



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Reward Offered in Deer Poaching Case in Pennsylvania**

(March 4, 2010) — The Humane Society of the United States and The Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust are offering a reward of up to \$2,500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the illegal killing of three deer on parkland in Wyomissing, Pa.

### ***The Case:***

According to the Pennsylvania Game Commission, on Feb. 28, park visitors reported three dead deer near Old Wyomissing Road, south of Old Mill Road. A conservation officer determined that two of the deer had been shot, but he did not observe the third deer and was unable to determine the cause of death. Investigators are still trying to ascertain what happened to the third carcass. It is illegal to shoot a firearm in the park.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission noted that the investigation is ongoing and additional evidence is still being recovered. They said that any information the public can provide may be extremely useful in bringing those responsible for this illegal act to justice.

“Poaching is a grave crime that not only seriously harms the Keystone State’s wildlife, but also infringes on law-abiding Pennsylvanians’ opportunity to safely enjoy our parks,” said Sarah Speed, Pennsylvania senior state director for The HSUS. “The Humane Society of the United States commends the Pennsylvania Game Commission for their tireless work to find those responsible for this serious crime.”

The perpetrators are facing charges of unlawful taking of game or wildlife, and the investigation may uncover additional crimes. The poacher or poachers responsible could face thousands of dollars in fines.

### ***Poaching:***

- Wildlife officials estimate that for every wild animal killed legally — tens of millions of animals per year — another is killed illegally.
- Every year, thousands of poachers are arrested nationwide; however, it is estimated that only 1 percent to 5 percent of poachers are caught.
- Poachers kill wildlife anytime, anywhere and sometimes do so in particularly cruel ways.
- The HSUS works with state wildlife agencies to offer rewards of \$2,500 for information leading to arrest and conviction of suspected poachers.

### ***The Investigators:***

Anyone with information about this case is asked to call the Southeast Regional Office at 610-926-3136 or Turn in a Poacher (TIP) hotline at 1-888-742-8001. Callers may remain anonymous.

***The HSUS Media Contact:***

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The HSUS works to stop wildlife abuse across the country. Visit [humanesociety.org/wildlifeabuse](http://humanesociety.org/wildlifeabuse) for more information.

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*The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization — backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty — On the web at [humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org).*

*Since 1993 the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust, alone or in partnership with other conservation groups, has participated in the protection of more than 1.8 million acres of wildlife habitat in 37 states and seven foreign countries. On all properties owned by the Trust or protected by the Trust's conservation easement, both here and abroad, we prohibit recreational and commercial hunting and trapping and restrict logging and development. The Trust's commitment to these principles will never change as we continue to assist caring landowners to make their property permanent, safe homes for wildlife. Join our online community at [wildlifelandtrust.org](http://wildlifelandtrust.org).*