

No Profit Gained for Illegal Devil's Tower Outfitter

Reports of an illegal outfitting operation began to surface from concerned citizens in northeast Wyoming beginning in 2011. These reports led to a 3-year joint investigation by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wyoming Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides Association, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Department, and the South Dakota Department of Game Fish and Parks. The investigation finally ended on March 3, 2015 when Bradley A. Greba, age 61, of Devils Tower was sentenced in Crook County Circuit Court in Sundance. Greba operated Whitetail Creek Outfitters in Devil's Tower, WY from 2011 to 2013 under expired Wyoming and Montana outfitter licenses. Greba and his guides had accommodated antelope, deer and turkey hunters in northeast Wyoming and southeast Montana.



On November 13, 2012, after a year of investigating, game wardens and investigators served a search warrant on the Whitetail Creek Outfitters Lodge and Greba's residence. Wardens obtained documents and files from the search warrant, indicating Greba had booked and guided at least 46 hunters, earning over \$110,000 during the 3-year period. Additional big game, game bird, and furbearer violations were found including take without a license, transfer of license, failure to Interstate Game Tag harvested wildlife, guiding without a license and failure of guide/outfitter to report violations.



In May 2014, the Crook County prosecutor's office filed 100 charges against Bradley Greba for outfitting without a license, accessory to guiding without a license, taking big game, game birds and furbearers without a license, transfer of licenses, and interstate game tag violations. The violations were accrued from 2004 to 2013. Greba and prosecutors reached a plea agreement on March 3, 2015. Bradley Greba pled nolo contendere and was sentenced on 2 counts of outfitting without a license and 38 counts of shipping/transporting game without a game tag outside Wyoming. Greba was sentenced to 37 days in jail with 7 days suspended and was assessed \$6,890 in fines, court costs and public defender fees. Bradley Greba's hunting, fishing, and trapping license privileges were suspended until March 2024 in Wyoming and 43 other member states of the Wildlife Violator Compact.



The wardens and investigators were able to charge 8 additional individuals with wildlife violations in Crook County with information obtained from interviews and seized evidence. These individuals had been employed by Whitetail Creek Outfitters during the period of 2004 to 2012.

James M. Schump Sr, age 64, of Berthoud, Colorado was charged with 10 counts of guiding without a license. Schump pled nolo contendere to 2 counts and was fined \$1,040.00. Michael D. Brooks, age 53, of Berthoud, Colorado was charged with 10 counts of guiding without a license. Brooks pled nolo contendere to 2 counts and was fined \$1,040.00. Kimmel W. Evans, age 57, of Goodland, Kansas and formerly from Longmont, Colorado was charged with 15 counts of guiding without a license, taking a furbearer without a license, transfer of license,



taking a big game animal without a license, failure of a guide to report violations, and shipping game without a game tag outside Wyoming. Evans pled guilty to 8 counts and was fined \$1,760.00. Timothy W. Freed, age 58, of Perkasio, Pennsylvania was charged with 4 counts of accessory to taking a game bird without a license and shipping game without a game tag outside Wyoming. Freed pled nolo contendere to the 4 counts and was fined \$610.00. Ronald E. Mummert, age 48, of Pine Haven, Wyoming was charged with 10 counts of guiding without a license. Mummert pled guilty to 5 counts and was

fined \$2,600.00. Wade L. Spracher, age 43, of Hulett, Wyoming was charged with 2 counts of guiding without a license. Spracher plead guilty to one count and was fined \$250.00. Richard K. Lemay, age 52, of Missoula, Montana and formerly from Devils Tower, Wyoming was charged with 16 counts of transfer of license, accessory to take big game animal without a license, take furbearer without a license, failure of guide to report violations, and shipping game without a game tag outside of Wyoming. Lemay pled guilty to 7 counts and was fined \$1,940.00. Lindy C. Bartlett, age 63, of Alzada, Montana was charged with 2 counts of taking nongame from a vehicle and shooting from a vehicle. Bartlett pled guilty to both counts and was fined \$450.00.

There were no charges filed against the nonresident hunters for hiring an unlicensed outfitter based on their cooperation with the investigation and recommendations of the Crook County Prosecutor's Office. All the hunters assumed Whitetail Creek Outfitters was licensed based on the website and advertisements and were unaware Bradley Greba was listing an expired outfitter license number. In addition to the Wyoming charges, Bradley Greba was charged with 19 counts of illegal outfitting and guiding in Montana.



Wyoming's Wildlife Investigations Unit Supervisor stated, "The outfitter industry is regulated for a reason. The Wyoming Game and Fish will continue to pursue those who choose to profit illegally from Wyoming's wildlife."