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United States Attorney

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	No. 3:22-cr-00041-KFR
)	
Plaintiff,)	<u>COUNT 1:</u>
)	VIOLATION OF THE LACEY ACT
vs.)	Vio. of 16 U.S.C. § 3372(a)(1) and 16
)	U.S.C. § 3373(d)(2)
HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY, a/k/a)	
BLAINE ANTHONY; and NATURE)	<u>COUNT 2:</u>
PRODUCTIONS, INC. d/b/a BEAR)	VIOLATION OF THE LACEY ACT
WHISPERER)	Vio. of 16 U.S.C. § 3372(d)(2) and 16
)	U.S.C. § 3373(d)(3)(B)
Defendants.)	
_____)	

I N F O R M A T I O N

The United States Attorney charges that:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

1. The Kenai Fjords National Park (the Park) lies south of the Brooks Range and encompasses approximately 669,650 acres. The Park was designated a National Park

on December 2, 1980 pursuant to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Pub.L. 96-487, 94 Stat. 237 (ANILCA). Black bears occur throughout the Park and represent a significant wildlife component of its ecosystem.

2. Hunting is prohibited in the Park. At all times relevant to this Information the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) designated the Park as being within Game Management Unit (GMU) 23.

3. Hunters holding hunting licenses, permits and associated big game locking tags are required to accurately and truthfully report specific information on big game animals they hunted for and/or killed to ADFG, including the kill location.

4. Defendant HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY is a resident of the state of Maine.

5. Defendant NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC. is a Maine corporation.

6. Individual A is a resident of the state of Alaska.

7. HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY is the registered agent, officer, and sole shareholder of NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC.

8. NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC. produces a television hunting show “Bear Whisperer” hosted by HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY.

9. Between 2011 and 2019, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY participated in at least eight black bear hunting trips on and around the Kenai Peninsula.

10. During each hunt, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY was accompanied by a NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC. film crew on a boat operated by Individual A.

11. HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY and NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC. used footage from the 2015 and 2017 hunting trips in episodes of the “Bear Whisperer”

television program, including footage of two black bear kills within the Kenai Fjords National Park.

Relevant Federal Laws and Regulations

12. Section 3372(a)(1) of the Lacey Act makes it unlawful for any person to transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase any wildlife taken, possessed, transported or sold in violation of any law, treaty, or regulation of the United States.

13. Section 3372(d)(2) of the Lacey Act make it unlawful for any person to make or submit any false record, account, or label for any fish, wildlife, or plant which has been, or is intended to be, transported in interstate commerce.

14. Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, § 2.2(a) makes it unlawful to take wildlife on lands designated as a National Park except by authorized hunting and trapping activities.

COUNT 1

15. Paragraphs 1–14 are incorporated herein.

16. On or about May 8–12, 2017, in Pilot Harbor, within the Kenai Fjords National Park, in the State and District of Alaska and elsewhere, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY and NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC. did take and transport, with the assistance of Individual A, a black bear, which in the exercise of due care, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY and NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC. knew or should have known was taken, possessed, and transported in violation of federal and state laws, in that the black bear was killed within the boundaries of the Kenai Fjords National Park.

17. In furtherance of the illegal take and transportation, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY, acting as an agent of NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC., shot and killed the black bear within the Kenai Fjords National Park. Video footage was taken of the hunt for use on HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY and NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC.'s television hunting show. After the kill, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY, acting as an agent of NATURE PRODUCTIONS, INC., transported the black bear from the kill location to Individual A's boat where it was transported to Homer, Alaska.

18. All in violation of 36 C.F.R. § 2.2(a).

19. All of which is violation of the Lacey Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(1) and 3373(d)(2).

COUNT 2

20. Paragraphs 1–18 are incorporated herein.

21. On or about May 12, 2017, in the State and District of Alaska, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY filed a false sealing certificate with the State of Alaska indicating that the black bear taken in Kenai Fjords National was taken in Berger Bay, an area on Nuka Island outside the Kenai Fjords National Park and approximately 19 miles away from the kill location in the Park, where hunting is permitted. At the time of executing the false sealing certificate, HARVEY NEIL ANTHONY intended the black bear to be transported to Maine after taxidermy work had been completed, and the bear was transported from Alaska to Maine.

22. All in violation of 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(d)(2) and 3373(d)(3)(B).

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DATED this May 6, 2022, at Anchorage, Alaska.

S. LANE TUCKER
United States Attorney

s/Seth Brickey
SETH BRICKEY
Assistant U.S. Attorney