

For immediate release
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News media: for further information, contact
Bill Butcher, USFWS, 413-658-7356

Bald Eagles Poisoned in Sussex County, Delaware: Reward offered for information

Wildlife officials are seeking information to aid an investigation into the suspected poisoning of two adult bald eagles in Sussex County, Delaware, discovered Oct. 21, 2010, in an agricultural field near the intersection of Beaver Dam Road and Sammons Road. While one of the eagles survived, one was found dead.

Delaware Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Agents and special agents of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are conducting a joint investigation into the incident. The Service is offering a reward of up to \$3,500, and Delaware Fish and Wildlife is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to a conviction.

Anyone with information should contact Special Agent Daniel Collins with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement in Dover, Del., at 302-730-9184 or Delaware Fish and Wildlife Operation Game Theft at 1-800-292-3030. Information may also be provided online by going to the Operation Game Theft website: www.fw.delaware.gov/Hunting/Pages/OpGameTheft.aspx .

The injured eagle was treated at Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research in Newark, Del., and released back into the wild on Nov. 2, 2010.

The federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act protect bald eagles. Maximum criminal penalties for violating the Eagle Act include a \$100,000 fine and one year in prison. Until 2007, bald eagles were also protected under the Endangered Species Act.

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