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Arizona Game and Fish Department

NEWS RELEASE

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Bull elk poached near Williams

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. -- The Arizona Game and Fish Department is asking for the public's help in gathering information about a spike bull elk that was shot and left to waste sometime during the evening of Dec. 10 and the morning of Dec. 11, near the east side of the Williams airport.

The animal was shot with a .30 caliber rifle and left in an area south of Pronghorn Ranch Road and east of the airport in the southeast portion of Game Management Unit 10. This is approximately 3 miles north of Williams and 3 miles west of Hwy 64.

Department officials suspect that this incident may have been a mistake made by someone possessing a cow elk tag for this hunt area, but officials still need to speak with those involved.

The shooting of this bull is considered a game law violation and did occur during a legal cow elk hunt season that started Dec. 4 and ended Dec. 13.

"This could be a case in which someone helps turn this wrong into a right, but we need to speak with those involved," says Wildlife Manager Mike Rice. "As with many poaching cases, we need help from the public. Someone may have been in this area recently and may have seen or heard something associated with this case."

Anyone with information about this incident can call the department's Operation Game Thief Hotline toll free at (800) 352-0700. Callers may be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,350 for information leading to the arrest of the violator(s). All calls may remain confidential upon request.

To learn more about Operation Game Thief and other pending cases, visit www.azgfd.gov/thief.

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