

# Stakeholder-submitted Ideas for Measures to Safeguard against the Risk of Chronic Wasting Disease in Florida

August 26, 2013

The items listed below were offered by stakeholders during outreach efforts, which occurred during July and August, 2013: telephone survey of captive cervid owners, comments submitted online, public meeting, and meetings with representatives from deer farms and preserves.

## Importation of live cervids:

- Close the borders and implement all other additional measures
- Only allow AZA/USDA certified herds to import
- Only ban importation of white-tailed deer
- Increase the CWD importation requirements from 5 years CWD-free/low risk to 7-10 years CWD-free/low risk
- If a live test is developed for CWD, adjust regulations accordingly
- Only permit facilities that test for all diseases to move deer into, out of, or within the state

## Specific within-state measures:

- Deer farmers should do testing
- Only permit facilities that test for all diseases to move deer into, out of, or within the state
- Require CWD testing for deaths of all deer older than 12-18 months
- Test for CWD on 5% of deer that are harvested on any high-fence operation
- Test a larger percentage of the wild white-tailed deer population
- DNA tissue sample must accompany the brain stem of the deer sent for testing for verification
- All farms and hunt preserves must participate in a CWD monitoring program; if a deer dies that is 12 months or older it must be tested for CWD
- Require CWD testing for deer harvested on farms and hunt preserves; farms and preserves with no monitoring program for CWD must test 5% of harvested deer up to a maximum of 10 deer per season
- Require facilities to adhere to the measures in the USDA CWD manual
- Require facilities to have a second perimeter fence to prevent any physical contact between captive and wild deer since can be transmitted by nose-to-nose interactions through a fence
- Develop a reporting system that tracks farm-to-farm movement of deer within Florida
- Develop dual tagging system for all deer that must stay on the deer (metal tag on the antlers)
- Monitor importation of hay, clovers, alfalfas, corn, etc. as infected deer could have infected these as well
- Close borders to shipping unprocessed deer parts/products
- Ensure restrictions on import to protect against transport of cervid fluids (bottled deer scent, urine, etc.) in addition to live cervids

## Stakeholder-submitted Ideas to Safeguard Against CWD

August 26, 2013

Page 2

- Restrict/regulate the importation of cervid carcasses
- Develop a CWD working group
- Evaluate taxidermy organizations for associated risk in spreading CWD
- Develop best management practices for the taxidermy industry requiring proper storage and disposal of deer remains
- Provide an FWC representative for each deer farm to improve understanding and communication
- Charge \$20 per deer fee in captive facilities to help with the USDA/FWC administrative costs
- Increase the cost of game farm/preserve license from \$50 to \$500 to help with administrative costs
- Require all captive owners to pay \$1 per acre of land used in operations for administrative costs