

Closed Season Mule Deer Hunt at Boulder Lake

On November 12, South Pinedale Game Warden Jordan Kraft and Law Enforcement Coordinator Aaron Kerr received a call regarding a mule deer that had been shot out of season near Boulder Lake. The concerned citizen indicated a man who had been driving a maroon semi truck without a trailer had requested his assistance to load a mule deer he had shot onto his semi. Knowing the season was closed, the citizen declined to help and contacted the Stop Poaching Hotline. Wardens Kraft and Kerr (who had been assisting with the winter range task force at the time) and Regional Wildlife Supervisor John Lund responded to the scene, however the suspect had already left the area. Two days later, a tip came into the Green River Regional Office stating the suspect vehicle had been spotted at a car wash in Green River. Wardens Gary Boyd, Chris Baird and Neil Hymas responded and quickly located the vehicle and suspect. The suspect admitted to shooting the deer and said he thought the season was still open at the time. He was cited for taking a deer during a closed season and shooting from a public road. He paid \$2,790 in fines and restitution and had his hunting privileges suspended for three years. This case highlights the importance of the annual winter range task force and support and assistance from the public. Concerned citizens provided a timely and detailed description, which led to the individual being found and the case completed within a couple of days.

Photo 1 – Law Enforcement Coordinator Aaron Kerr investigates the crime scene.



Photo 2 – Mule deer head seized from the suspect.



Photo 3 – Suspect vehicle located in Green River.

