bitten from a live animal.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: No clear evidence. Bite marks with corresponding hemorrhage were not observed on the consumed carcass remains. Wolf presence (below) and very quick consumption of the carcass indicates wolf feeding at or near the time of death.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: Tracks of both coyote and wolf were found near the carcass. Estimate that two wolves had been present. Landowner reported hearing wolves near house on night of 8/11. GPS collar data showed that wolf OR14 (Umatilla River Pack) was at the carcass location around 9:00 am on the morning of 8/12/2014

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: ODFW confirmed sheep predation by the Umatilla River wolves on this property in 2012. On 6/13/2014, wolves of the Umatilla River pack depredated sheep approximately 7 miles from this location.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: A chase sequence was identified close to the site of death, and this is reasonable evidence the otherwise healthy ewe died as a result of predation. However, the carcass was mostly consumed and bite marks could not be identified as pre-mortem. There was evidence of wolf presence (tracks and GPS collar data after the animal's death) in the immediate area, and that they had fed on the carcass. This producer had experienced confirmed wolf depredation in this same pasture in 2012, and more recently, wolves of the Umatilla River Pack depredated sheep in a nearby area. These factors, combined, warrant a probable determination.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140814 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 8/14/2014

General Area: Zumwalt Prairie, Pine Creek drainage – private land

General situation and animal information: On 8/14/2014, an injured calf was observed by the livestock producers while branding calves. Due to the location of the injuries, wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the calf the same day. The cattle had been checked on 8/10/2014 and gathered from the large fenced pasture on 8/13/2014. The injuries on the 300 lb calf were estimated to be 7-14 days old; the animal appeared otherwise healthy.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Numerous tooth scrapes were observed on both rear legs, the right flank, and around the base of the tail. There were open bite wounds on the medial portion of both hind legs that measured 4" to 5" vertically and 3" to 4" horizontally and were up to 1" deep. All of the tooth scrape marks had scabbed over and were healing.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Most tooth scrapes were 1/8" to 3/16" wide and 2" to 3" long. Several were in pairs that were spaced about 2" apart. Several of the wounds on the hind-right leg showed clear evidence of opposing teeth which indicated a large jaw clamping over the leg. The depth and extensive damage as well as the location of the injuries have been observed on previously confirmed wolf depredations.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None observed, however the injuries were sustained at least 1 week earlier.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: A calf was confirmed killed by Chesnimnus wolves 13 miles away on 7/16/2014.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW was able to determine the cause of injury to this calf even though there was no scene to examine. The bite scrape size and 2" spacing of the tooth scrapes on the flank and hind end and multiple, large deep bite wounds above the hocks on the medial portion of the hind legs of the calf is adequate evidence to confirm this incident as a wolf depredation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140819 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 8/19/2014

General Area: Weston Mountain area – private land.

General situation and animal information: On 8/19/2014 two yearling cows were found live but limping in a fenced pasture area and were gathered for examination. On 8/22/2014, a third yearling cow in extremely deteriorated condition was found on the same property in a nearby canyon bottom and was euthanized by the owner prior to examination. ODFW was asked to examine the animals to determine if any of the injuries/conditions of these cows were wolf-caused, and two different examinations were made; cows 1&2 on 8/19 and cow 3 on 8/22. Other cows in the pasture appeared to have normal yearling behavior.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None. On cows 1&2, numerous old and nearly healed injury or lesion areas were observed on the posterior portion of the hind quarter, but were not bite-caused and no muscle trauma or scarring was observed. Cow #3 was emaciated and the skin abrasions on its lower legs were consistent with an animal struggling to gain its feet on a rough surface. No bite wounds were observed and external skin abrasions showed no underlying hemorrhage or damaged tissue.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The area is within the Umatilla River pack area and none of the 3 GPS-collared wolves have been near where the cows are located within the previous month.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: The Umatilla River Pack has depredated livestock irregularly since 2012. On 6/11/2014 ODFW confirmed wolf depredation of a cow 2.7 miles from this location.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the injuries to all three cows and found no bite marks or any other indication that the wounds were predator-caused. Furthermore, the cause of the deteriorated condition of cow #3 is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140820 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 8/20/2014

General Area: Weston Mountain area – private land

General situation and animal information: At 9:30AM on the morning of 8/20/2014, a landowner turned out the sheep (17 adult sheep) from their night pen for daytime grazing. Approximately 30 minutes later the sheep were observed running back to the night pen area, and the owner discovered that one of the ewes was missing. After a 3.5 hour search, the dead ewe was found at 4:00PM about 400 yards from the night pen. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated immediately upon finding the partially consumed ewe.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Though a significant portion of this ewe had been already consumed, premortem bite wounds with associated hemorrhaging and tissue damage were clearly observed on the ewe's remains indicating the animal was alive when attacked. In addition a kill scene was observed by disturbed vegetation and soil, and a 35 foot- long area, with dried blood, rumen contents and disturbed ground, was also observed leading to the carcass – both indicators that this animal was predated.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Multiple large bite wounds were observed on the neck. The tooth marks were large ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ inch across) and paired bite marks on the anterior of the neck were spaced at $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The proximal ends of the humerus were broken, consistent with large predator jaw strength. The scene indicated a struggle over a large area (at least 35'). Wolf presence at or near the time of death and very quick consumption (less than 6 hours) and scattering of the carcass indicates multiple wolves feeding.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A single wolf track (and no other predator sign) was observed at the carcass. Additional wolf tracks were found on the road .4 miles north of the night pens (tracks were heading toward the sheep area) and 60 feet from kill scene. GPS radio-collar data points from OR14 were between .3 - 1.1 miles of the carcass on the same day of the depredation. OR22 collar data showed that he was less than 300 yards from the night pen at 6AM of the same day.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: ODFW confirmed sheep depredation by the Umatilla River wolves on this property in 2012. On 6/13/2014 and 6/14/2014, ODFW confirmed that wolves of the Umatilla River pack depredated multiple sheep and 1 cow approximately 7 miles from this location.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: A struggle/kill scene was identified near the carcass, and multiple large pre-mortem bite wounds were observed. This information corroborated the report of distressed sheep running back toward the night-pen area. This is reasonable evidence the ewe died as a result of predation. There was evidence of wolf presence (tracks at the carcass and same-day GPS collar data) in the immediate area. Though largely consumed, the premortem bite wounds size and location, known wolf presence, and an observed kill scene, are adequate evidence that this ewe died as a result of wolf depredation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140827 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 08/27/2014

General Area: Lostine River Drainage – Private land

General situation and animal information: On August 25, 2014 a neighbor found a dead cow and reported it to the owner. The stock owner located and checked the carcass the following day. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW was called and examined the cow carcass on August 27. It was estimated that the cow had died on August 24, 2014. The cow was intact except for hide removed from the left side of the head and a 9 inch diameter hole under the tail with some tissue missing. No known reports of wolf activity in the vicinity in recent months.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: None observed. One parallel set of canine tooth marks were found on the hide near the base of the tail. The marks were made postmortem with no associated subcutaneous hemorrhage or muscle tissue damage observed – this indicated scavenging. Distance between tooth marks measured 1 3/8 inches, which is smaller than canine tooth spacing of most wolves. There was no evidence of struggle or kill scene.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: N/A

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No wolf sign was observed. This area is not within a designated Area of Known Wolf Activity.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow carcass and found one parallel set of postmortem canine tooth marks near the base of the tail, indicating the carcass had been scavenged. The tooth marks were similar in size and appearance to those biologists have observed on coyote depredations on other wildlife species. Cause of death could not be determined, but was not the result of predation.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140905 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 9/5/2014

General Area: Chesnimnus Creek area - public land

General situation and animal information: On 9/2/14 hunters found a dead adult cow on a ridge. Wolf depredation was suspected and on 9/5/14 ODFW was asked to respond. ODFW investigated the same day. Scavengers had removed muscle tissue and hide from the left side of the neck, the left hindquarter and the medial portion of the right hindquarter. All entrails were gone from the body cavity except for the rumen contents. The skeleton was intact. The entire cow was skinned during the investigation. The cow was estimated to have died 9/1/2014.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: There were no signs of predation on the carcass or the scene. The majority of the hide, including most of the areas commonly bit by wolves, was present and had no bite wounds on them. There was a scrape from a large blunt object on the outside of the front right leg above the knee. There was diffuse premortem bruising and blood clots just below the scrape under the hide at the knee, but no damage into the muscle fascia. There was pocket of pus next to the right hind leg hamstring (rear flank above the hock), but no bruising or damage found to the hide or muscle nearby. No signs of a chase or attack were found in the area around the carcass.

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 wolf sign at or near the carcass or a nearby pond.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: One calf was confirmed killed by Chesnimnus wolves 5.5 miles away on 7/16/2014 and one calf was confirmed injured by Chesnimnus wolves 10 miles away on 8/14/2014.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: The cause of death is unknown, though there were no signs that predation was involved.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140915 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/15/2014

General Area: Ruckle Junction area– public land

General situation and animal information: On 9/15/2014 a sheepherder reported finding dead sheep in a timbered area where they had been bedded overnight approximately 500 yards from the herder's trailer. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. Three dead sheep were examined and were estimated to have died the previous night. There were 5 livestock protection dogs with the sheep band (1 adult female and 4 pups). One pup is missing and the adult female and 1 pup were injured during the night.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Large puncture holes and blood were observed on the hides of the sheep (neck, upper hind leg). Upon skinning, pre-mortem hemorrhaging and tissue damage was found on the necks and hind end of each sheep, as well as the back on 2 of the sheep. These are indicators that the sheep were attacked by a predator. The bite wounds on the dogs were also evidence of predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The location of the bite wounds on the dead sheep are commonly observed attack points for wolves. Severely damaged muscle tissue beneath several of the bite wounds, with limited damage to the hide are evidence is commonly observed with sheep depredation by wolves. There were also large canine puncture holes with paired bite marks in the hide that measured 1 5/8" to 1 7/8" apart and 1/4 - 3/8" in diameter.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A collared Mt Emily wolf (OR28) had 4 overnight GPS locations between 3/4 - 1 mile from the dead sheep.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Confirmed Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Probable Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Possible/Unknown	<input type="radio"/> Other
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Summary: The location and appearance of the bite wounds noted above are similar to those observed on other confirmed sheep depredations by wolves. This combined with the multiple animals killed, injuries to 2 livestock protection dogs and nearby collared wolf locations - ODFW found that these sheep were depredated by wolves.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140916 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/16/2014

General Area: Ruckle Junction area– public land

General situation and animal information: On the morning of 9/16/2014 a sheepherder reported finding dead sheep in the same area that had experienced wolf depredation the previous evening. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. Overnight, there had been 4 livestock protection dogs with the sheep band and the herder's trailer was approximately 200 yards from where the sheep were bedded in the timbered area. Five dead sheep were documented; two adult ewes, two adult rams, and one injured lamb which was later euthanized as a result of its injuries.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Large puncture wounds and blood were observed on the hides of the sheep – neck, posterior hind leg, groin, udder, and scrotal area. Upon skinning, pre-mortem hemorrhaging and tissue damage was found on the necks and hind end of each sheep. These are indicators that the sheep were attacked by a predator.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The location of the bite wounds on the dead sheep are commonly observed attack points for wolves. Injuries to the examined dead animals were observed to be nearly identical to the sheep which had been depredated by wolves the previous day. Severely damaged muscle tissue beneath several of the bite wounds were observed, with limited damage to the hide. This is commonly observed with sheep depredation by wolves. There were also large canine puncture holes with paired bite marks approximately 1 7/8" in the hide ¼ - 3/8" in diameter. Two wolf tracks were observed in the area of all the dead sheep.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A collared Mt. Emily wolf (OR28) had one GPS location at 12 am on 09-16-14, 39 yards from the location that one of the dead sheep was discovered approximately 6 hours later.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: On 9/15/2014, wolves of the Mt. Emily pack depredated sheep from this band in the same area.

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: The location and appearance of the bite wounds noted above are similar to those observed on other confirmed sheep depredations by wolves which occurred the previous day. This combined with the multiple animals killed and wolf tracks observed in the immediate area of the dead sheep - ODFW confirms that these sheep were depredated by wolves.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140918 Baker

Date Investigated: 9/18/2014

General Area: Summit Point area – public land.

General situation and animal information: On 9/17/2014 a livestock manager found a dead calf near a meadow on a public land allotment in the northern portion of the Keating Unit. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the following morning. The 600 pound calf had been partially consumed but was approximately 90% complete upon examination, and the entrails were still present in the carcass. The calf was estimated to have died around 9/15/2014.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The entire carcass was skinned and no premortem bite wounds were observed. The lower legs showed some non-bite trauma that appeared to have been caused by the legs/hooves hitting rocks at the spot where it died. Wolf tracks observed in the area of the calf but bite mark evidence showed clear indication of scavenging. Also, there was evidence of scavenging by coyotes and birds. No disturbance or kill scene could be detected.

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

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: No known recent wolf activity near the area where the calf had died. However, fresh wolf tracks of 2-5 wolves in the area clearly shows that wolves are present.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow remains and the area and found no clear evidence of predation. Scavenging was clearly documented. It is possible that this calf was depredated by wolves as they were clearly present, and consumption had occurred.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140918 Wallowa

Date Investigated: 9/18/2014

General Area: Skookum Creek near the Imnaha River – public land

General situation and animal information: On 9/18/2014 a rancher reported a dead calf in a timbered area within the Imnaha Unit. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW investigated the same day. The dead calf was examined and estimated to have died 2 nights previous. Much of the carcass had been consumed, including entrails, most of the muscle tissue, and some of the hide.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Bite marks were observed on the hide of the calf (back, upper and lower hind leg). Upon skinning, pre-mortem hemorrhage and tissue damage was found on back and hind leg of the calf. Blood splatter and other body fluids were found within 15 and 35 feet of the carcass. The carcass was situated in an unnatural position in a creek bed.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: Paired bite wounds which could be measured had a spacing of 2". The locations of the bite wounds on the hind leg of the dead calf are commonly observed attack points for wolves. Wolves of the Imnaha pack were confirmed to be in the area (see below) during the time the wounds were made.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: A collared Imnaha wolf (OR25) had multiple GPS locations within 50 feet of this site during each of the previous 4 nights. Multiple wolf tracks were observed at the site of the carcass.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None in the last 6 months.

Cause of death/injury:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Confirmed Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Probable Wolf	<input type="radio"/> Possible/Unknown	<input type="radio"/> Other
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Summary: The location and appearance of the bite wounds noted above are similar to those observed on other confirmed calf depredations by wolves. This combined with the presence of blood spatters and collared wolf locations in the area proximal to the time of death were adequate evidence to confirm this incident as a wolf depredation by a wolf or wolves of the Imnaha pack.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 140924 Umatilla

Date Investigated: 9/24/2014

General Area: Upper Meacham Creek area – private land

General situation and animal information: On 9/22/2014, an injured calf was observed by a livestock producer while gathering cattle in a large fenced pasture. Due to the location and type of the injuries, wolf depredation was suspected and the producer scheduled ODFW to examine the calf 2 days later on 9/24/14. The cattle were last checked on 9/21/2014 by a range rider. The injuries on the 435 lb. female calf were estimated to be 7-14 days old.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Open wounds of exposed muscle tissue were observed on the inside of both rear thighs and posterior portion of the udder; approximately 2" of the distal end of the tail was severed and there was damage to two of the teats. The location and type of wounds are indicators of a predator attack.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: The wounds on the inside of both rear thighs consisted of the absence of skin and associated 1/8-1/4 of underlying muscle tissue measuring 4"x9" (right) and 1 ½ x 3 ½" (left) as well an area of muscle tissue separation measuring 2"x3" on the inside right thigh. Approximately 2" of the distal end of the tail was severed with a 1 5/8" x 1/2" area of hair loss and bruising occurring 1 1/2" anterior to the end of the severed tail. In addition, damage to two of the teats was examined, one of which was partially severed, exposing the milk duct. This type of damage, as well as the location of the injuries, has been documented on previously confirmed wolf attacks to livestock of this size and weight.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: During the period of 9/10/14-9/17/14 (the estimated time that the injuries occurred), a collared Meacham Pack wolf (OR26) had over 40 GPS locations where the calf was pastured.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf Probable Wolf Possible/Unknown Other

Summary: ODFW was able to determine the cause of injury to this calf even though there was no scene to examine. The location of the injuries to the skin and associated muscle tissue on the rear thigh, as well as the damage to the udder and tail is adequate evidence to confirm this incident as wolf caused.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDAATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 141008 Umatilla

Date Investigated: October 8, 2014

General Area: Umapine area – private land

General situation and animal information: On 10/08/2014 a livestock producer found a dead newborn calf in a grassland pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The calf was estimated to have died on 10/6/2014 based on fly larva development. The carcass was mostly intact (with entrails missing), and had been removed from the scene by the owner.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: Some small bite marks on front leg were observed which showed premortem hemorrhage, indicating the calf was alive when bitten.

Evidence that the predator was a wolf: None. All bite marks observed were small and likely from a coyote or small domestic dog. Multiple paired bite marks on the scapula measured 1 3/16" across.

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. This location is not in any known wolf territory, and the nearest known wolf (Umatilla river Pack) locations were 20 miles from this area. The open farm landscape of this area is unlikely to be occupied by resident wolves.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the calf remains and the area and found evidence of small canid predation; coyote or domestic dog.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 141013 Wallowa

Date Investigated: October 13, 2014

General Area: Clear Lake Ridge area – private land

General situation and animal information: On 10/13/2014 a livestock producer found a dead adult cow in a grassland pasture. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW examined the dead animal on the same day. The carcass skeleton was mostly intact but the two front legs had been separated and were nearby (intact). Nearly all soft tissues were gone. The cow was estimated to have died shortly after being moved to this pasture on 10/11/2014.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: No evidence of attack by a predator. The portions of the carcass with remaining hide (lower legs) were skinned and examined. No evidence of premortem bite wounds or injuries was observed, and no struggle scene could be detected. Evidence of scavenging by coyotes was present, and coyote and bird sign was abundant.

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

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: None. This location is within the Imnaha pack territory, and the nearest wolf location data showed that OR25 was approximately 4 miles from this location on 10/11/2014.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW examined the cow remains and the area and found no evidence of predation, though most of the carcass had been consumed. The cause of death is unknown.



ODFW LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Investigation ID: 141030 Jackson

Date Investigated: 10/30/2014

General Area: Prospect area – private land

General situation and animal information: On the evening of 10/29/2014 a livestock owner found a dead adult cow in a small grass pasture in the northern portion of the Rogue Unit. Wolf depredation was suspected and ODFW and USFWS examined the dead animal the following morning. A small portion of the carcass had been consumed but was approximately 85% intact upon examination – the entrails were still present in the carcass. The cow was estimated to have died between 10/24 -26/2014 based on larval stages of maggots observed, decomposition, and ambient temperatures.

Physical evidence of attack by a predator: The entire carcass was skinned and no premortem bite wounds were observed. Extensive lividity (blood pooling) was observed in the right brisket and neck, back of right front leg, front of right hind leg, dorsal side of rump, right dorsal side, and front of left back leg (a result of decomposition and large size of the animal) but no point-source trauma or hemorrhage was detected. The hide (including the entire down side of the carcass), was examined and no punctures, scrapes, or lacerations were observed that indicated bite wounds. There was evidence of scavenging and this includes scavenging by birds. No struggle, chase, or kill scene could be detected.

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

Evidence of wolf presence near the time of the animal(s) death/injury: The area (and pasture) has been frequented recently by wolves and GPS locations of collared wolf OR7 show that he was at or near this pasture on 10/19, 10/27, and 10/28. On the day of the investigation, OR7's radio signal was detected in the area and fresh wolf tracks were observed in the area of the carcass.

Recent wolf depredation in the same or nearby area: None

Cause of death/injury:

Confirmed Wolf

Probable Wolf

Possible/Unknown

Other

Summary: ODFW and USFWS examined the cow remains and the area and found no evidence of predation. Though some portions of the carcass were missing (consumed), most of the hide was available for examination, including the entire down-side of the animal, and no bite wounds or hemorrhage was observed. Feeding/scavenging was clearly documented and wolves are known to have been present since the death of this animal. However, consumption was relatively light considering the time the carcass had been available, and the entrails were still present. The cause of this cow's death is unknown.