



Officers

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March 3, 2011

Chief Bruce Bjork
Enforcement Program
Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capital Way N.
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Re: Donations to Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Reward Account

Dear Chief Bjork:

I write on behalf of Conservation Northwest (CNW), a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and connecting Northwest wildlands and wildlife habitats, and recovering at-risk species. CNW shares the concerns of Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) about the poaching of sensitive wildlife species and the destruction of critical wildlife habitat.

In recognition of these shared concerns, CNW will donate money to WDFW Enforcement Program to be used for monetary rewards to reporting parties when the information provided results in an arrest or the filing of charges for violation of Title 77 or the rules adopted under this Title. CNW is particularly interested in focusing on rewards in cases that involve either the poaching of federal or state T&E listed carnivores (specifically gray wolf, grizzly bear, lynx, wolverine, fisher) or particularly egregious other acts of poaching, such as spree killing of game species. It is our understanding that donations from CNW to WDFW will be deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Reward Account, RCW 77.15.425.

CNW will confer with WDFW Enforcement Program to determine which investigations are appropriate for an offer of reward using the donated funds. WDFW Enforcement will share case-specific information with CNW as authorized by state law, including the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56. With each donation of money to WDFW, CNW will specify in writing which enforcement investigations the reward money will be used for.

It is also our understanding that in any press release issued by WDFW involving a case where money donated by CNW was used as a reward to an informant, WDFW will recognize CNW's donation and role in apprehending the violator.

We look forward to working with WDFW Enforcement by enhancing the law enforcement efforts in apprehending people who poach sensitive wildlife species or destroy critical wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

Mitch Friedman
Executive Director

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