



## Contact

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## Arizona Game and Fish Department

### NEWS RELEASE

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### Reward amount increased for bull elk poaching in Overgaard

PINETOP, Ariz. — In addition to the Arizona Game and Fish Department's standing offer of a \$2,000 reward through its Operation Game Thief Program for information leading to the arrest of the individual responsible for the illegal killing of a bull elk in Overgaard on or before May 30, the Arizona Elk Society has now stepped up to offer a reward of \$1,500 more upon conviction of the party who committed this crime.

The mature bull was shot in an area north of the country club, adjacent to Silver Dollar Road. "It was needlessly killed and left to waste with nothing removed from the carcass," says Evan Lautzenheiser, district wildlife manager. "In addition, the shooter showed complete disregard for public safety, as the bullet passed cleanly through the animal in a housing area. This isn't the action of a hunter. This is a criminal act of stealing wildlife assets and resources from the people of Arizona."

To report information on this incident, or any wildlife law violation, call the department's Operation Game Thief hotline toll-free at (800) 352-0700, or report online at [www.azgfd.gov/thief](http://www.azgfd.gov/thief), and reference case number 12-000905. Caller identities may remain confidential upon request.

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