



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reward Offered for Poaching of Threatened Lynx

(Feb. 4, 2010) — The Humane Society of the United States and The Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust are offering a \$2,500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for poaching a Canadian lynx in northern Summit County, Colo. on Jan. 16 or 17. The HSUS and Wildlife Land Trust reward is part of a total reward of \$5,800 being offered by several groups, including the Colorado Division of Wildlife's Operation Game Thief program, WildEarth Guardians, Defenders of Wildlife, the Center for Native Ecosystems and Wilderness Workshop.

The Case:

According to the Colorado Division of Wildlife, a radio-collared female lynx was last seen along Heeney Road on Jan. 16. On Jan. 18, the cat's radio collar emitted a mortality signal. Her body is still missing. The animal was one the first lynxes introduced into the San Juan Mountains in 1999.

"The Colorado Division of Wildlife understands that help from the public is critical in solving these kinds of cases," said Randy Hampton, Colorado Division of Wildlife spokesman. "We appreciate the assistance of these organizations in stepping forward to help us catch the person responsible for this crime."

"Poaching is a grave offense that infringes on law-abiding Coloradoans' enjoyment of the state's treasured wildlife. This case is especially tragic given that this particular lynx was among the first of the species to be introduced to Colorado," said Elise Traub, deputy manager of the Wildlife Abuse Campaign at The Humane Society of the United States. "The Humane Society of the United States applauds the Colorado Division of Wildlife for their tireless work to find those responsible for this serious crime."

The Canada lynx is a threatened species, and killing one is illegal under federal law.

Poaching:

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 Investigators:

Anyone with information about the case is asked to call Operation Game Thief at 1-877-265-6648. Callers may remain anonymous.

The HSUS Media Contact:

Liz Bergstrom, 301-258-1455, ebergstrom@humanesociety.org

The HSUS works to stop wildlife abuse across the country. Visit humanesociety.org/wildlifeabuse for more information.

-30-

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.

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.

The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
humanesociety.org

The HSUS Wildlife Land Trust
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
wildlifelandtrust.org