



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Reward Offered in Bald Eagle Shooting Case in Oregon**

(May 14, 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 bald eagle near Rainier, Ore.

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

According to the Oregon State Police, on April 30, two horseback riders discovered an injured female bald eagle near the western area of Dibblee Beach. Oregon State Police troopers captured the eagle and brought her to the Wildlife Center of the North Coast in Astoria, where she is now being treated for her injuries. X-rays revealed that the bird had been shot with nearly three dozen pellets, including seven in her head.

“The Oregon State Police appreciates the reward offer from The Humane Society of the United States to help increase the odds to solve this callous, insensitive crime,” said Sergeant Jeff Scroup, OSP Fish & Wildlife Division supervisor at the Astoria Area Command office. “Since found injured, the eagle’s condition is improving each day because of the care and rehabilitation it is receiving at the Wildlife Center of the North Coast.”

“This senseless poaching caused the bald eagle to suffer immensely, and we hope that our reward offer will aid in catching the person or persons responsible for this serious crime,” said Scott Beckstead, Oregon senior state director for The HSUS. “The Humane Society of the United States commends the Oregon State Police for their investigation.”

### ***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 or injure wildlife anytime, anywhere and sometimes do so in particularly cruel ways. Wildlife officials report that poachers often commit other crimes as well.
- The HSUS works with state and federal 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 OSP Trooper Tim Schwartz (503) 397-0325 ext. 42 or the Turn in Poacher (TIP) line at 1-800-452-7888.

***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).*

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*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](http://wildlifelandtrust.org).*

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