



## Wyoming Game and Fish Department 2014 Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance February 2015

### **Overview:**

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) 2014 surveillance for chronic wasting disease (CWD) again focused on the western side (leading edge) of the known endemic area. Sampling efforts were concentrated in the Green River, Jackson, Lander (Dubois), and Pinedale Regions by utilizing hunter harvest, road-killed, and targeted (those showing signs of the disease) animals. Samples from other areas of the state were collected opportunistically.

Hunter harvested deer, elk, and moose samples were collected at points of concentration, i.e., meat processors and check stations. Only retropharyngeal lymph nodes were sampled due to their ease of extraction and suitability as a diagnostic tissue. The WGFD used an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to analyze lymph node samples. All positive samples were confirmed on the ELISA, followed by additional confirmation with immunohistochemistry.

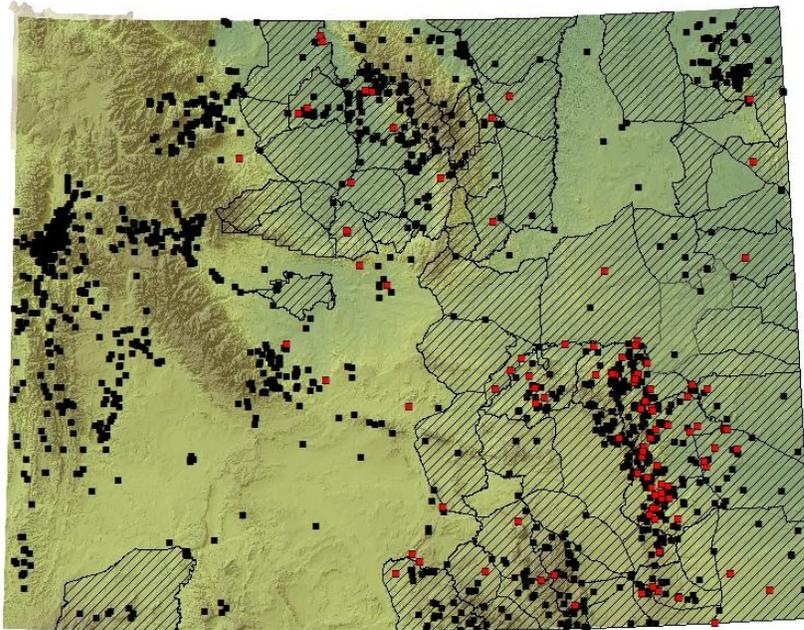
Results were reported to hunters in less than three weeks of sample submission. Hunters could obtain results by accessing the WGFD's web site and entering their unique identification number that was assigned when their animal was sampled. Hunters having deer or elk testing positive for CWD were also individually notified by a letter.

### **2014 Surveillance:**

A total of 1,632 deer, elk, and moose samples were analyzed. Of these samples, 110 tested positive for CWD representing 83 mule deer, 12 white-tailed deer, and 15 elk. This year's surveillance efforts identified seven new deer hunt areas: 36 near Shoshoni, 84 and 98 east of Rawlins, 97 near Muddy Gap, 116 by Meeteetse, 123 in the Lovell area, and 160 near Lander. Hunt area 108 was the lone elk area identified (see map below). Of the 1,632 total samples received, 86% were derived from hunter-killed animals, 8% from targeted and 6% from road-killed deer, elk and moose. The proportion of positive samples in each of these categories was 5.6% (79/1,403) for hunter-killed, 23% (30/129) for targeted and 1% (1/100) in road-killed animals. It should be noted that the majority of road-killed surveillance occurs outside of the known endemic area for chronic wasting disease.

As of 2005, the Department incorporated moose into the CWD surveillance program, and in 2008 a positive moose was identified in moose hunt area 23 near Bedford. Since the initial case, over 750 moose samples have been tested, and to date, this disease has not been identified again in free-ranging moose. In 2014, 14 hunter-killed, 26 targeted and 13 road-killed moose were tested. For complete information on CWD in Wyoming please go to: <http://wgfd.wyo.gov/web2011/wildlife-1000282.aspx>

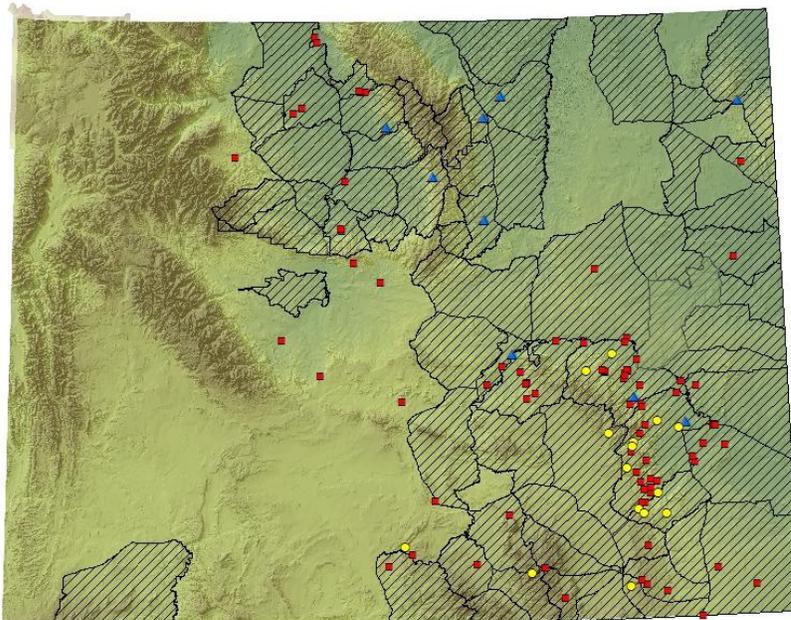
## Wyoming Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) 2014 All Species: Positive and Negative



Wyoming Game and Fish Dept.  
Wildlife Disease Lab  
January 2015

- All Species Positive
- All Species Negative
- ▨ CWD Endemic Deer Areas 2013

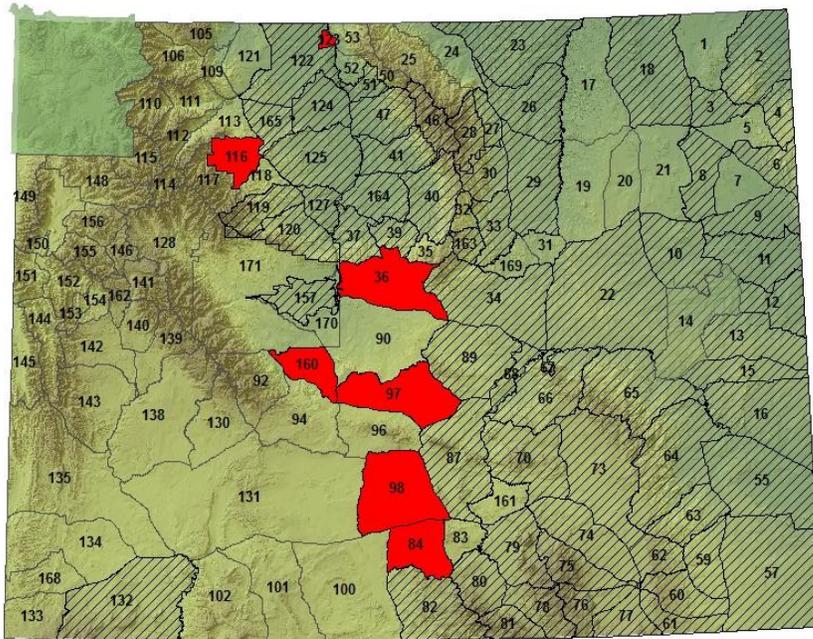
## Wyoming Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) 2014 Positives by Species



Wyoming Game and Fish Dept.  
Wildlife Disease Lab  
January 2015

- Positive Elk
- ▲ Positive White-tailed Deer
- Positive Mule Deer
- ▨ CWD Endemic Deer Areas 2013

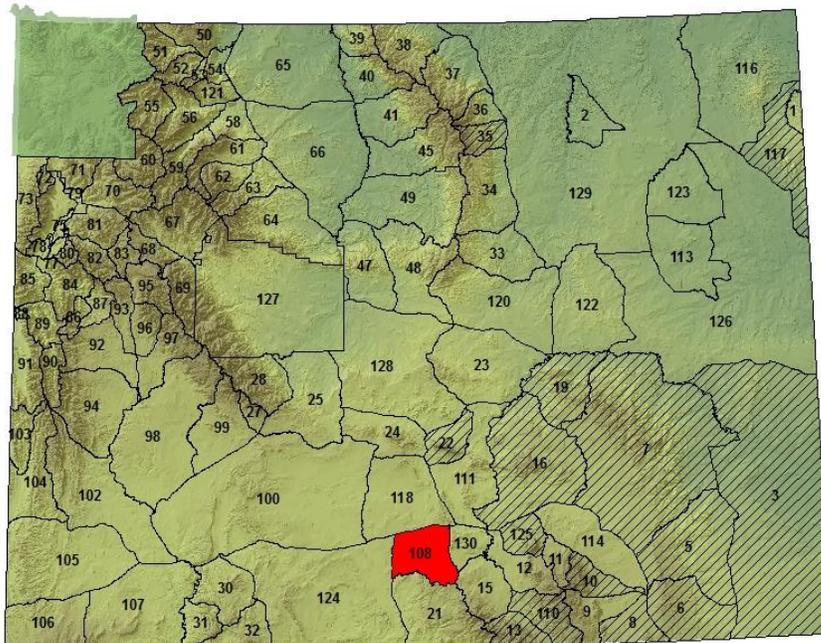
## Wyoming Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) 2013 Endemic Deer Area, and New Positive Areas in 2014



Wyoming Game and Fish Dept.  
Wildlife Disease Lab  
December 2014

- New Positive Areas 2014
- CWD Endemic Deer Areas 2013

## Wyoming Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) 2013 Endemic Elk Areas, New Positive Area in 2014



Wyoming Game and Fish Dept.  
Wildlife Disease Lab  
December 2014

- New Positive Area 2014
- CWD Endemic Elk Areas 2013