

Recognize The Signs of CWD

- drastic weight loss (wasting)
- stumbling
- lack of coordination
- listlessness
- drooling
- excessive thirst or urination
- drooping ears
- lack of fear of people



Why does it matter?

CWD can have a significant effect on our deer and elk populations in New Mexico. Early detection is the easiest way to mitigate disease spread.

While there has never been a documented case of CWD in a human, the CDC recommends not eating infected animals because of potential risks.

How can you help?

- Help with the statewide surveillance program by having your harvested deer or elk tested for CWD at a Hunter Check Station or NMDGF Office.
- Report any sick deer or elk to your local game warden.
- Be aware of regulations that apply to animals harvested in areas where CWD is known to occur, as detailed in NMDGF's Rules and Information Booklet.

For more information,
go to wildlife.state.nm.us

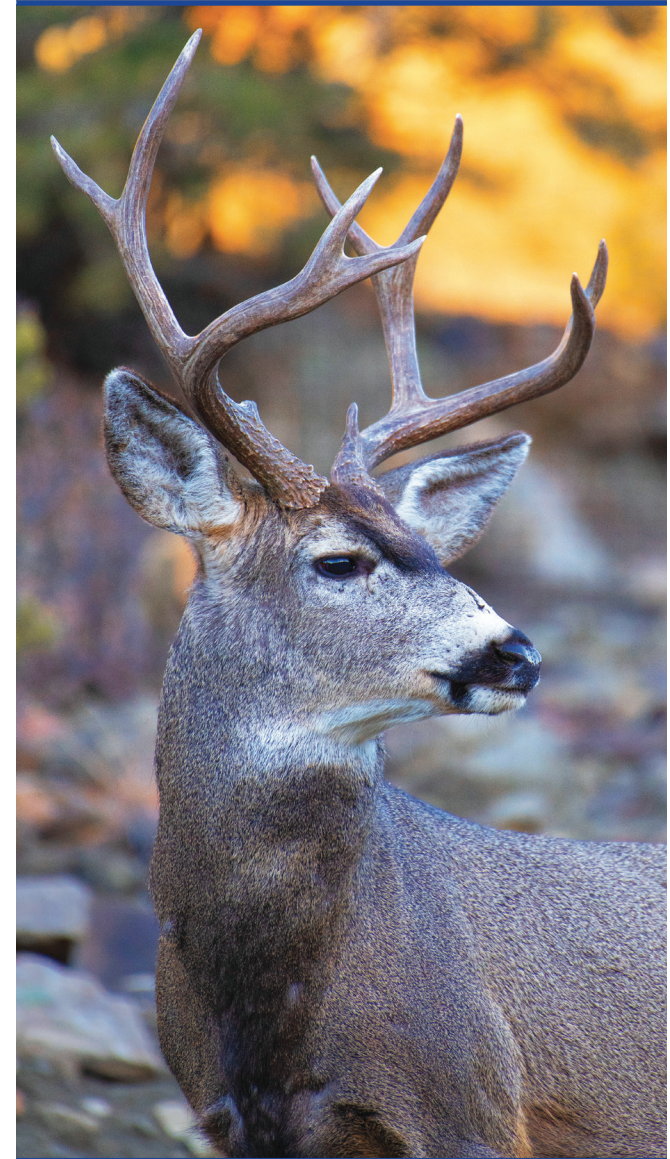


*Conserving New Mexico Wildlife
for future generations*



CWD

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Chronic Wasting Disease Background

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal disease of the central nervous system that affects members of the cervid family, including deer, elk and moose.

CWD is caused by misfolded proteins known as prions, which also cause mad cow disease. Prions concentrate in the brain, spinal cord, lymph nodes, spleen and to a lesser extent, muscles.

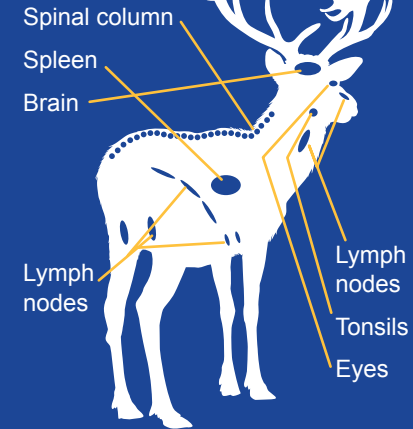
Affected animals show progressive weight loss, reluctance to move, excessive salivation, droopy ears, increased drinking and urinating, lethargy, and eventually death.

Animals often don't show symptoms early in the disease, so even healthy-looking animals could be transmitting the disease to other cervids and the environment.

CWD prions are thought to spread between animals through body fluids like feces, saliva, blood or urine, either through direct contact or indirectly through environmental contamination of soil, food or water.

Experts believe CWD prions can remain in the environment for a long time, so other animals can contract CWD from the environment even after an infected deer or elk has died.

High-risk parts



The prions multiply, accumulating in and damaging the brain and nervous system. Certain parts of infected deer have higher concentrations of CWD prions, but all tissues can contain prions.



From the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Hunting Rules and Chronic Wasting Disease

It is unlawful to transport any deer or elk or their parts outside of CWD control areas designated by the director of the NMDGF; visit wildlife.state.nm.us for a list of these areas. The exceptions are:

- Meat that is cut and wrapped either privately or commercially.
- Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the head or spinal column attached.
- Meat that has been boned out.
- Hides with no heads attached.
- Clean skull plates with antlers attached. Skull plate must be immersed in a bath of at least one part chlorine bleach and two parts water with all meat and tissue removed.
- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
- Upper canine teeth, also known as ivories.
- Finished heads mounted by a taxidermist.
- By prior arrangement, a harvested deer or elk or their parts may be moved to an NMDGF office.

You may not remove the whole head and spinal column. You must keep proof of sex with all game species until you get the game to the place where it will be consumed or placed in cold storage.