

Recommendations and Sub-recommendations February , 2020 FINAL	Participants at Consensus Level 4 and 5	Level of Consensus
RECOMMENDATION 1: REDUCTION OF ARTIFICIAL CONCENTRATIONS We recommend WGFD takes action to reduce artificial points of concentrations.	1-Garrett	M
1.1 We recommend the WY Legislature provide the WGF Commission the authority to regulate the intentional private feeding of wild cervids, unless otherwise specified in law or authorized by the WGFD, exempting agricultural practices.	0	C
1.2 We recommend WGFD collaborate at a local level to reduce artificial points of cervid concentrations where possible.	0	C
1.3 WGFD should work closely with municipalities and counties to eliminate artificial feeding and/or to reduce density of cervids, unless otherwise specified in law or authorized by the WGFD.	0	C
1.4 WGFD will work collaboratively with public stakeholder working groups to evaluate feeding practices of elk at feed grounds where possible to reduce risk and minimize negative impacts on elk population.	4 - Justin C. 5 – Garrett, Larry, Kent	N
RECOMMENDATION 2: CERVID REMAINS We recommend a multi-prong approach to addressing the proper disposal of cervid remains and carcasses.	0	C
2.1 We recommend WGFD works with individuals/NGOs/businesses to facilitate proper disposal of cervid remains/carcasses through funding partnerships.	5- Mike Schmid	N
2.2 We recommend WGFD work with DEQ, local solid waste operators and WY DOT to properly dispose of carcasses statewide and provide information about proper disposal sites.	5- Mike Schmid	N
2.3 We recommend the WY legislature provide authorization for use of existing funds to be used by local solid waste operators to properly dispose of cervid remains to reduce CWD prion prevalence.	0	C
2.4 We recommend the WY Legislature provides statutory authority to the WGF Commission to regulate the use of cervid urine.	0	C
RECOMMENDATION 3: EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION 3.1 We recommend WGFD create a thoroughly articulated and deliberate CWD communication plan. The first priority of this communication plan is to build public support to be able to implement the recommendations from the CWD Plan. This plan should target all stakeholders to include, but not limited to: general public, hunters, hunter education, travel & tourism (chambers), meat processors, taxidermists, outfitters, landowners, state & federal agencies, tribal, and elected officials. The communication plan should address all CWD related issues including: transportation (interstate and intrastate) & disposal of carcasses (e.g. Quarter & Go), CWD pathology basics, artificial point sources, transmission, potential management strategies, importance of testing, human health, surveillance, up to date science, not feeding wildlife and the implication feeding has with spreading CWD and the <u>essential</u> role of hunting in disease management, unknowns, etc. Pursue this outreach plan with local organizations and NGOs. This communication plan needs to be very	0	C

carefully thought through in order to avoid misperceptions. Involve all working group members. WGFD will create materials that are easily usable by other entities and organizations.		
3.2 We recommend WGFD explore hiring a third-party communications contractor to help implement the outreach plan.	4-Josh	M
RECOMMENDATION 4: HABITATS AND CWD	0	C
Combine habitat management and research to support cervid health.		
4.1 Incorporate CWD consideration in WGFD’s Strategic Habitat Plan to improve habitat and promote better distribution of cervids.	0	C
RECOMMENDATION 5: CERVID AND CWD MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	0	C
We recommend the Department consider experimental application of CWD suppression strategies utilizing an adaptive management framework with consideration to the “WAFWA Recommendations for Adaptive Management of CWD in the West” (Link doc) document. Management strategies should be implemented for a minimum of 10 years with a robust monitoring program to estimate prevalence with statistically significant sample sizes at least every 5 years. This would support a regional effort to gather valuable data to contribute to broader understanding of CWD suppression strategies. All management recommendations generated by this working group should be considered for experimental application and evaluation under this framework.		
5.1 Research suggests the greatest potential for successful CWD management actions occurs when prevalence is low. Therefore, CWD management is recommended at all prevalence levels, but local options to implement more aggressive management should be pursued once statistically valid prevalence reaches/exceeds 5%.	5 - Larry	N
5.2 Option 1: Specific management decisions should be determined at the local level and tailored to the population unit. Ensure education and outreach in order to gain and maintain public support for the CWD management actions. The following management recommendations are supported by this working group and should be considered either alone or in combination.	4 - Garret, Larry	M
5.2 Option 2: Increase mature buck harvest in order to lower CWD prevalence from current levels by a percentage deemed appropriate through local processes and with consideration to the WAFWA Document (https://www.wafwa.org/Documents%20and%20Settings/37/Site%20Documents/Committees/Wildlife%20Health/docs/CWDAdaptiveManagementRecommendations_WAFWAfinal_approved010618.pdf).	5 – Larry, Kent	N
5.2 Option 3: Alter the timing of buck harvest in order to increase harvest of mature bucks. E.g. taking advantage of seasonal behaviors	0	C
5.2 Option 4: Reduce cervid populations to measurably decrease densities within an area of concern (e.g. herd unit, hunt area, portion of a hunt area). Maintain reduced densities for the appropriate amount of time to adequately evaluate effects on CWD (i.e. greater than 10 years). This may require a sustained increase in	0	C

female harvest. Density and harvest goals must be clearly articulated and developed with public input prior to and during implementation.		
5.2 Option 5: Where possible, reduce areas of artificial concentration of cervids (feed, mineral, salt, water etc.) by working with landowners, producers, local, state and federal agencies.	4 - Sy, Garrett	M
5.2 Option 6: Utilize a robust monitoring program to identify areas with a high density of CWD positive cervids (i.e. “hot spots”). Develop and implement lethal removal strategies to maximize removal of cervids (male and female) around locations of known “hot spots”, including but not limited to hunter harvest (preferred), targeted agency removal, and other designated methods.	0	C
5.3 Encourage a multifaceted approach to use experimental design or management strategies to reduce CWD prevalence. Acknowledge relative study time frames and need for continually engaging the public to gain informed support.	0	C
5.4 WGFD will consider CWD in the adjustment of harvest and population objectives and associated management strategies to manage cervid numbers (male & female) in areas of concern.	0	C
5.5 Utilize a combination of voluntary and mandatory testing in areas where specific CWD management is being applied in order to obtain statistically valid sample sizes to evaluate the efficacy of any such management strategy.	0	C
5.6 Develop an adaptive monitoring plan based on prescribed management for a time frame of 10 years (to be assessed at 5 year intervals) for all cervids.	0	C
5.7 Consider options to refund license fees for cervids that test CWD positive in areas where an experimental management strategy is in place.	4 -Justin Steve R. Millie, Rick Kent 5 – Larry, Sy, Ambrosia	N
5.8 We recommend WGFD cooperate with landowners to increase hunter access for CWD management.	0	C
RECOMMENDATION 6.0: CWD AND MIGRATORY HERDS	0	C
We recommend that management actions are implemented in migratory cervid herds to reduce disease transmission risk and keep CWD prevalence at low or reduced levels.		
6.1 Support systematic monitoring across the state to detect “hot spots” and CWD prevalence information.	0	C
6.2 Consider issuing licenses and associated hunting seasons in relation to migratory herds that are intended to specifically address CWD management actions.	0	C
RECOMMENDATION 7.0: SURVEILLANCE & MONITORING	0	C

Support surveillance efforts necessary to detect changes in CWD prevalence. Use sample sizes collected over a maximum of a 3-year time frame as per the WGFD-CWD Surveillance Plan (Link doc).		
7.1 Utilize various licensing options to increase sample size in hunt areas where statistically significant sample sizes are needed (i.e. increased reduced price license/female harvest, late season, etc.).	0	C
7.2 WGFD to create non-monetary incentives to increase CWD sample sizes where needed.	0	C
7.3 Analyze & mine data for population and disease demographic information including male:female ratio, gender specific disease prevalence, survival rates, pre and post management.	0	C
7.4 Pursue increased funding to support testing, monitoring and additional laboratory capacity.	0	C
RECOMMENDATION 8: RESEARCH	0	C
We recommend the WGFD enhance its CWD research and testing capacity by diverse means to enable science-based cervid management.		
8.1 Continue to rigorously pursue collaborative genetic research programs with state and federal agencies, universities and private entities to better understand the role genetics plays in CWD in cervid populations and potential management implications. This should include, but not be limited to: monitoring frequency of genotypes in cervid populations and the fitness traits associated with these genotypes	0	C
8.2 We recommend WGFD pursue research (e.g. a survey) to determine public attitudes on CWD.	4 -Larry Josh, Tony	M
8.3 Investigate the relative importance of direct vs. indirect transmission of CWD prions	0	C
8.4 Assist in the validation of experimental assays for CWD prion detection (e.g. PMCA, rt-quic, and field testing).	0	C
8.5 Evaluate regional differences in CWD dynamics.	0	C
8.6 Increase emphasis on pursuing funding for collaborative CWD research and management efforts. Explore funding sources including but not limited to: private, non-profits, general state funds, grants, federal sources, CWD management stamp, non-consumptive users, WY Governor's Big Game License Coalition, Commissioner's license.	0	C
8.7 We recommend WGFD explore the possibility of creating an additional dedicated license with revenue specifically ear marked for CWD research and management.	4 –Nick, Dan S., Andy, Laura, Kristen, Justin, Libby, Millie, Rick, Kent. 5 – Larry, Bruce, Steve, Josh, Sy, Ambrosia	N
8.8 Incorporate CWD data collection into current and future research where appropriate.	0	C

8.9 Evaluate the effect of predators/large carnivores at a local level on CWD prevalence, transmission, and management implications.	4-Ambrosia, Larry Kent 5 - Sy	N
8.10 Begin a research project at feed, mineral, water, and salt sites working with willing landowners to explore techniques to reduce CWD transmission.	0	C
8.11 We recommend WGF D collaborate on research on how environmental prion contamination correlates with disease prevalence and transmission.	0	C
8.12 Conduct field studies to determine if artificial cervid aggregation is increasing CWD prevalence (e.g. underpasses/overpasses, water holes, feed grounds, etc).	4 – Kent, Larry, Laura 5 –Millie, Sy Ambrosia	N
8.13 Pursue habitat research on CWD to include: 1) How cervid habitat selection affects CWD prevalence, 2) How habitat improvements affect population demographics and distribution in the face of CWD	0	C
8.14 We recommend WGF D continue to collaborate nationally and internationally regarding CWD strategies and management actions and associated outcomes and research - in order to adaptively manage CWD.	0	C
8.15 We recommend WGF D collaborate in research and evaluation of a CWD vaccine.	4- Laura Brant	M
8.16 Study the effects of competition among cervid species on CWD prevalence.	1-Larry	M
Recommend the WY Dept. of Health and WY Dept. Agriculture work with pertinent stakeholder groups to develop recommendations for meat processors.	0	C
Recommend the WY Dept. of Health and WY Dept. Agriculture work with pertinent stakeholder groups to develop recommendations for safe donation of game meat.	0	C
RECOMMENDATION 9: MEAT PROCESSING		
9.1 Recommend the WY Dept. of Health and WY Dept. Agriculture work with pertinent stakeholder groups to develop recommendations for meat processors.	0	C
9.2 Recommend the WY Dept. of Health and WY Dept. Agriculture work with pertinent stakeholder groups to develop recommendations for safe donation of game meat.	0	C