

Idaho Department of Fish and Game



2018

STRATEGY FOR CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

**PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND MANAGEMENT
FOR IDAHO'S WILD CERVIDS (DEER, ELK, AND MOOSE)**

PREVENTION

Routes for spreading CWD-causing prions, or cervid exposure to CWD, include natural animal migration, transport of live animals and infected carcasses (particularly brains and spinal tissue), and activities that concentrate animals, such as winter feeding. Prevention of disease transmission is the most cost effective CWD management tool available. This 2018 Strategy focuses prevention efforts on practical measures that address significant transmission risks and have a reasonable likelihood of compliance. While much is unknown about CWD, the contributions of natural and human activities in the spread of CWD are well documented (Miller and Fischer 2016).

Idaho has some laws and rules that prevent the spread of CWD via transport of live captive animals. This Strategy recommends additional actions to reduce risks from both captive and wild animals, as well as carcass transport.

Current Requirements:

- A person must obtain a permit from IDFG to import, export, or transport captive mule and white-tailed deer and moose. This includes authority to restrict import and possession from CWD-positive animals. IDAPA 13.01.10; Idaho Code 36-103, 36-104(b), 36-501, and 36-504.
- People hunting in or transporting carcasses from other states are required to follow any carcass export/transport rules of the state(s) from which they harvest the cervid or are traveling through to their final destination.
- The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) regulates the importation, possession, and health of domesticated elk, fallow deer, and reindeer under Idaho Code Title 25, Chapter 37. ISDA rules require that any of these animals imported into Idaho originate from a herd in good standing that complies with the National CWD Herd Certification Program. IDAPA 02.04.19. ISDA regulates red deer and sika deer as deleterious exotic animals, and a person must obtain a permit from ISDA to import, possess, or transport these species.
- Under Idaho Code 36-106(e)(9), ISDA and IDFG are jointly responsible for a comprehensive health program for all deer, elk, and moose imported into, transported through, or resident within Idaho. ISDA and IDFG administrative rules provide authority for testing, quarantine, and slaughter of animals to address infectious diseases.

Recommended actions:

- Limit the import and possession of carcass transport:
 - Limit the import into Idaho the carcass or any part of a wild deer, elk or moose from another state, province of Canada, or Country with any documented case of CWD; limit the transport of the carcass or any part of a wild deer, elk or moose

out of any CWD Management Zone designated by IDFG Commission to any part of the state that is not a designated CWD Management Zone. IDAPA 13.1.10

- Limit the Possession of the carcass or any part of a wild deer, elk, or moose that: has been imported from another state, province or country (other than Canada) with a documented case of CWD; or transported out of any CWD Management Zone designated by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission to any part of the state that is not a designated CWD Management Zone. IDAPA 13.1.10
 - The following exemptions will be allowed:
 - Meat that is cut and wrapped
 - Quarters or deboned meat that do not include brain or spinal tissue
 - Edible organs that do not include brains
 - Hides without heads
 - Upper canines (buglers, whistlers, or ivories)
 - Finished taxidermy and dried antlers
 - Cleaned and dried skulls or skull caps
- Ban the importation and possession of possession, importation, transport, sale, barter, or trade of elk (wild), moose, mule deer, white-tailed deer, fallow deer, or muntjac deer in Idaho. IDAPA 13.1.10
- Ban the unauthorized feeding of deer and elk by the public within any CWD Management Zone designated by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, similar to ISDA rules banning private feeding of big game in areas of eastern Idaho for protection against brucellosis transmission. IDAPA 02.04.25
- Ban the use of natural cervid urine for hunting big game, allowing for the use synthetic liquid scent. IDAPA 13.01.17
- Integrate CWD risks into consideration by IDFG and its winter feeding advisory committees prior to making the decision to provide supplemental feed under IDAPA 13.01.18 and Idaho Code 36-123.

Provide additional education/guidance to hunters and the general public on their critical role in preventing the spread of CWD, including the need for proper disposal of cervid carcasses (whole or in part), especially when animals test positive for CWD or are harvested from CWD positive areas.