



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reward Offered in Bald Eagle Killing in La Conner, Wash.

(May 19, 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 identification, arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for illegally shooting an adult bald eagle in La Conner, Wash.

The Case:

According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, on May 6, a resident found a bald eagle who had been shot with five pellets in a ditch off of Valentine Road. The eagle was still alive when officers responded, but the bird later died en route to a rehabilitation clinic.

“The person or persons responsible for this appalling crime have a callous disregard for wildlife protection laws,” said Dan Paul, Washington state director for The HSUS. “We are extremely grateful to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for their diligent work to solve this crime.”

Bald eagles are protected by state and federal law, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are jointly investigating.

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 injure or 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 with information about this case is asked to call the Wildlife Officer Jeff Lee at 360-708-9858. Callers may remain anonymous.

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 92 acres in Washington, 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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