



Oregon Wolf Program July, 2009 Update



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Reports of Wolf Activity: Seven wolf reports were received by ODFW in July as follows; east wolf management zone (6) and west wolf management zone (1). [*Note: State's east and west wolf zones divided by Hwy 97/20/395.*]. Types of wolf reports are categorized as follows; sighting reports (5), track reports (1), and howling reports (1).

Field Investigations/Monitoring/Capture: Efforts to locate wolves in the Imnaha Unit continued in July. Three days of track and howling surveys were conducted during the month with some scat and tracks located. After receiving a very good (and timely) observation report of wolf pups, subsequent ODFW field investigation confirmed wolf pup activity (number of pups not confirmed). An immediate effort to trap and radio-collar at least one of the adults resulted in the capture of the female wolf B300 -- the wolf that arrived in January, 2008 as a disperser from Idaho. ODFW had monitored her location through the summer of 2008 and her signal was last heard in September. Efforts to locate her throughout the winter were unsuccessful. ODFW found wolf tracks in the same general area through the winter but the status of B300 was unknown until now. Her re-capture in July confirmed her continued residence in the Imnaha Unit area and also confirmed that she has had pups. She was fitted with a new radio-collar and was released in good condition. Effort to confirm the number of B300's pups will be made in August.

After re-collaring B300, a report of a black adult wolf feeding on a carcass several miles away was received. ODFW investigated and live trapping was initiated. However, due to high levels of human activity in the area (weekend forest users), trapping was suspended after only one night. It is suspected that the wolf observed is the mate of B300. Efforts will resume in August to collar this wolf.

One day and night was spent in July searching for wolf sign in the Wenaha Unit (area of wolf activity last summer). A howling survey was conducted over 28 miles of forest roads but no wolf detections were made.

Livestock Damage Reports/Concerns: None

Aerial Monitoring: Five aerial flights were conducted during July to monitor the collared wolf (OR-1) in the Keating Unit. The wolf continues to reside in forested habitat north of the Keating Valley.

Federal Delisting Update: On May 4, 2009, wolves in the eastern portion of Oregon (east of highways 395, 78 and 95) were "de-listed," or removed from protection under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). **Wolves in all of Oregon remain protected by Oregon's ESA**, and wolves west of the delisting boundary remain protected by both the federal and state ESA. More information on wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountains can be viewed at the following web address:
<http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/species/mammals/wolf/>