



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reward Offered in Elk Poaching Case in Oregon

(March 18, 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 a female elk and leaving the animal injured east of Estacada, Ore.

The Case:

According to the Oregon State Police, on March 13 at about 5:45 p.m., OSP Fish & Wildlife troopers found a shot elk, still alive, along Squaw Mountain Road about two miles north of Highway 224. The troopers had to kill the elk upon their arrival at the scene due to the animal's injuries. The elk had been shot on private land without the landowner's permission.

"Wildlife in the State of Oregon is the property of the state and is therefore owned by all that reside here. When someone poaches an animal they are basically stealing from all of us. We encourage anyone with information concerning this case or any other fish and wildlife case to contact the Oregon State Police 'Turn In Poacher' line at 1-800-452-7888 to report any information," said Sgt. Chris Allori with Oregon State Police.

"The individual or individuals responsible for this cruel poaching have an appalling disregard for both elk and the laws that exist to protect wildlife," said Scott Beckstead, Oregon senior state director for The HSUS. "The Humane Society of the United States applauds Oregon State Police for their tireless work to find those responsible for this serious crime."

The individual or individuals responsible for this crime potentially face charges of animal abuse first degree, unlawful take of cow elk and hunting on enclosed land of another. All charges are Class A misdemeanor crimes punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$7,500 fine. In addition, the offender could face other penalties such as loss of hunting privilege, forfeiture of weapon, and a civil penalty of \$1,500 payable to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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 Senior Trooper Ken Moore at 503-731-3020 ext. 423 or the Turn in Poacher (TIP) line at 1-800-452-7888.

The HSUS Media Contact:

Liz Bergstrom, 240-751-0659, ebergstrom@humanesociety.org

The HSUS works to stop wildlife abuse across the country. Visit 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.

Follow The HSUS on [Twitter](#). See our work for animals on your iPhone by searching “HumaneTV” in the App Store.

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, including 2,273 acres in Oregon, 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.

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