

CW-D Stakeholder Group Meeting Agenda

Location: Matthew's Training Center (1st Floor of Foss Building) – Pierre, SD

Date: May 13, 2019

Time: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (central time)

Toll-free: 1-866-410-8397; Participation Code: 7854945726

Meeting Moderator: Chad Switzer, GFP

Meeting Notes: Nathan Baker, GFP

Notes are denoted in italics

- 10:00-10:15: Welcome, introductions and agenda review
 - *Charles Rokusek – 29-90 Sportsman's Club*
 - *Dave Eichstad – Beadle County Sportsman's Club*
 - *Chris Hesla – South Dakota Wildlife Federation*
 - *Jon Locken – GFP Commissioner*
 - *Lane Cammack – Captive Cervid Operator*
 - *Cody Warne – Captive Deer Herd and Pheasant Shooting Preserve*
 - *Ron Fowler – Sportsman Against Hunger*
 - *David Knudsen – SDSU Diagnostic Lab*
 - *Russ Daly – SDSU Diagnostic Lab*
 - *Greg Schroeder- Wind Cave National Park*
 - *Mike Jarding – Rancher (Fall River County)*
 - *Gary Romey – Rancher (Fall River County)*
 - *Brad Hand – Farmer/Rancher (Stanley/Haakon Counties)*
 - *Jim Wendte – SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources*
 - *Tom Krafka – Black Hills Sportsmen Club & Sportsmen Against Hunger*
 - *Mendel Miller – DVM - AIB (PM) (AM) – Via Conf. Line (PM)*
 - *Derick Wenck – SD Taxidermist Association – Via Conf. Line*
 - *Andy Vandel – High Plains Wildlife Association (PM)*
 - *Dustin Oedekoven – DVM State Veterinarian – Via Conf. Line (PM)*
 - *Todd Tedrow – DVM - AIB (PM)*
 - *GFP Staff*
 - *Chad Switzer - Wildlife Program Administer*
 - *Andy Lindbloom – Senior Big Game Biologist*
 - *Andrew Norton – Senior Big Game Biologist*
 - *Steve Griffin – Wildlife Biologist*
 - *Jacquie Ermer – Region 4 Terrestrial Resources Supervisor*
 - *Nathan Baker – Region 2 Terrestrial Resources Supervisor*
 - *Jim McCormick – Region 1 Conservation Officer Supervisor*
 - *Via Conf. Line – Josh Delger – Region 3 Terrestrial Resources Supervisor*
 - *Trenton Haffley – Region 1 Terrestrial Resources Supervisor*
 - *Chad Reviewed Agenda and went over meeting expectations*

- 10:15-10:30: Public Involvement
 - *Open House Meetings were held at: Aberdeen, Huron, Pierre, Wall, Hot Springs, Rapid City, Sioux Falls.*
 - *Attendance ranged from 3 in wall to 50 in Rapid City, 20-25 on average/Open House.*
 - *Tom Krafka – What kind of questions were asked?*
 - *Some were interested in the disease itself and wanted to more information on what it is.*
 - *Questions about news in Pennsylvania and bacteria theory.*
 - *Some indicated it was a waste of resources and it simply needs to be left alone.*
 - *Dave Eichstad – Heard a couple comments re: will burning kill the prion?*
Steve Griffin – Burning will if it is incinerated at 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - *Chad presented CWD information and discussed surveillance and sampling at Taxidermists meeting in Watertown.*
 - *Derick Wenck indicated that taxidermists attending this meeting were pleased with where South Dakota is at.*
 - *SD Meat Processors Association – Meeting was cancelled due to spring snow storms; hoping to meet with them to answer any questions, solicit input, etc.*
 - *Solid Waste Disposal Meeting – Upcoming this fall*
 - *Public Involvement*
 - *Several GFP News Releases, Social Media, Podcast, & SD Focus Program to increase public awareness on CWD. Website is continually updated with new information.*
 - *Waste Management Provider survey was sent out to ~120 businesses. As of now, 50% return rate, and 1/3 of those indicated that they accept deer carcasses.*
 - *Commissioner Jon Locken – What is the validity of the CWD work by Dr. Frank Bastian? Greg Schroeder, Steve Griffin, and David Knudsen from SDSU Lab indicated that all research continues to point back to prions and no one else has been able to replicate what Dr. Bastian has done.*
- 10:30-10:45: Timeline of CWD action plan, Commission action, and implementation

April 2:	Make draft action plan available for public comment
May 5:	End of public comment period on 1st draft
April—mid-May:	Offer meetings with organizations and other stakeholders on draft action plan and solicit public comment
May 13:	CWD stakeholder group meeting
May 14:	Internal CWD Workgroup
June 6-7	GFP Commission Meeting— present summary of modifications incorporated from public comment and provide 2nd draft to Commission for review and additional public comment
July 8-9:	GFP Commission Meeting—ask GFP Commission for adoption of final draft and present Department recommendations related to applicable administrative rules
September 5-6:	GFP Commission Meeting—ask GFP Commission to finalize proposed rule changes and follow-up with implementation of action plan
- 10:45-11:15: Discuss public comment
 - *Some comments related to the following:*

- *Mountain Lions*
- *Captive Deer and Elk Facilities*
- *Find a cure*
- *Double Fence on captive facilities*
- *Find a test for hunters*
- *Provide taxidermists garbage containers*
- *Urine based products*
 - *Relatively small chance for prion to spread into environment via urine products, but it can occur and if a deer tests positive for CWD, it is very difficult to track, as the product would be on the shelves before a deer determined to have CWD. Urine may also come from several does in the same bottle.*
 - *What proportion of the products are natural vs artificial? Maybe 50/50; depends on the retail store – Dave Eichstad*
 - *Greg Schroeder – What is the risk? Is it minimal?*
 - *Dr. Miller - Significant number of CWD positives are from CWD Certified herds*
- *Tom Krafka – Any updates on rectal biopsy tests? Where is the research at? Dave Knudsen from SDSU Lab provided a summary on lab research and indicated that there is an unacceptable false negative rate for this test. No reliable test on live animals.*
- *Discussion on Summary of New Regulations for Consideration*

Summary of New Regulations for Consideration

Where the promotion of best management practices is likely not enough to address identified concerns to reduce the spread of CWD, new or modified regulations should be considered. Below is a summary of the regulations for consideration by the GFP Commission as already described in the *Preventive Measures* section of this action plan:

- **New regulations**
 - Importation of whole cervid carcasses and high-risk carcass parts into South Dakota is restricted from other states, regardless of CWD status of the exporting state. Only the following portions of hunter-harvested cervid carcasses may be brought into South Dakota: cut and wrapped meat; quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached; antlers, hides or teeth; finished taxidermy mounts; and antlers attached to skull caps that are cleaned of all brain tissue.
 - **EXCEPTIONS:** Hunters could enter the state with a whole carcass if directly delivered to a licensed taxidermist, commercial processor, or to the hunters domicile within 24 hours of entering South Dakota AND dispose of all remaining carcass parts and other tissues taken from another state with a waste management provider or permitted landfill. Those carcasses only traveling through South Dakota would be exempt from this regulation.
 - Require that all carcass remains from deer or elk harvested from a known endemic area within South Dakota be properly disposed of with a waste management provider or permitted landfill. This would apply to hunters, taxidermists and game processors not licensed by USDA or AIB. Game processors licensed by USDA or AIB shall dispose of carcasses as required by the conditions associated with such license. Hunters would have the following two options:
 - Only cut and wrapped meat; quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached; antlers, hides or teeth; finished taxidermy mounts; and antlers attached to skull caps that are cleaned of all brain tissue.
 - Whole cervid carcasses and high-risk carcass parts from harvested cervids may be transported from known CWD endemic areas only if the carcass is directly delivered to a licensed taxidermist, commercial processor, or to the hunters domicile AND shall dispose of

- all remaining carcass parts and other tissues taken from a known CWD endemic area with a waste management provider or permitted landfill. Game processors licensed by USDA or AIB shall dispose of carcasses as required by the conditions associated with such license.
- Establish the penalty and fines associated with the improper interstate and intrastate transportation and disposal of carcasses.
- Modified Regulations
 - At minimum, modify the current baiting rule prohibition from “from August 15 to February 1, inclusive, and from March 15 to May 31, inclusive” to “from August 1 to February 1, inclusive, and from March 15 to May 31, inclusive”.
 - *Cody Warne – Possibly test deer taken during depredation hunts*
 - *Gary Romey – How are tested heads disposed of? SDSU Lab incinerates them and GFP sends to Rapid City Landfill*
 - *Jim Wendte – Some things to think about are:*
 - *Can waste management facilities or landfills handle this? Do they have all the resources needed, i.e. soil and equipment to cover carcasses, etc.*
 - *Burned, buried, rendered or composted – AIB General Carcass Disposal Guidelines.*
<https://aib.sd.gov/carcass.html>
 - *Legally cannot render deer or elk*
 - *AIB Survey to processors they regulate indicated that only ~50% accept wild game that is not boned out.*
 - *Mike Jarding – Wisconsin Adopt a dumpster program. Steve Griffin – All run by public, i.e. sportsman’s clubs. Agency Cost would have been 1- 3 million. Average cost is \$6 per carcass in WI. Dumpsters needed to be lined with plastic.*
 - *Mike Jarding – Need to address and eliminate feeding of wildlife.*
 - *Jim McCormick – provided history of baiting and feeding rules and laws.*
 - *Greg Schroeder – Elk herd in Wind Cave is not sustainable due to CWD. Need to do something.*
 - *Gary Romey – High prevalence rate in his area.*
 - *Mike Jarding - How do we illustrate the higher prevalence rate in this area so the public is made more aware of how high the prevalence rate is.*

- Chad Switzer – Presented map in CWD Draft Plan

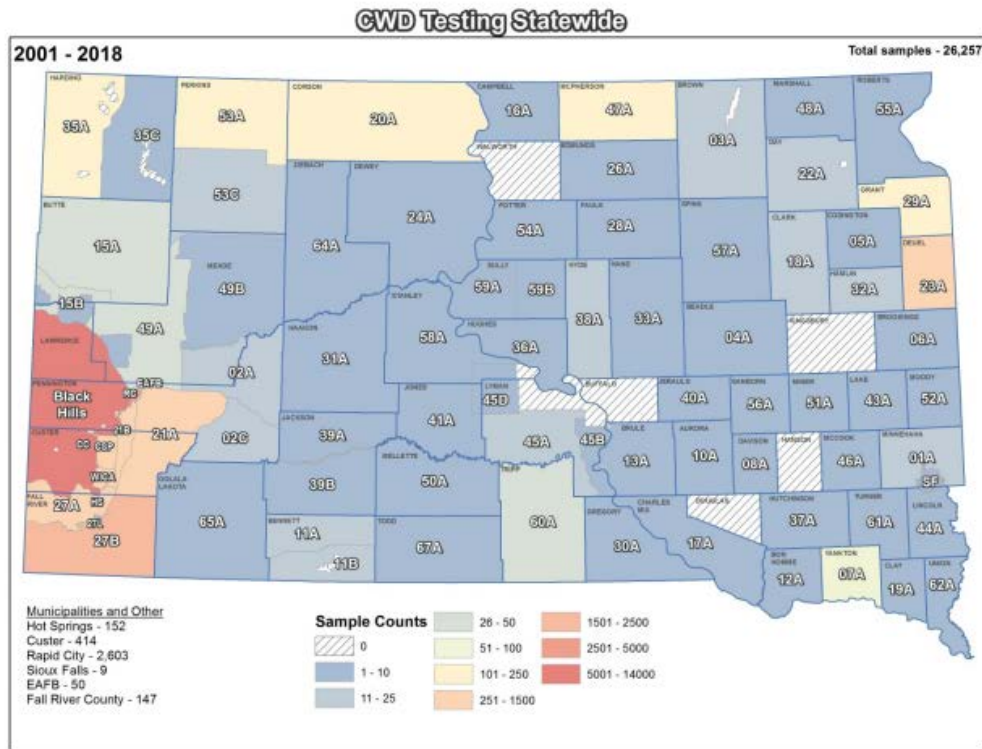


Figure 3. Chronic wasting disease surveillance by hunting unit, 2001-2018.

- Chad Switzer – Do we need to be more restrictive on carcass transportation?
- Tom Krafska – Was CWD always present on the landscape?
 - Steve Griffin – It is likely moving across the landscape
 - David Knudsen SDSU Lab – CWD could have crossed over from scrapie in sheep. Some research is indicating that there may be elk that are resistant to CWD.
- 11:15-12:00: Discussion and general feedback from stakeholder group
 - Purpose of action plan, introduction, public involvement, etc.
 - Chad Switzer asked for general discussion/feedback. No comments were made from group.

12:00-1:00: Lunch (on your own)

- Discussion and feedback on preventative measures
 - 1:00-1:15: Best management practices
 - 1:15-2:00: Carcass transportation and disposal
 - Dave Eichstad - Leave carcass or take it out?
 - Greg Schroeder – Prefers to remove everything, as they do in Wind Cave National Park.
 - Tom Krafska – Do plants uptake prion near a carcass that has CWD?
 - David Knudsen – SDSU Lab No lab test to check for the prion; therefore wouldn't be able to test prion. Would need to put it into the mouse model and numerous controls needed, etc.

- Movement of carcasses – Minnesota is a “red” state – no carcasses can be brought into MN.
- Chris Hesla – We shouldn’t allow carcasses to be brought into SD.
- Andy Vandell – Maybe take a tiered approach, and after 5 years, make SD a “red” state.
- Jon Locken – AFWA CWD Paper – Greatest threat is captive cervids
https://www.fishwildlife.org/application/files/9615/3729/1513/AFWA_Technical_Report_on_CWD_BMPs_FINAL.pdf

Section 1: PREVENTION of CWD Introduction and Establishment

3 - Movement of Live Cervids

Best Management Practice to reduce the risk of CWD transmission and establishment of CWD through the movement of live cervids:

- General consensus from group is that we are currently too lenient in the plan on interstate movement.

Interstate Transportation

South Dakota currently has no restriction on the interstate transport of high-risk cervid carcass parts (brain, spinal column and other body parts known to contain prions) entering or traveling through the state. A majority of the continental states currently have some level of interstate transport regulations (Figure 11). Not restricting the importation of whole cervid carcasses and high-risk carcass parts into South Dakota risks spreading CWD into areas of South Dakota where CWD has not been confirmed.

Rules Governing Interstate Transport of High-risk Cervid Carcass Parts^{1,2}

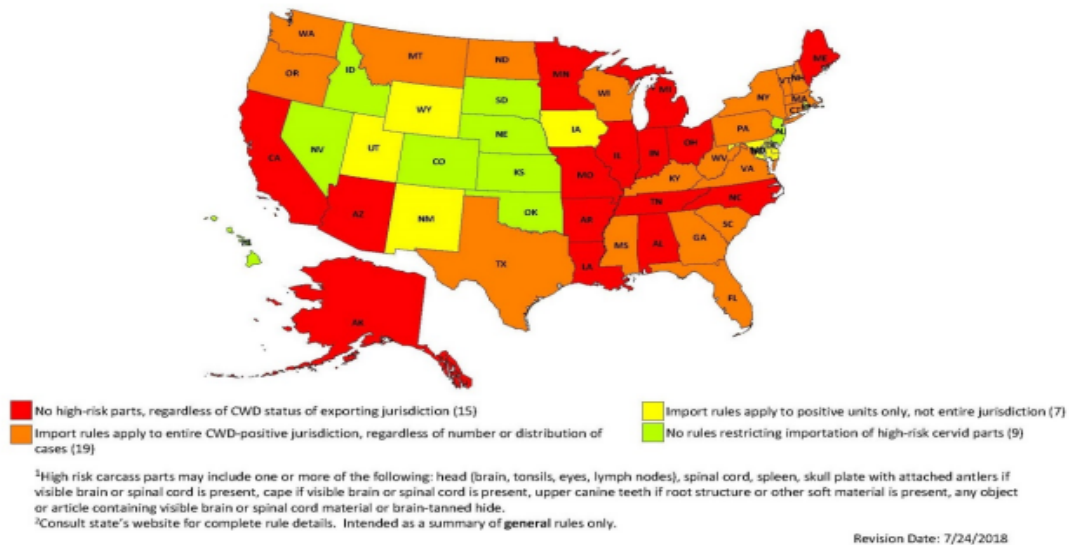


Figure 11. Interstate transport rules of high-risk cervid carcass parts, July 2018 (cwd-info.org).

- Charles Rokusek – need to continue and work with adjacent states to increase consistency amongst states to reduce checkerboard of varies regulations. Understands the challenge of accomplishing this task.
- Interstate Movement
 - After further discussion, appeared this section was good as in Draft Plan by the group.
- For the online application, need to provide some information on CWD and have hunters check a box before moving forward into application process.

- *Ron Fowler – What percentage of people process their own deer and elk vs taking to a commercial processor. We do not know this information.*
- *David Knudsen – SDSU Lab – Some false negatives, especially on younger <24 months old. SDSU Lab reports as “Not Detected”*
- *Mike Jarding – Example test kit presented. Could GFP make test kits available for hunters? Yes, GFP will look at putting together kits for hunters and making them available to hunters.*
- *Mike Jarding – What is the process to ban all feeding? Likely needs to be done at the legislative level. GFP will continue to investigate this topic.*
- 2:00-2:15: Captive cervids
 - Regulated by AIB. GFP drafting a MOU with AIB.
 - All movements need to be permitted. Only the CWD testing is voluntary.
 - Commissioner Jon Locken – need to get DNA inventory of all captive cervids.
 - Mike Jarding – Need to simply get rid of captive cervid facilities.
 - What would it take to get joint jurisdiction by AIB and GFP on captive cervid facilities?
- 2:15-2:30: Game processing – Want to work with those willing to assist with surveillance efforts. For those not permitted by USDA or AIB, recommended rule for consideration for disposal of carcass remains.
- 2:30-2:45: Taxidermy – Want to work with those willing to assist with surveillance efforts. Recommended rule for consideration for disposal of carcass remains.

BREAK

- 3:00-3:15: Baiting and feeding/mineral and salt stations – already discussed earlier in meeting.
 - Look at wording of current baiting regulation. Try to get rid of dates and prohibit all together.
- 3:15-3:30: Scents and lures – already discussed earlier in meeting.
- 3:30-4:00: Disease surveillance and management response
 - Andrew Norton and Steve Griffin covered potential surveillance options.
 - Not focusing on prevalence rates at this time.
 - No options right now to decrease prevalence rates once CWD is in an area.
 - Will be focusing efforts and resources on testing more deer in shaded hunting units vs. putting more effort on testing deer and elk where CWD has already been found.
 - Briefly discussed methods identified in CWD Draft Plan on how to collect more samples in new areas.
 - Provide incentives for submitting samples.
 - Tell the CWD story well on what we are doing and include solid justifications.

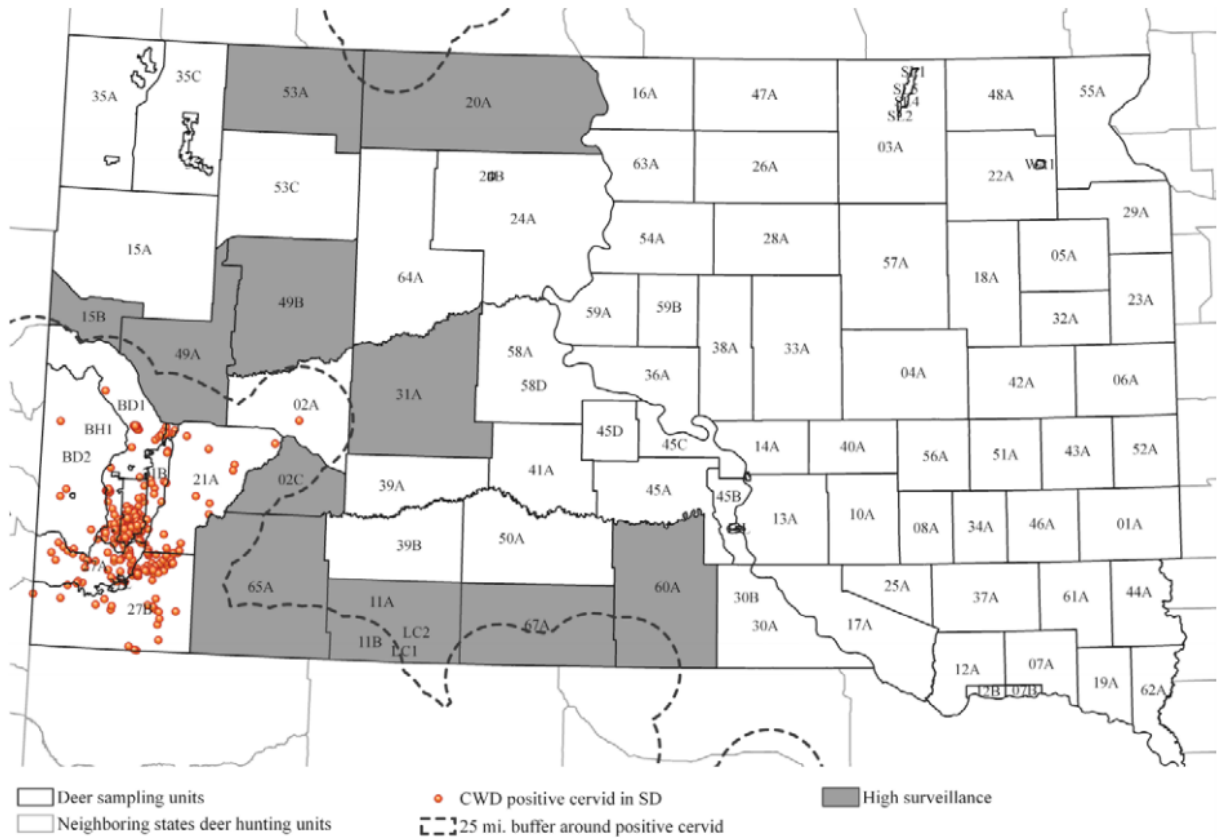


Figure 16. Proposed high surveillance deer sampling units (gray shaded polygons) ≤ 25 miles of known CWD positive wild cervid.

- 4:00-4:30: Communication and outreach – Will share an operational plan with group when this is ready. Many things are currently in the works.
- 4:30: Wrap up