

**BEFORE THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION AND
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

IN THE MATTER OF DEER HUNTS)
FOR SURVEILLANCE OF)
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE)
IN UNITS 11A, 13, 14, 15, 18 and 23,)
And DISCOUNTING OF TAG)
PRICES)
_____)

Order No. 21-68

In November 2021, hunter-collected samples from two mule deer bucks, with reported harvest in October 2021 in the Slate Creek drainage (near Lucile in Game Management Unit 14), tested positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD). These are the first detections of CWD in Idaho. CWD is a fatal, degenerative disease that may spread among deer, elk, and other members of the cervid family and has negatively impacted cervids in various states, including Montana and Wyoming, and Canadian provinces including Alberta and British Columbia. The Department has conducted monitoring for CWD for years to reduce the impact of CWD on wild cervids should it occur in Idaho.

The samples detecting CWD in Idaho were collected by two members of the same hunting party from mule deer harvested close in time and geography, and the hunters did not observe symptoms of CWD in the animals harvested. Samples were tested at the Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, with verification by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames Iowa.

On November 22, 2021, the Department reviewed these detections with the Commission, and the Department recommended actions following detections based on its previously developed Strategy for Chronic Wasting Disease. The Department's recommendations included additional targeted monitoring (surveillance) actions to determine CWD distribution and prevalence. Based on available scientific information, mule deer would be the most susceptible to the disease in the area, followed by white-tailed deer.

On November 22, 2021, the Commission acted to designate Game Management Units 14 and 15 as a CWD Management Zone. Consistent with Idaho Code sections 36-104, 36-408(2), and 36-415, the Commission also delegated to the Director the authority to: (1) establish one or more emergency hunts in the area identified for increased surveillance for chronic wasting disease, subject to a maximum combined harvest of 1,000 mule deer and white-tailed deer and a limitation of these hunts to residents only; and (2) establish discounted prices for tags in these hunts.

The Wildlife Bureau has reviewed population information and movement patterns for mule and white-tailed deer in the area, and identified approximately 1,000 combined mule and white-tailed deer samples across units 11A, 13, 14, 15, 18, and 23, from both bucks and does, as statistically appropriate for assessing distribution and prevalence of CWD related to the two initial detections. A total of 277 samples have been collected from deer harvest in previously established hunts, and the Department expects to obtain additional samples in a previously established archery general season for white-tailed deer occurring in Unit 15 from December 5 to 20).

The Bureau has identified additional samples needed to reach surveillance goals by unit and antlerless/antlered

deer. The Department has identified tag numbers for the hunt to reach surveillance goals based on estimated hunter success rates. In addition, the Bureau has identified sample collection on lands in private ownership in some of the units as important to assessing distribution and prevalence based on deer distribution.

The Bureau recommends tag sales occur only at regional offices. Sale at regional offices ensures Department staff will be able to accurately convey to members of the public the unique hunt and sampling rules. In addition, the Bureau has recommended mandatory checks and restrictions on transport and disposal for successful hunters. In addition, the Bureau has recommended closures of hunts when surveillance needs are met. The area at issue overlaps with deer populations reduced earlier this year by Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease.

The Department recommends discounting tags to a price of \$10.00 (inclusive of issuance fee) because of recommended restrictions and season limitations

ORDER

Pursuant to delegated authority of the Commission under Idaho Code sections 36-104, 408(2), and 36-415, and a finding of biological and public need, the undersigned hereby ORDERS the establishment of the following hunts, subject to certain terms and limitations as specified below, to conduct surveillance to assess the distribution and prevalence of CWD following its detection in two mule deer bucks in Unit 14.

Any Weapon Hunts

Public Land Only Hunt				
2021 CWD Surveillance Hunts				
Public Land Only - Antlered Only Deer				
Hunt No.	Hunt Area	Season*	#Tags	Notes
1901	13-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	5	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1902	13-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	5	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1903	14	Dec 7 - Dec 19	30	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1904	14	Dec 7 - Dec 19	3	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1905	18-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	7	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1906	18-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	2	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1907	23-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	5	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1908	23-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	26	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>

* Seasons may close early, or be extended, to meet sample targets.

2021 CWD Surveillance Hunts Public Land Only - Antlerless Only Deer				
Hunt No.	Hunt Area	Season*	#Tags	Notes
1909	13-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	15	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1910	13-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	15	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1911	14	Dec 7 - Dec 19	130	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1912	14	Dec 7 - Dec 19	80	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1914	18-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	25	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1915	18-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	25	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1916	23-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	90	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>
1917	23-1	Dec 7 - Dec 19	75	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY</i>

* Seasons may close early, or be extended, to meet sample targets.

Private Landowner Only Hunts 2021 CWD Surveillance Hunts Private Land Only - Antlered Only Deer				
Hunt No.	Hunt Area	Season*	#Tags	Notes
1951	11A-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	43	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1952	13-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	18	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1953	13-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	22	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1954	14	Dec 8 - Dec 19	30	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1955	14	Dec 8 - Dec 19	6	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1956	18-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	20	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1957	18-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	4	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1958	23-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	5	<i>Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>
1959	23-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	11	<i>White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY</i>

* Seasons may close early, or be extended, to meet sample targets.

2021 CWD Surveillance Hunts Private Land Only - Antlerless Only Deer				
Hunt No.	Hunt Area	Season*	#Tags	Notes
1960	11A-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	85	White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1961	13-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	50	Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1962	13-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	55	White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1963	14	Dec 8 - Dec 19	130	Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1964	14	Dec 8 - Dec 19	160	White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1965	18-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	70	Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1966	18-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	65	White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1967	23-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	40	Mule Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY
1968	23-1	Dec 8 - Dec 19	35	White-tailed Deer ONLY, Private land ONLY

* Seasons may close early, or be extended, to meet sample targets.

Archery Only Hunts

Public Land Only				
2021 CWD Surveillance Hunts Public Land Only - Antlerless Only Deer				
Hunt No.	Hunt Area	Season*	#Tags	Notes
1913	15	Dec 7 - Dec 20	140	Archery ONLY, White-tailed Deer ONLY, Public land ONLY

* Seasons may close early, or be extended, to meet sample targets.

Sampling Targets & Samples Collected (Public and Private by Hunt Area)

2021 CWD Surveillance Sample Targets						
Hunt Area	Type of Deer	Gender	Sample Targets	Samples collected	Hunt Area Status	Closure Date
11A-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlered	21	0	Open	
11A-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlerless	43	0	Open	
13-1	Mule Deer	Antlered	15	0	Open	
13-1	Mule Deer	Antlerless	32	0	Open	
13-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlered	18	0	Open	
13-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlerless	33	0	Open	
14	Mule Deer	Antlered	39	0	Open	
14	Mule Deer	Antlerless	127	0	Open	
14	White-tailed Deer	Antlered	6	2	Open	
14	White-tailed Deer	Antlerless	117	0	Open	
15	White-tailed Deer	Antlerless	69	0	Open	
18-1	Mule Deer	Antlered	18	0	Open	
18-1	Mule Deer	Antlerless	46	0	Open	
18-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlered	4	1	Open	
18-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlerless	42	0	Open	
23-1	Mule Deer	Antlered	6	0	Open	
23-1	Mule Deer	Antlerless	64	0	Open	
23-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlered	24	0	Open	
23-1	White-tailed Deer	Antlerless	51	0	Open	

Date of Hunts: Public-land-only hunts will open on December 7, 2021. Private-land-only hunts will open on December 8, 2021. Hunts may close early or be extended to meet CWD surveillance sample targets. All hunts will be monitored daily and hunters will be notified 48 hours prior to the hunt closure.

Residency Requirements/ Eligibility: Idaho residents, as defined by Idaho Code section 36-202(s), are eligible to purchase tags in these hunts. Nonresident lifetime license holders are also eligible to purchase these tags. Hunters who have otherwise held deer tags, including extra deer tags, are eligible to purchase tags in these hunts.

Private Land Hunt Restrictions: Eligibility for private-land-only hunts is limited to residents with permission from private landowners to hunt on their land within the hunt area and that permission has been communicated to the Department.

Electronic or Phone Contact Information Required: An application for a tag in these hunts is not complete unless it includes an email address, a phone number, or both, at which the hunter is able to receive email, text, or telephone call from the Department to provide communications related to the hunt.

Tag Sales at Department Offices Only: Tags for these hunts will only be available for purchase at Department Office sales locations only.

Tag Sale Restriction: All hunters MUST be in-person to purchase their personal tags and cannot purchase tags for another person. The only exception is that a tag can be purchased by a parent on behalf of their minor child.

First-Come, First-Served: Tags for these hunts will be available for purchase by hunters meeting the above eligibility requirements on a first-come, first-served, basis due to the dates of the hunt.

Mandatory Check Requirements: As authorized by IDAPA 13.01.08.350.03, it is a requirement of these hunts that any successful hunter, or the hunter's identified proxy in compliance with Idaho Code section 36-502(a), transport the entire head of the deer within 24 hours of harvest to a check station established by the Department (currently planned for New Meadows and Grangeville) or to a Regional office.

Prohibition of Transport and Possession: Except for heads and edible meat (IDAPA 13.01.08), hunters may not transport carcasses or portions of carcasses from kill location. The Department will retain the head following mandatory check, but will return antlers to hunters upon request.

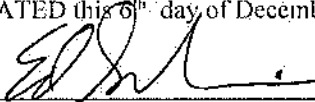
Official Location for Sample Target Information: IDFG will update sample target information seven days a week on the Department website (<https://idfg.idaho.gov/cwd/hunt>).

Waiver of Evidence of Sex, Species Requirements: As authorized by IDAPA 13.01.08.350.03 (effective 11-22-2021), the requirements to keep evidence of sex and evidence of species attached are waived for this hunt, provided the hunter complies with the mandatory check requirements of this order.

Applicability of Other Requirements: If not waived by this order, other requirements established by Idaho Code and Commission rules (IDAPA 13) apply to this hunt.

Discount of Tag Price: All tags for the hunt will be sold at a discounted price of \$10.00, inclusive of issuance fee. There will be no rainchecks or refunds issued.

DATED this 6th day of December, 2021.



Ed Schrieffer
Secretary to the Idaho Fish and Game Commission
And Director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game