WHY IS CWD MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

CWD is a progressive, fatal neurological disease that affects deer, elk and moose. It has been present for some years in states and Canadian provinces north, east and south of Montana, but was first found in wild deer in our state in 2017 during FWP's focused CWD surveillance. There is no known case of CWD affecting people, pets, livestock or wildlife other than the deer family. However, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend not consuming meat from an animal known to be infected with CWD. The CDC also recommends that hunters have deer tested if they were harvested in areas where CWD is known to be present. Visit fwp.mt.gov/cwd for more information.

WHERE IS CWD?

CWD has been found in Montana along the Highline mostly between Highway 2 and Canada and in southcentral Montana south of Billings. See the CWD Management Zones map below. In 2019 FWP will continue to look for CWD by doing intensive sampling in part of Region 7 in southeastern Montana. Hunters who stop at check stations in that area can expect to be asked if FWP can test their harvested animals. Hunters will be informed of the results of their tests.

WHY IS CWD MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

• Helps to prevent long-term population decline in infected herds. Some states have seen more than 40% decline in mule deer.
• Decreases prevalence and likelihood of spread.
• Helps slow the decline of wildlife-related recreation opportunities.
• Controls potential declines in property value.
• CWD has broader impacts to Montana’s hunting and outdoor legacy.

WHAT IS CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE?

CWD is a progressive, fatal neurological disease that affects deer, elk and moose. It has been present for some years in states and Canadian provinces north, east and south of Montana, but was first found in wild deer in our state in 2017 during FWP’s focused CWD surveillance. There is no known case of CWD affecting people, pets, livestock or wildlife other than the deer family. However, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend not consuming meat from an animal known to be infected with CWD. The CDC also recommends that hunters have deer tested if they were harvested in areas where CWD is known to be present. Visit fwp.mt.gov/cwd for more information.

DON'T SPREAD CWD

To Montana from other states

It is unlawful to transport into Montana a whole carcass, whole head, brain or spinal column from deer, elk or moose from states or Canadian provinces that have experienced CWD. Those states and provinces include Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Alberta and Saskatchewan. Keep in mind that “evidence of sex requirements” must always be met when transporting any of these parts into Montana.

• It is unlawful to use or sell deer or elk urine to mask human odor if the urine originated in any of the CWD-positive states or provinces listed above, unless the urine originated in a facility that is CWD-free as determined by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. Facilities certified by the Archery Trade Association meet these criteria.

To other states from Montana

Other states and Canadian provinces prohibit the import of certain deer, elk or moose parts from Montana. They are Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Northwest Territories, Ontario, Quebec and Yukon. Questions concerning carcass transport may be directed to your home state’s wildlife division or to FWP’s enforcement division at (406) 444-2452.

Animal parts that CAN be removed from the CWD Management Zone include:

• Cut and wrapped meat or meat separated from the bone.
• Quarters or other parts with no spine or head attached.
• Hides with no heads attached.
• Skull plates, antlers or clean skulls with no flesh or tissue.

Don’t Spread CWD Within Montana

Current Montana CWD Management Zones for 2019

To prevent the spread of CWD from areas in Montana known to be infected to other parts of the state, the whole carcass, whole head, brain or spinal column from any deer, elk or moose harvested within a CWD Management Zone may not be removed from that Management Zone unless the animal has tested negative for CWD.

Northern Montana CWD Management Zone – Hunting Districts 400, 401, 600, 611, 640, 641 and 670 including the communities of Shelby, Havre, Malta, Glasgow and other that are on the defined boundaries.

Southern Montana CWD Management Zone – Hunting Districts 502 and 510, that portion of HD 520 east of Hwy 212, that portion of HD 575 north and east of Hwy 78, that portion of HD 590 south of Interstate 90, that portion of HD 704 south of Hwy 212, including the communities of Billings, Broadus and others that are on the defined boundaries.

Northern Montana CWD Management Zone

Southern Montana CWD Management Zone

Tribal lands - No FWP Authority

NOTE: Fort Peck Reservation follows FWP’s Northern CWD Management Zone Regulations.

NOTE: Currently no carcass movement regulations in place on Crow and Northern Cheyenne Reservations.

Animal parts that CAN be removed from the CWD Management Zone include:

• Cut and wrapped meat or meat separated from the bone.
• Quarters or other parts with no spine or head attached.
• Hides with no heads attached.
• Skull plates, antlers or clean skulls with no flesh or tissue.

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Turn In Poachers. Enough is Enough! Make the call: 1-800-TIP-MONT (1-800-847-6668)