



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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We need your help!! The Wyoming Game and Fish Department needs to collect samples from deer harvested in Hunt Areas 157 Type 1 or 3, and 171 general or Type 3 to test for chronic wasting disease (CWD). In particular, we are interested in samples from mature bucks. As a license holder we are writing you to inform you of this intensive sample collection and request your help in making these samples available. We are not requiring mandatory check of harvested deer at this time and we will have extra personnel available to collect samples at times and locations more convenient to you. To assist us, we would appreciate if you would do one of the following:

1. If you are taking your deer to a taxidermist or meat processor, please let them know you would like to have samples taken and they will save the head for later collection by Game and Fish personnel. If you need contact information for one of the area meat processors, please see the contact information provided with this letter.
2. If you are processing your deer at home and/or transporting out of state, please contact us at **307-332-2688** between 8AM and 5PM Monday – Friday or at **307-714-2190** after hours or on weekends. We can either schedule a time to get the sample or provide further information for drop-off locations and check stations near you. If no one answers, please leave a message and we will contact you as soon as is possible.

For many years, Game and Fish has tracked the distribution of (CWD) in deer populations throughout the state. CWD is a fatal, degenerative brain disease that impacts deer populations. More information regarding the disease is available on the Department's website at: <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Wildlife-in-Wyoming/More-Wildlife/Wildlife-Disease/CWD-in-Wyoming-Wildlife>. Tracking distribution of the disease has involved collecting samples from harvested deer across the entire state for a number of years. This more intensive effort will allow Game and Fish to move beyond knowing whether the disease is simply present or absent in an area, to estimating the percentage of deer infected with the disease (prevalence of the disease).

In order to estimate prevalence in Area 157 and 171 we will need to collect as many samples as possible. With your help, we can better estimate the prevalence of CWD in this area and that will provide a better understanding how this disease may be affecting the deer population(s). This in turn will allow Game and Fish managers to evaluate potential management practices to minimize its effect.

Thank you for your help in this endeavor.

Greg Anderson

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