

2025

HUNTERS, WE NEED YOUR HELP!



CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE

Since 1997, Wyoming Game and Fish has been monitoring the distribution and prevalence of chronic wasting disease (CWD) to better understand how this disease affects the health of Wyoming's deer and elk populations. This disease has now been identified in most of Wyoming. Continued monitoring of CWD over time is important to help understand the potential impacts of

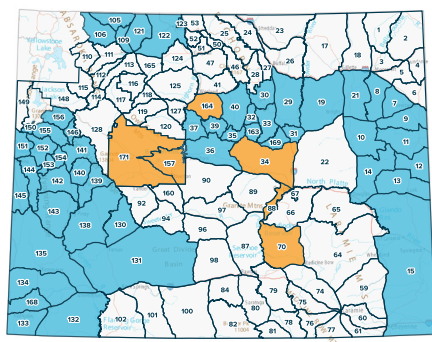
the disease as well as evaluate management actions for deer and elk. This will be a challenge, as collecting samples for valid estimates of prevalence requires large sample sizes in focused areas across the state. The Game and Fish Wildlife Health Laboratory has limited testing capacity to monitor CWD across the entire state, so focused sampling will rotate hunt areas each year.

*** Hunters are very important in helping understand CWD and achieve monitoring goals. Game and Fish is asking that if you harvest a deer or elk in the hunt areas listed below, please submit a sample for testing to help achieve our goals.**

Hunters outside of this year's focused surveillance areas can still submit a sample for testing.

FOR INFORMATION ON THE WYOMING CWD MANAGEMENT PLAN VISIT WGFD.WYO.GOV/CWD

CWD MONITORING DEER FOCUS AREAS

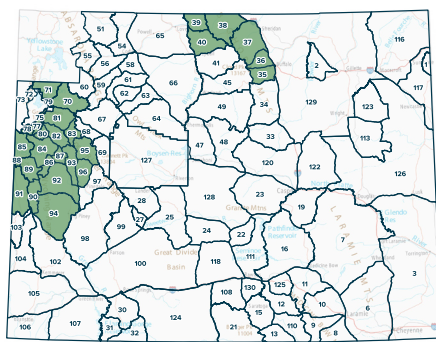


**CWD MONITORING
DEER FOCUS AREAS**

**MANDATORY CWD SAMPLE
SUBMISSION AREA**

DEER HUNT AREAS: 7-15, 19, 21, 29-33, 34, 35-37, 39, 40, 70, 88, 105, 106, 109, 121-123, 130-135, 138-146, 150-156, 157, 163, 164, 168, 169, 171

CWD MONITORING ELK FOCUS AREAS



**CWD MONITORING
ELK FOCUS AREAS**

ELK HUNT AREAS: 35-40, 70, 71, 75, 77, 78, 80-96

THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO GET
YOUR HARVESTED ANIMAL TESTED:

- ✓ **Game check station** – Personnel are normally available to sample your harvested animal for CWD.
- ✓ **WGFD regional office** – You may have to leave the head if personnel are not immediately available.
- ✓ **Collect it yourself** – Collect a sample yourself by watching the online video, complete a submission form and send to the Wildlife Health Lab or take it to a regional Game and Fish office. Please visit wgfd.wyo.gov/CWD for instructions and more.
- ! Results from WGFD surveillance are usually available online within 3 weeks.
- ! If you want results within 10 working days, contact the Wyoming State Veterinary Lab in Laramie at (307) 766-9925 (\$40 fee).
- ! Quarter and freeze your animal until test results are returned to save on meat processing costs if CWD is detected in your animal.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR GAME AND FISH REGIONAL OFFICE

Cheyenne Headquarters

(307) 777-4600 • (800) 842-1934
5400 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82006

Casper Region

(307) 473-3400 • (800) 233-8544
3030 Energy Lane, Casper, WY 82604

Cody Region

(307) 527-7125 • (800) 654-1178
2 Tilden Trail, Cody, WY 82414

Green River Region

(307) 875-3223 • (800) 843-8096
351 Astle, Green River, WY 82935

Jackson Region

(307) 733-2321 • (800) 423-4113
420 North Cache, Jackson, WY 83001
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 67, Jackson, WY 83001

Lander Region

(307) 332-2688 • (800) 654-7862
260 Buena Vista, Lander, WY 82520

Laramie Region

(307) 745-4046 • (800) 843-2352
1212 South Adams Street, Laramie WY 82070

Pinedale Region

(307) 367-4353 • (800) 452-9107
432 East Mill Street, Pinedale, WY 82941
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 850, Pinedale, WY 82941

Sheridan Region

(307) 672-7418 • (800) 331-9834
700 Valley View Drive, Sheridan, WY 82801



WHAT IS CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE?

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a chronic, fatal disease of the central nervous system in mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, and moose.

WHAT DO DEER AND ELK WITH CWD LOOK LIKE?

Early in the disease, animals show no clinical signs. Later on, affected animals show weight loss, reluctance to move, excessive salivation, droopy ears, increased drinking and urinating, lethargy, and eventually death. Not all animals will show the typical signs of CWD. The majority of all CWD-positive animals that are harvested appear completely normal. The only way to know whether your harvested animal has CWD is to have it tested.

HOW IS CWD TRANSMITTED?

Evidence suggests that CWD is transmitted via saliva, urine, feces or even infected carcasses. Animals may also be infected through the environment via contamination of feed or habitat with prions (which can persist for 10+ years).

HOW OFTEN DOES IT OCCUR?

The prevalence of CWD is higher in deer than elk, and tends to be higher in bucks than in does. CWD is most prevalent in central and southeastern Wyoming, and within the Bighorn Basin. Over the past 30 years, Wyoming has seen CWD prevalence increase in many hunt areas across the state.



Scan this QR code to view specific herd unit CWD prevalence.

HOW DOES CWD AFFECT DEER, ELK AND MOOSE POPULATIONS?

Research suggests that CWD can lead to declines in some deer and elk populations at high prevalence. Additional data suggests that CWD can decrease the number of older bucks in a population. There is currently no data to indicate that this disease will have population impacts in moose.

IS IT SAFE TO EAT A CWD INFECTED ANIMAL?

To date, there have been no cases of CWD in humans. However, experimental studies raise the concern that CWD may pose a risk and suggest that it is important to prevent human exposure. Therefore, the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization recommend that CWD-positive animals not be consumed.

WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD HUNTERS TAKE?

- Animals that appear sick or test positive for CWD should not be consumed.
- Wear rubber or latex gloves when field dressing.
- Minimize handling of brain and spinal tissues and wash your hands and instruments afterwards.
- Do not eat the brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, and lymph nodes.
- When butchering, meat should be boned out.
- Knives, dressing, and meat processing equipment should first be cleaned of any tissue and then can be disinfected by soaking in a 40% household bleach solution (mixed with water) for a minimum of 5 minutes. Rinse utensils and equipment after soaking.

WHERE CAN I VIEW MY TEST RESULTS?

Hunters who submitted tissue samples from their deer or elk for chronic wasting disease testing this hunting season can easily view their results. Simply scan the QR code below or log into your user account on the Game and Fish website and access your dashboard. Test results from the Game and Fish Wildlife Health Lab are usually available within three weeks.



Scan this QR code to access your CWD test results.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

- In focus surveillance areas, have your animal tested for CWD to help with the Game and Fish monitoring program.
- Report sick deer, elk, and moose to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department; removing CWD-positive animals from the landscape can help to minimize transmission of the disease.
- Follow carcass transport regulations that apply to all hunt areas in Wyoming as well as carcass import regulations of your home state if you are a nonresident.

The information provided in this brochure is a direct action of the Wyoming CWD Management Plan.