

**WEST VIRGINIA
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ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

Form #4

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NOTICE OF RULE MODIFICATION OF A PROPOSED RULE

AGENCY: BOC, DNR - Wildlife Resources Section ^{*Natural Resources*} TITLE NUMBER: 58

CITE AUTHORITY: 20-1-7(30)

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES ☐ NO ☒

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: 69

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Wildlife Disease Management

THE ABOVE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULES, FOLLOWING REVIEW BY THE LEGISLATIVE RULE MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE, IS HEREBY MODIFIED AS A RESULT OF REVIEW AND COMMENT BY THE LEGISLATIVE RULE MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE. THE ATTACHED MODIFICATIONS ARE FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.


Authorized Signature

**TITLE 58
LEGISLATIVE RULE
BUREAU OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**SERIES 69
WILDLIFE DISEASE MANAGEMENT**

§58-69-1. General -

1.1. Scope and Purpose – The purpose of this rule is to establish rules and procedures to manage, prevent, suppress, control and/or eradicate communicable diseases of wildlife.

1.2. Authority – West Virginia Code §20-1-7(30).

1.3. Filing Date –

1.4. Effective Date –

§58-69-2. Definitions.

2.1. "Feeding" means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of bait so as to constitute for wildlife a lure, attraction, or enticement to or on any areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Food plots and/or crops left standing in the field do not constitute feeding.

2.2. "Cervids" mean deer, elk and other species of the family Cervidae.

2.3. "Containment Area" means an area designated by the Director where wildlife has been found to be infected with a contagious or infectious disease. The purpose of a containment area is to manage, control, eradicate and/or prevent the spread of the disease. The establishment of a containment area by the Director will be based upon the most currently available information relating to wildlife disease epidemiology, wildlife disease surveillance information (i.e., geographic distribution and prevalence) and the need to establish boundaries associated with clearly defined features on the landscape. Prior to the establishment of a containment area, the Director will consult with Wildlife Biologists within the Wildlife Resources Section that are knowledgeable of wildlife diseases, Conservation Officers familiar with local and regional landscape features and the Natural Resources Commission.

2.4. "Chronic Wasting Disease" (CWD) is an infectious neurological disease of cervids. The disease belongs to the family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) and is caused by an abnormal form of a protein called a prion.

2.5. "Bovine Tuberculosis" means an infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium bovis*, commonly known as tubercle bacillus.

2.6. "Avian Influenza" (AI) is a type A influenza virus that is naturally found in certain species of waterfowl and shorebirds.

2.7. "Director" means the Director of the Division of Natural Resources.

2.8. "Chronic Wasting Disease Positive Area" means an area in which Chronic Wasting Disease has been diagnosed and the boundaries of which are delineated by the appropriate state or provincial wildlife agency.

2.9. Other terms have the meaning prescribed to them in the Division's rule, Rule Defining the Terms To Be Used Concerning All Hunting and Trapping Rules 58 CSR 46 and Prohibitions When Hunting and Trapping 58 CSR 47.

§58-69-3. Carcass Transport Regulations.

3.1. It is unlawful to transport dead cervids or their parts beyond the boundary of a chronic wasting disease containment area except for the following portions of the carcass: (1) meat that has been boned out, (2) quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, (3) cleaned hide with no head attached, (4) clean skull plate (no meat or tissue attached) with antlers attached, (5) antlers with no meat or tissue attached, and (6) finished taxidermy mounts.

3.1.1. State or county agencies and licensed solid waste disposal vendors may transport cervid carcasses or parts thereof to an approved sanitary landfill.

3.1.2. Hunters may transport cervid carcasses that were not killed inside the containment area through the containment area.

3.2. It is unlawful to import into West Virginia dead cervids or their parts from any state or province which has had free roaming deer, elk, moose or other cervids diagnosed with chronic wasting disease, except the following portions of the carcass: (1) meat that has been boned out, (2) quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, (3) cleaned hide with no head attached, (4) clean skull plate (no meat or tissue attached) with antlers attached, (5) antlers with no meat or tissue attached, (6) finished taxidermy mounts, and (7) upper canine teeth, also known as buglers, whistlers or ivories with no meat or tissue attached. Provided, that if the state or province has designated a chronic wasting disease positive area and if the Director approves the boundaries of this area then these importation restrictions apply only to the chronic wasting disease positive area. The Director ~~has the authority~~ may for the purpose of this section to alter the chronic wasting disease positive area.

§58-69-4. Baiting and Feeding Regulations

4.1. It is illegal to bait or feed cervids or other wildlife in a containment area as determined by the Director and established for the management, control or eradication of chronic wasting disease, bovine tuberculosis, avian influenza or other wildlife diseases. Provided, that song and insectivorous birds may be fed within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling. Provided further, that captive cervids may be fed inside cervid facilities permitted by the Division of Natural Resources.