



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Office of Law Enforcement

911 NE 11th Ave.

Portland, OR 97232



In Reply Refer To:
FWS LE Portland, OR

November 18, 2019

Memorandum

To: Assistant Director, Office of Law Enforcement

From: Special Agent-in-Charge, Portland, OR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Request for Payment of Reward - (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

In accordance with 450 FW 2, I request approval for payment of a reward.

Name of recipient: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) *wishes to remain anonymous in regards to his name in a press release. A check written to him would not be an issue)*

Address:
Mailing address:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Occupation:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Employer:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

INV Number and Title: 2016104678 - OR 28

Amount of Reward: \$5,000

Prior Compensation: None

Statute: (circle) AECA / AHA / ARPA / BGEPA / ESA / LAC / MMPA / MBTA / RTCA / WPCA / OTHER

Reward Account: (circle one) Law Enforcement Reward Account or HQ Special Funds Account

Justification:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provided information during the course of this investigation that led to the successful prosecution of the defendant (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) specifically contacted law enforcement to notify them of his conversation he had with the hunting party in the field after OR 28 (gray wolf) had been shot. I (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) has hunted in the same hunting unit as the (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

hunting party. [REDACTED] provided information on who had killed OR 28 which allowed law enforcement to corroborate the information provided with physical evidence (see R002 and R014 of this investigation on information [REDACTED] provided, he was known as CS3).

[REDACTED] lives in the same [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) as [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) grew up with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] regularly [REDACTED] (b) (6) because of the [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) in which they lived which was stressful to [REDACTED] because he had provided information to law enforcement.

Ultimately, [REDACTED] information helped lead to a criminal conviction. (See attached reward announcement).

Outcome of Case:

United States v. [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) AUSA Adam Delph.
On August 19, 2019, [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) pleaded guilty to violating the Endangered Species Act for shooting a gray wolf (16 U.S.C § 1538(a)(1)(B)).

In October 2016, [REDACTED] shot at a gray wolf from 40 yards using a rifle and scope as it was walking away from him in the Fremont-Winema National Forest. [REDACTED] failed to locate the wolf.

Afterwards, he made statements to others in his hunting party regarding his encounter with a wolf, which led law enforcement to [REDACTED]. Based on GPS data from the collared wolf, investigators found the adult female gray wolf known as "OR 28", which had died from a single gunshot wound in the forest.

Under a deferred prosecution agreement, [REDACTED] will submit to one-year of supervised release, pay restitution of \$2,500 to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, not hunt any wildlife for a period of one year, and perform 100 hours of community service. If [REDACTED] complies with these conditions, he will be allowed to withdraw his guilty plea and the government will move to dismiss the charge.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement and the Oregon State Police.

Concurrence:	[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	<u>11/21/19</u>
	[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SAC, Investigations Unit	Date
Approved:	[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	<u>11/21/19</u>
	[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Assistant Director, OLE	Date
Processed:	[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	<u>11/21/19</u>
	[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Budget Officer	Date

Attachment: Reward Announcement

PRESS RELEASE

\$5,000 Reward Offered for Information on Illegal Killing of Silver Lake Wolf OR28

October 11, 2016

Contact(s):

Brent Lawrence, brent_lawrence@fws.gov, (503) 231-6211



*OR 28 female gray wolf
Photo credit: ODFW*

A reward for \$5,000 has been offered for information leading to the conviction of the person(s) responsible for killing a federally protected gray wolf in southeast Oregon.

In October 2016, a radio collared female gray wolf known as OR 28, was found dead on the Fremont Winema National Forest near Summer Lake, Oregon.

It is a violation of the Endangered Species Act to kill a gray wolf, which is listed as endangered. The incident was investigated by the Oregon State Police and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to a conviction in the case.

Anyone with information about this case should call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (503) 682-6131, or Oregon State Police Tip Line at (800) 452-7888. Callers may remain anonymous.

NOTES TO REVIEWER

Actions Requested: Request for Payment of Reward Approval
Case Title: OR 28
INV#: 2016104678
Case Agent: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Investigation Synopsis:

In October 2016, a radio collared female gray wolf, known as OR 28, died from a single gunshot wound in the Fremont Winema National Forest near Summer Lake, Oregon. Gray wolves (*Canis lupus*), located in the Western portion of Oregon, are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). On October 11, 2016, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service put out a press release and offered a reward for information leading to a conviction in this case.

Once the release was made public, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) voluntarily contacted law enforcement authorities and supplied them with valuable information about the wolf shooter. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) informed authorities of a (b) (6)

(b) (6) Specifically, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provided authorities with the name of the shooter, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) which allowed law enforcement to corroborate the information provided with physical evidence collected.

There have been seven (7) wolf death investigations conducted in Oregon and Washington since 2013, including the death of OR 28. Of the seven (7) investigations, the only case that resulted in a prosecution was the death of OR 28. The success in the OR 28 case was directly related to the information provided as a result of the reward offer.

On August 19, 2019, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) pleaded guilty to violating the Endangered Species Act for killing an endangered gray wolf. Under a deferred prosecution agreement, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) submitted to one year supervised release, \$2,500 payable to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, banned from hunting for a period of one year, and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service.

Special Funds:

The following reward amount has been requested:

1. \$5,000 – Payable to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Case Management:

Case is nearing the end of the Prosecution Phase.

Reviewer's Recommendation:

This request meets one or more criteria in 450 FW 2 and is recommended for approval.

Reviewer: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Desk Agent/SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

11/21/2019
Date

Concur: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Acting SAC-INV / (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

11/21/19
Date

Concur: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
D.A.D. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

11/21/19
Date

Foc

whistleblowers.org



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Occupation: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Employer: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

INV Number and Title: 2016104678 - OR 28

Amount of Reward: \$5,000

Prior Compensation: None

Statute: (circle) AECA / AHA / ARPA / BGEPA / ESA / LAC / MMPA / MBTA / RTCA / WRCA / OTHER

Reward Account: (circle one) Law Enforcement Reward Account or HQ Special Funds Account

Justification:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provided information during the course of this investigation that led to the successful prosecution of the defendant (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) had been in contact with a (b) (6) with the (b) (6) hunting party. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) contacted law enforcement to notify them of the conversation she had with a member loosely affiliated with the hunting party. (b) (6) provided information that law enforcement was able to track back to who had killed

OR 28 (gray wolf) which allowed law enforcement to corroborate the information provided with physical evidence (see R002 of this investigation on information [REDACTED] provided, she was known as CS1).

[REDACTED] was (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), whom law enforcement interviewed about the unlawful taking of a wolf. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) still contacted law enforcement even though it was stressful because she was (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

Ultimately, [REDACTED] information helped lead to a criminal conviction. (See attached reward announcement).

Outcome of Case:

United States v. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) AUSA Adam Delph.
On August 19, 2019, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) pleaded guilty to violating the Endangered Species Act for shooting a gray wolf (16 U.S.C § 1538(a)(1)(B)).

In October 2016, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) shot at a gray wolf from 40 yards using a rifle and scope as it was walking away from him in the (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). [REDACTED] failed to locate the wolf.

Afterwards, he made statements to others in his hunting party regarding his encounter with a wolf, which led law enforcement to [REDACTED]. Based on GPS data from the collared wolf, investigators found the adult female gray wolf known as "OR 28", which had died from a single gunshot wound in the forest.

Under a deferred prosecution agreement, [REDACTED] will submit to one-year of supervised release, pay restitution of \$2,500 to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, not hunt any wildlife for a period of one year, and perform 100 hours of community service. If [REDACTED] complies with these conditions, he will be allowed to withdraw his guilty plea and the government will move to dismiss the charge.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement and the Oregon State Police.

Concurrence: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SAC, Investigations Unit

11/21/19
Date

Approved: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Assistant Director, OLE

11/21/19
Date

Processed: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Budget Officer

11/21/19
Date

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October 11, 2016

Contact(s):

Brent Lawrence, brent_lawrence@fws.gov, (503) 231-6211



OR 28 female gray wolf
Photo credit: ODFW

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In October 2016, a radio collared female gray wolf known as OR 28, was found dead on the Fremont Winema National Forest near Summer Lake, Oregon.

It is a violation of the Endangered Species Act to kill a gray wolf, which is listed as endangered. The incident was investigated by the Oregon State Police and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to a conviction in the case.

Anyone with information about this case should call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (503) 682-6131, or Oregon State Police Tip Line at (800) 452-7888. Callers may remain anonymous.

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INV#: 2016104678
Case Agent: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Investigation Synopsis:

In October 2016, a radio collared female gray wolf, known as OR 28, died from a single gunshot wound in the Fremont Winema National Forest near Summer Lake, Oregon. Gray wolves (*Canis lupus*), located in the Western portion of Oregon, are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). On October 11, 2016, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service put out a press release and offered a reward for information leading to a conviction in this case.

Once the release was made public, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) voluntarily contacted law enforcement authorities and notified them of a conversation she had with a subject who was affiliated with the hunting party at the time of the wolf shooting. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provided authorities with information that enabled law enforcement to track down the individual responsible for killing the endangered wolf. Ultimately, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) information helped lead to a criminal conviction.

There have been seven (7) wolf death investigations conducted in Oregon and Washington since 2013, including the death of OR 28. Of the seven (7) investigations, the only case that resulted in a prosecution was the death of OR 28. The success in the OR 28 case was directly related to the information provided as a result of the reward offer.

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Special Funds:

The following reward amount has been requested:

1. \$5,000 – Payable to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Case Management:

Case is nearing the end of the Prosecution Phase.

Reviewer's Recommendation:

This request meets one or more criteria in 450 FW 2 and is recommended for approval.

Reviewer: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
Desk Agent / SA **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** Date 11/21/2019

Concur: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
For Acting SAC-INV **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** Date 11/21/19

Concur: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
For D.A.P. **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** Date 11/21/19

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