

Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Chronic Wasting Disease Activities for 2009
Preliminary Data as of 12/18/09

Methods:

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) conducted statewide surveillance for chronic wasting disease (CWD) in 2009. The WGFD divides the state into eight administrative regions. Considering each region as a "population," the surveillance goal was to test 500-600 deer from each region utilizing hunter harvest, road-killed, and targeted animals. This number provided a 99% probability of detecting CWD if it existed at $\geq 1\%$ prevalence. The overall goal was 3,000-4,000 samples statewide.

Hunter harvested deer and elk samples were collected at points of concentration, i.e., meat processors and check stations. Samples were taken by WGFD personnel from all divisions (wildlife, fish, services, administration). Only retropharyngeal lymph nodes were sampled because these nodes are rapidly obtained. Statewide training of WGFD personnel on sample and data collection was conducted prior to the start of the hunting season. The WGFD used the IDEXX enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to analyze lymph node samples. However, all IDEXX-positive samples were confirmed with the BioRad ELISA. All samples positive on both ELISAs were confirmed by immunohistochemistry.

Results were reported to hunters in less than three weeks of sample submission. Hunters could obtain results by accessing the Department's web site. Hunters submitting a sample were given a unique bar coded number. The hunter could then access the web site, enter the unique number and obtain test results. Hunters having deer or elk testing positive for CWD were also individually notified by letter. The WGFD also notified interested state wildlife agencies by mail if a hunter from their state harvested a CWD test-positive animal.

Results:

A total of 4,635 deer, elk, and moose samples were analyzed. Of these samples, 130 tested positive for CWD representing 95 mule deer, 17 white-tailed deer, and 18 elk. New cases of CWD were diagnosed deer hunt areas (HA) 42, 46, and elk HA 35. The new deer and elk hunt areas are most likely natural extensions of the Wyoming endemic area.

Other Issues:

As of 2005, the Department incorporated moose into the CWD surveillance program. In 2009, we surveyed 185 hunter-killed, 22 targeted and 11 road-killed moose; all were negative for CWD.

For complete information on CWD in Wyoming please go to:
<http://gf.state.wy.us/services/education/cwd/index.asp>

Mule Deer and White-tailed Deer

Number positive by Hunt Area
(New Hunt Areas = yellow)

<u>Hunt Area</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>1997-2009</u>
2	0	1
4	0	1
6	0	2
8	0	3
9	0	2
10	0	1
11	0	1
12	0	2
13	0	6
14	2	23
15	0	6
16	2	21
22	0	31
23	0	1
26	3	4
27	0	1
29	0	1
30	2	4
33	0	1
34	1	10
37	1	7
41	1	3
42	1	1
46	1	1
55	4	56
57	3	7
59	1	17
60	4	61
61	1	3
62	2	26
63	4	64
64	28	225
65	29	315
66	6	63
70	2	7
73	1	12
74	1	3
75	0	6
76	1	4
77	0	2
78	1	10
79	1	5
80	0	1
81	1	5
82	1	9
87	0	1
88	0	34
89	0	1
163	0	2
164	2	11

120	1	13
122	0	1
125	1	2
127	3	9

Elk

Number positive by Hunt Area
(New Hunt Areas = yellow)

<u>Hunt Area</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>1997-2009</u>
5	4	22
6	0	18
7	12	61
8	0	1
13	0	1
16	0	2
19	0	1
22	0	1
35	1	1
110	0	1
117	0	1
125	1	6

Moose

Number positive by Hunt Area
(New Hunt Areas = yellow)

<u>Hunt Area</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>1997-2009</u>
23	0	1

2009 Wyoming Preliminary Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance: All Species

