



## **Reward Offered in Javelina Poaching Case in Arizona**

(March 6, 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 illegally shooting two javelinas near St. David, Ariz. This reward adds to an existing Arizona Game and Fish Department Operation Game Thief offer of up to \$500.

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

According to the Arizona Game and Fish Department, on Feb. 24, two javelinas were found dead along East Touchstone Trail south of Interstate 10 near St. David. Evidence at the scene suggests that the animals may have been left by two individuals who drove to the location from the intersection of Sybil Road and East Touchstone Trail, and then returned by the same route.

“This act of poaching demonstrates the appalling disregard some individuals have for wildlife,” said Kari Nienstedt, Arizona state director for The HSUS. “The Humane Society of the United States commends the Arizona Game and Fish Department for their tireless work to find those responsible for this serious crime.”

### ***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 Operation Game Thief Hotline toll-free anytime at 1-800-352-0700 or online at [azgfd.gov/thief](http://azgfd.gov/thief). The public is encouraged to contact Operation Game Thief whenever they witness an apparent wildlife violation. Information may be provided anonymously.

***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).*