

Man Grizzly Killed Guided, Hunted Illegally-

Companion Hunter Kills Huge Carnivore, Fish and Wildlife Investigates

It was September 5. Guide Raymond J. Caposella, and hunter Nelson J. Stimaker had crept up to within 30 yards of a 700 pound boar grizzly feeding on a kill near Tazlina Lake in central Alaska.

They could not get a good shot at the bear because of intervening bushes. After waiting an hour, Caposella became impatient and said he would see if he could spook the animal.

The guide walked in close enough for the bear to take notice and the bear charged. The distance was 15 yards when the guide fired one shot from his 300 Magnum rifle. It failed to stop the enraged grizzly.

The huge carnivore reached the guide before he could fire another shot and knocked him down.

Stimaker ran up and shot the bear as soon as he saw an opening. It took four bullets from his 308 rifle at point blank range before the grizzly collapsed on top of the mortally wounded guide.

Caposella was able to tell the hunter how to get back to his plane and radio for help shortly before he died.

The two men had originally spotted the bear when they were flying over the area in the guide's plane. They landed and

then stalked the bear.

Fish and Wildlife Protection Officers are investigating the incident and will file charges based upon the act of hunting

the bear the same day airborne, and hunting prior to opening of season in that area, a spokesman for the Dept. of Public Safety said.