



Protecting Montana's wildlife, land, waters, and hunting & fishing heritage for future generations.

Board Resolution on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Montana

Whereas CWD is a 100% fatal disease in elk, deer and moose (cervids). There is no cure;

Whereas CWD is present several places in Montana and continues to spread, threatening the health and very existence of Montana's cervids;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that humans do not eat meat from CWD infected animals.

Whereas CWD inevitably diminishes hunting interest and potentially wildlife viewing thereby impacting the recreational industry;

Whereas CWD spreads quickly among captive ungulates or in the wild where ungulates concentrate;

Whereas there is no practical means of eradicating CWD once it is established; and

Whereas the Chronic Wasting Disease and Management Act was passed in December 2022 and authorizes expenditure of \$70 million annually for CWD research and management; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF):

1. Urges Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) to increase public education and communication about CWD.
2. Urges FWP to provide broader CWD testing availability and quicker testing turnaround.
3. Urges the Montana Legislature to keep game farms illegal in Montana.
4. Urges FWP to prevent the transfer of cervids through Montana that are not processed or prepared for taxidermy.
5. Urges FWP to require the proper disposal of cervid carcasses.
6. Urges FWP to managing ungulate herd-sizes to avoid overpopulation for given ranges, which increases CWD prevalence.
7. Urges increased funding for CWD research and management.

Moved: Liz McFarland

Second: Skip Kowalski

Passed 14 for and 0 against

April 15, 2023, at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Montana Wildlife Federation