



Contact

Bruce Sitko, (928) 367-4281
Public Information Officer, AGFD

Arizona Game and Fish Department

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release Nov. 21, 2012

\$1,250 reward offered in deer poaching near Springerville

PINETOP, Ariz. — The Arizona Game and Fish Department is asking for the public's help in finding the individual(s) responsible for the illegal killing of a mature mule deer buck during the week of Nov. 5. The buck was killed adjacent to the department's Wenima Wildlife Area located a couple miles northwest of Springerville.

"No meat was taken," says Mike Godwin, wildlife manager supervisor in the department's Pinetop Region. "The very sad piece to this is the buck was shot simply to watch it die."

Godwin adds, "Apprehending those responsible will be difficult without help from the public. I encourage anyone with information to call. The rewards are good incentive, but folks should call because it's the right thing to do. Our citizens should have zero tolerance when it comes to poaching and wasting game meat. These aren't the actions of a hunter. They're criminal acts of stealing wildlife assets and resources from the people of Arizona."

The department's Operation Game Thief (OGT) Program is offering a reward of up to \$1,250 for information leading to the arrest of the subject or subjects who committed either crime. To report information on either incident, or any wildlife law violation, call the OGT hotline toll-free at (800) 352-0700, or report online at www.azgfd.gov/thief, and reference case number 12-002707. Caller identities may remain confidential upon request.

-30-



www.azgfd.gov/thief

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes they have been discriminated against in any Game and Fish program or activity, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the Game and Fish Deputy Director, 5000 W. Carefree Hwy., Phx., AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact the Game and Fish Deputy Director as listed above or by calling TTY at 1-800 367-8939.