

Public tips help officers catch plenty of poachers Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Monday, January 11, 2016

Six individuals recently pleaded guilty to a long list of charges relating to a variety of offenses under the Wildlife Act committed in the fall of 2013.

Edson and Evansburg Fish and Wildlife Officers investigated occurrences related to shot and left wildlife and night hunting complaints in and around Edson. From September 2013 to November 2013, 36 shot and left wildlife were located, including 26 deer, five moose, four elk and one black bear.

To help with the investigation, local Fish and Wildlife Officers asked the public for information. The officers quickly began receiving tips that helped identify suspects. During the investigation, five search warrants and one production order were executed and the resulting evidence was submitted to the Alberta Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Branch Forensic Laboratory for analysis.

Events culminated in Edson Provincial Court on December 18, 2015, where the individuals pleaded guilty to a total of 37 offences under the Wildlife Act.

Colton Campbell was convicted on eight counts:

- · Hunting without a licence
- · Hunting in a dangerous manner
- · Hunting at night
- · Prohibited items in hunting wildlife (a light was used while hunting at night)
- · Discharging a weapon from a vehicle
- \cdot Abandoning flesh fit for human consumption

- \cdot Unlawful possession of wildlife and controlled animals
- \cdot Using a vehicle to harass, injure or kill wildlife

Derek Brown was convicted on eight counts:

- · Hunting without a licence
- Hunting in a dangerous manner
- Hunting at night
- · Prohibited items in hunting wildlife (a light was used while hunting at night)
- · Discharging a weapon from a vehicle
- · Abandoning flesh fit for human consumption
- \cdot Unlawful possession of wildlife and controlled animals
- · Using a vehicle to harass, injure or kill wildlife

Tayler Brown was convicted on seven counts:

- \cdot Hunting without a licence
- · Hunting in a dangerous manner
- · Hunting at night
- · Prohibited items in hunting wildlife (a light was used while hunting at night)
- · Discharging a weapon from a vehicle
- · Abandoning flesh fit for human consumption
- · Unlawful possession of wildlife and controlled animals

Devan Dozorek was convicted on five counts:

- · Hunting without a licence
- · Hunting in a dangerous manner
- Hunting at night
- · Prohibited items in hunting wildlife (a light was used while hunting at night)
- · Unlawful possession of wildlife and controlled animals

Michaela Scott was convicted on four counts:

- · Hunting without a licence
- · Hunting in a dangerous manner
- \cdot Unlawful possession of wildlife and controlled animals
- \cdot Using a vehicle to harass, injure or kill wildlife

A minor (name cannot be released) was convicted on five counts:

- · Hunting without a licence
- · Hunting in a dangerous manner
- · Hunting at night
- · Prohibited items in hunting wildlife (a light was used while hunting at night)
- \cdot Abandoning flesh fit for human consumption

The sentences given to the accused are as follows:

· Colton Campbell : 90 days jail, \$45,000 fine and a lifetime hunting ban

 \cdot Derek Brown: nine-month conditional sentencing order, which includes house arrest and strict curfew conditions, a \$45,000 fine and a lifetime hunting ban

- \cdot Tayler Brown: \$25,000 fine and a lifetime hunting ban
- \cdot Devan Dozorek: \$10,000 fine and a 10-year hunting ban
- · Michaela Scott: \$10,000 fine and a lifetime hunting ban
- \cdot The minor: 200 hours of community service and a five-year hunting ban

The presiding judge also ordered the forfeiture of three trucks, four firearms and various boxes of ammunition belonging to the individuals. These convictions send a strong message that Alberta is serious about protecting our fish and wildlife.

We thank the members of the public who called in the initial information that led to these convictions, and we would like to remind Albertans that everyone can play a part in protecting our fish and wildlife. Any suspicious hunting or fishing activity can be reported to the 24-hour Report A Poacher line at 1-800-642-3800.