

Hunter Fined For Illegal Deer Hunting

NEWS

January 20, 2010

A Red Lake man has been fined \$3,500 for illegal deer hunting.

James Amie Rousseau, of Balmertown, Ontario, pleaded guilty and was convicted under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act. He was fined \$2,500 for trespassing to hunt and \$1,000 for failing to affix a valid game seal tag to his harvested deer. Rousseau is also prohibited from hunting in Ontario for the next two years. Rousseau's firearm was seized and will be returned once his fines are paid.

Court heard that on November 1, 2009, Ministry of Natural Resources conservation officers observed Rousseau and a second individual walk out of the woods, enter a truck and drive down Nelles-Patullo Road in Patullo Township in the Rainy River District. Officers then heard a gunshot from the direction of Rousseau's truck. When questioned, Rousseau advised the officers that he did not shoot any wildlife. Upon investigation, officers found a buck deer and evidence that it had been dragged from its kill site in a cattle pasture on private property to a fence next to the road, where the vehicle was originally parked. A single bullet found under the hide of the deer matched the firearm Rousseau had with him when interviewed by the officers. Rousseau later admitted to shooting the deer.

The ministry reminds hunters that it is illegal to shoot from, down or across a public road when hunting. Hunters must have permission to enter private land, even if the intent is just to cross the private land to reach public land.

Justice of the Peace Pat Clysdale-Cornell heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Rainy River, on January 14, 2010.

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