



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reward Offered for Deer Poaching in Colorado

(May 17, 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 killing eight deer in La Veta, Colo. This offer is in addition to an existing \$1,200 reward from the Colorado Division of Wildlife's Operation Game Thief fund.

The Case:

According to the Colorado Division of Wildlife, eight deer were shot illegally early in the morning of May 4 in La Veta.

“This irresponsible and senseless poaching demonstrates the contempt some people have for the laws intended to protect wildlife, said Holly Tarry, Colorado state director for The HSUS. “The Humane Society of the United States commends the Colorado Division of Wildlife for investigating this serious offense.”

The individual or individuals responsible are facing numerous poaching charges, including felony charges of willful destruction of 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. 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 who has information about this incident should contact DOW Officer Lance Gatlin at 719-989-1027, or 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.

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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 518 acres in Colorado, 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.

Follow the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust on [Twitter](#).

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

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