

\$12,000 In Fines For Wildlife Offences

NEWS

May 20, 2010

Five Ontario men face hunting suspensions and hefty fines totaling \$12,000 after pleading guilty to various offences under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act.

Eric Wismer of Algoma Mills and Ken Duncanson of Silverwater were fined a total of \$7,500 and received 6 years of hunting suspensions after illegally shooting two moose and leaving one to spoil.

Duncanson was fined \$4,000 and received a four-year hunting suspension for illegally shooting an adult bull and an adult cow moose. He was fined another \$1,000 for abandoning the cow moose and allowing it to go to waste.

Wismer was fined \$1,500 and received a two-year hunting suspension for unlawfully possessing the illegally killed bull moose. He was also fined \$1,000 for allowing the cow moose to waste.

Court heard that on October 23, 2008 Wismer and Duncanson were hunting in the Webfoot Road area near Sioux Lookout, Ontario. The pair shot and killed two adult moose, neither of which they were licensed for. The bull moose was eventually harvested using a tag from another person, but the cow moose was left to spoil.

Conservation officers were able to find and charge the offenders by using DNA forensics and evidence located by the Ministry's K-9 Unit.

Justice of the Peace Edith Baas heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Sioux Lookout on May 20, 2010

In an earlier court appearance, other members of the same hunting party pleaded guilty to possessing the illegally killed bull moose. Justice of the Peace **Lori-Ann** Toulouse accepted their plea in the Ontario Court of Justice in Sudbury on March 11, 2010.

Brian Dittmar and Travis Orford of Gore Bay and Mike Zultek of Little Current were fined \$1,000 each for the offence. Orford was fined another \$1,500 for unlawfully attaching his tag to a moose shot by another person.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your local ministry officer during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)