

Meeting Date: November 17, 2017

Agenda Item No. 14

Agenda Item: Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance and Response Plan Update

Bureau Chief Approval:

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Background:

The Department has yet to detect Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Idaho, but we have been conducting surveillance for the disease annually since 1997. Since 1997, we have tested 15,900 samples from mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk and moose. In 2016, Department staff began revising the Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan which was first written in 2002 and revised in 2010 and 2012.

The response plan revision will be a comprehensive document that includes updated background information on research and management on CWD, prevention, surveillance strategies for both pre and potentially post detection, potential management strategies for post detection and communication strategies.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

Current rules in place that relate to CWD transport and carcass disposal are:

- (1) IDAPA 13.01.10: No person shall import, export, transport into or cause to be transported within, release or sell within the state of Idaho any living wildlife including wildlife eggs without having first obtained a permit from, and on a form prescribed by, the Director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.
- (2) IDAPA 13.01.18: Provides guidance about emergency winter feeding to minimize disease transmission. Idaho Code 36-123 establishes the Winter Feeding Advisory Committees.
- (3) IDAPA 13.01.03: Proper disposal of carcasses by hunters and taxidermists: - on public lands owned/ controlled by IDFG, one cannot discard dead animals or parts or remains there ofon or in any lands or waters.

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture has a current rule on live transport of ungulates into the state. IDAPA 02.04.21 Importation of domestic cervidae into the state of Idaho must originate from a herd that is in good standing and actively participating in the National CWD Herd Certification Program.

As part of the response plan, revision staff will be developing recommendations for any new rules to address carcass transport and private winter feeding operations. Intent of any future transport rule proposals to the Commission will be to reduce the chance of CWD-infected materials being transported into or to other areas of the state. A feeding rule proposal to the Commission would specifically address private wildlife feeding in areas if CWD has been detected. Other rule change concepts might be developed as the new response plan is developed and brought to the Commission in the future.

Public Involvement Process:

This agenda item is for Commission information.

Justification:

This agenda item is to provide update to the Commission at the request of the Commission.

Staff Recommendation:

This agenda is for information only.