

**WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
NATALIE E. TENNANT
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

Form #7

Do Not Mark In This Box
Filing Date

FILED

2015 APR 28 A 11:05

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
Effective Date

NOTICE OF AN EMERGENCY RULE

AGENCY: West Virginia Department of Agriculture TITLE NUMBER: 61

CITE AUTHORITY: 19-2H-1

EMERGENCY 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: _____ 34

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Captive Cervid Farming

THE ABOVE RULE IS BEING FILED AS AN EMERGENCY RULE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE AFTER APPROVAL BY SECRETARY OF STATE OR 42ND DAY AFTER FILING, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.

THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES CONSTITUTING THE EMERGENCY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Enrolled SB 237 Captive Cervid Farming Act, passed on February 13, 2015 and effective from passage requires that captive cervid farming be regulated as an agricultural business. This duty previously was managed by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture shall regulate the sale of venison, create an application process, issue, renew, modify and transfer licenses, inspect facilities, transition current facilities to new license procedures, and create penalties. This bill became effective from passage and therefore it is critical to the health and safety of West Virginia citizens, the captive cervid farming industry, as well as the Department of Agriculture to file this emergency rule.

Use additional sheets if necessary



Authorized Signature



West Virginia Department of Agriculture

1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25305

304-558-3550

Walt Helmick
Commissioner

Statement of Circumstances

Enrolled SB 237 Captive Cervid Farming Act, passed on February 13, 2015 and effective from passage requires that captive cervid farming be regulated as an agricultural business. This duty previously was managed by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture shall regulate the sale of venison, create an application process, issue, renew, modify and transfer licenses, inspect facilities, transition current facilities to new license procedures, and create penalties. This bill became effective from passage and therefore it is critical to the health and safety of West Virginia Citizens, the captive cervid industry, as well as the West Virginia Department of Agriculture to files this emergency rule.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CHF".



West Virginia Department of Agriculture

1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25305

304-558-3550

Walt Helmick

Commissioner

Brief Summary for Emergency Rule

Captive Cervid Farming

Title 61 Series 34

This emergency rule shall provide for the regulation, protection, promotion of biosecurity, licensing, animal identification, fencing, record keeping, health testing requirements, herd movement, and fees.

Judy Cooper

From: Martin, Jodee <jodeemartin@wvda.us>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 3:47 PM
To: Judy Cooper
Subject: Title 61 Series 34 Captive Cervid Farming Rule

The following groups may have an interest or be affected by the proposed Emergency rule Title 61 Series 34 Captive Cervid Farming filed by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
West Virginia Deer Farmer's Association

Jodee Martin
Executive Assistant
West Virginia Department of Agriculture
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-3200

FISCAL NOTE FOR PROPOSED RULES

Rule Title: Captive Cervid Farming

Type of Rule: Legislative Interpretive Procedural

Agency: West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Address: 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305

Phone Number: 304-558-3200 Email: cferro@wvda.us

Fiscal Note Summary

Summarize in a clear and concise manner what impact this measure will have on costs and revenues of state government.

This bill proposes to give responsibility for regulating captive cervid farming to the Department of Agriculture (WVDA). Currently, the WVDA does not have the resources to absorb this additional responsibility. Although some of the activities may be covered by current employees, we will require additional services of a veterinarian that cannot be covered by current staff. These activities would also incur additional expense for equipment, supplies, travel and training. WVDA would require additional funding whether in the form of a General Revenue appropriation or a Special Revenue fee established or both, to cover the cost of the program.

Fiscal Note Detail

Show over-all effect in Item 1 and 2 and, in Item 3, give an explanation of Breakdown by fiscal year, including long-range effect.

FISCAL YEAR			
Effect of Proposal	Current Increase/Decrease (use "--")	Next Increase/Decrease (use "--")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	0.00	90,000.00	93,400.00
Personal Services	0.00	60,000.00	66,000.00
Current Expenses	0.00	25,000.00	27,400.00
Repairs & Alterations	0.00		
Assets	0.00	5,000.00	
Other	0.00		
2. Estimated Total Revenues	0.00	15,375.00	0.00

Captive Cervid Farming

Rule Title: _____

Rule Title: _____

3. Explanation of above estimates (including long-range effect):

Please include any increase or decrease in fees in your estimated total revenues.

*Personal Services: A veterinarian at .5 FTE, as well as 5-10% of existing field staff time: \$60,000.
*Current Expenses: Travel and training for veterinarian and field staff, along with additional supplies to support related activities: \$25,000.
*Assets: Equipment for initial setup: \$5,000

Increase in costs for subsequent years are anticipated due to normal inflation. Assuming that all cervid farming operations will be licensed in the first year, revenues for year 2, and every other year thereafter, will be zero because the licenses will be issued for a two year period. However, costs associated with on-going regulatory activities, monitoring and recordkeeping will be incurred every year.

MEMORANDUM

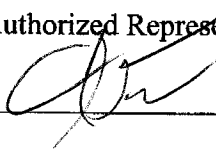
Please identify any areas of vagueness, technical defects, reasons the proposed rule **would not** have a fiscal impact, and/or any special issues **not** captured elsewhere on this form.

This is an estimate of the impact this proposed legislation may have on the Department of Agriculture. Further research is required in order to assess the full impact and develop a comprehensive, more accurate estimate of revenue and expenses associated with the program.

Annual revenue from antemortem/postmortem slaughter inspections for cervids cannot be reasonably estimated. Inspections will be charged at an hourly rate of \$55/per hour, including travel time to inspection site, and total revenue will be dependent on variables such as number of inspections requested and distance from inspector headquarters to each inspection site (and return).

Date: April 28, 2015

Signature of Agency Head or Authorized Representative





EMERGENCY RULE QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE: April 28, 2015

TO: LEGISLATIVE RULE-MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE

FROM: (Agency Name, Address & Phone No.) West Virginia Department of Agriculture
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305 304-558-3200

EMERGENCY RULE TITLE: Captive Cervid Farming

1. Date of filing April 28, 2015

2. Statutory authority for promulgating emergency rule:
19-2H-1

3. Date of filing of proposed legislative rule: April 28, 2015

4. Does the emergency rule adopt new language or does it amend or appeal a current legislative rule? This emergency rule adopts new language.

5. Has the same or similar emergency rule previously been filed and expired?
No

6. State, with particularity, those facts and circumstances which make the emergency rule necessary for the **immediate** preservation of public peace, health, safety or welfare.

~~Enrolled SB 237 Captive Cervid Farming Act passed on February 13, 2015 and~~
effective from passage requires that captive cervid farming be regulated as an
agricultural business. This duty previously was managed by the West Virginia Division
of Natural Resources. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture shall regulate the
sale of venison, create an application process, issue, renew, modify and transfer
licenses, inspect facilities, transition current facilities to new license procedures, and
create penalties. This bill became effective from passage and therefore it is critical to

7. If the emergency rule was promulgated in order to comply with a time limit established by the Code or federal statute or regulation, cite the Code provision, federal statute or regulation and time limit established therein.

~~Enrolled SB 237 Captive Cervid Farming Act, passed on February 13, 2015 was made effective from passage. (19-2H-1)~~

8. State, with particularity, those facts and circumstances which make the emergency rule necessary to prevent substantial harm to the public interest.

~~Enrolled SB 237 Captive Cervid Farming Act passed on February 13, 2015 and~~
effective from passage requires that captive cervid farming be regulated as an
agricultural business. This duty previously was managed by the West Virginia Division
of Natural Resources. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture shall regulate the
sale of venison, create an application process, issue, renew, modify and transfer
licenses, inspect facilities, transition current facilities to new license procedures, and
create penalties. This bill became effective from passage and therefore it is critical to



West Virginia Department of Agriculture

1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-3550

Walt Helmick
Commissioner

Statement of Circumstances

Enrolled SB 237 Captive Cervid Farming Act, passed on February 13, 2015 and effective from passage requires that captive cervid farming be regulated as an agricultural business. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture shall regulate the sale of venison, create an application process, classes of licenses, issuing, renewing, modifying and transferring licenses, inspecting facilities, transitioning current facilities to new license procedures, and creating penalties. This bill became effective from passage and therefore it is critical to the health and safety of West Virginia Citizens, the captive cervid industry, as well as the West Virginia Department of Agriculture to files this emergency rule.

FILED

2015 APR 28 A 11:05

Title 61
Legislative Rule
Department of Agriculture
Series 34

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

Captive Cervid Farming

§61-34-1. General.

- 1.1. Scope. -- This legislative rule shall provide for the regulation, protection, promotion of bio-security, licensing, animal identification, fencing, record keeping, health testing requirements, herd movement, and fees.
- 1.2. Authority. -- West Virginia Code §19-2H-1
- 1.3. Filing Date. --
- 1.4. Effective Date. --

§61-34-2. Definitions.

- 2.1. "Accredited veterinarian" means a veterinarian approved and accredited in accordance with 9 C.F.R. §160 (2015).
- 2.2. "Animal" means any farmed or captive deer, elk, moose or other cervid.
- 2.3. "Animal and plant health inspection service (APHIS)" means the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States.
- 2.4. "Antemortem inspection" means the observation of live animals by a veterinarian or trained inspector for lameness or abnormal behavior prior to slaughter.
- 2.5. "Approved state" means a state that APHIS has determined has an Approved State CWD Herd Certification Program.
- 2.6. "Approved laboratory" means a diagnostic laboratory approved to conduct official tests for CWD in accordance with 9 C.F.R. §55.8 (2015).
- 2.7. "Captive cervid farming facility" means a facility which is licensed to hold cervids in a permanent enclosure.
- 2.8. "Cervid" means all members of the family Cervidae and hybrids, including deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer, and related species, both native and exotic.
- 2.9. "Chronic wasting disease" or "CWD" means a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cervids.
- 2.10. "Class One" or "Class I" license means a license to operate a captive cervid facility which shall breed and propagate captive cervids, and create cervid byproducts for sale to others

- 2.11. "Class Two" or "Class II" license means a license to operate a captive cervid facility which shall breed, propagate, harvest or slaughter, create captive cervid byproducts, permit hunting or sell venison to others.
- 2.12. "Commercial shooting preserve" or "shooting preserve" means a Class II license facility that permits hunting.
- 2.13. "CWD herd certification program" means the Chronic Wasting Disease Herd Certification Program established in 9 C.F.R. §55 (2015). This program includes both herds that are directly enrolled in the CWD Herd Certification Program and herds that are included based on their participation in Approved States CWD Herd Certification Programs.
- 2.14. "DNR" means West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.
- 2.15. "Department" or "WVDA" means the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.
- 2.16. "Quarantine" means a confined area of 200 yards from any animal, and under the direct supervision and control of a State or Federal animal health official, who shall establish procedures for the accounting of all animals entering or leaving the area.
- 2.17. "Tuberculosis" or "TB" means an infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium bovis*, commonly known as the tubercle bacillus.
- 2.18. "USDA" means the United States Department of Agriculture.
- 2.19. All other terms shall have the meaning proscribed to them in W. Va. Code §19-2H-2.

§61-34-3. Transition of captive cervid facilities.

- 3.1. An existing captive cervid facility shall apply to the Department for a new license within sixty (60) days of application being made available by the Department.
- 3.2. A captive cervid facility in existence on February 13, 2015 may continue operating under the existing authorization until the Department acts on its application.
- 3.3. Any new facility must apply for a license within sixty (60) days after the applications are made available by the Department.

§61-34-4. Application for license.

- 4.1. A person requesting a license to operate a Captive Cervid Farming Facility shall submit an application to the Department.
- 4.2. The application shall include:
- 4.2.a. The name of the person responsible for the facility;
 - 4.2.b. The mailing address of the proposed facility;
 - 4.2.c. The location of the proposed facility;
 - 4.2.d. The size of the facility;
 - 4.2.e. A legal description of the facility;
 - 4.2.f. The number of species of cervid to be included in the facility, including current inventory;

- 4.2.g. The bio-security measures to be utilized;
 - 4.2.h. The proposed method of flushing wild cervids from the enclosure if applicable;
 - 4.2.i. The proposed record keeping system;
 - 4.2.j. The method of verification that all wild cervids have been removed;
 - 4.2.k. The current zoning of the property proposed for the facility; and
 - 4.2.l. Any other information requested by the Department.
- 4.3. The Department shall approve or reject an application for license within sixty (60) days upon receipt.
- 4.4. The Department may issue a provisional license to a proposed facility that has not yet been constructed, but operations will not begin until the fully-constructed facility has been inspected and approved by the Department.
- 4.5. Each facility that has a deficiency in its license application shall have thirty (30) days upon notice from the Department to correct the deficiency before the license is denied.
- 4.6. Upon approval, the Department shall issue a license containing the following information:
- 4.6.a. Class of the license;
 - 4.6.b. License number;
 - 4.6.c. Expiration date;
 - 4.6.d. Captive cervid species and number of captive cervids approved for the licensed facility (including allowance for births); and
 - 4.7.e. Name, business address and telephone number of the owner and of the captive cervid farming facility.

§61-34-5. Fees.

- 5.1. The Department shall issue one of two licenses for captive cervid facilities.
- 5.1.a. The fee for a Class I license shall be \$375.00.
 - 5.1.b. The fee for a Class II license shall be \$750.00.
- 5.2. Current licenses, including commercial shooting preserves previously licensed by DNR, that expire on or about the June 30, 2015, shall be required to pay the fee in order to receive a new license. Licenses that expire on or about December 31, 2015 will be required to pay one half of the required license fee by December 31, 2015, however, those licensees will not be required to re-apply for a license until June 30, 2016. Thereafter, all licenses shall expire on June 30 of the following year of issue.
- 5.3. Cervid antemortem/postmortem inspection for slaughter at state licensed establishments shall be provided at the rate of \$55/per hour.
- 5.4. Cervids requiring antemortem field inspection shall be inspected at the rate of \$55/per hour.
- 5.5. Time for antemortem inspections will be calculated from the time of leaving department property or assigned location of the department employee until the time of return in fifteen (15) minute intervals.
- 5.6. The Department shall retain the license fee for its services in the event that a license is denied.

§61-34-6. License renewal; modification, sale or transfer of license.

6.1. An application for renewal shall be submitted to the Department sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of the current license.

6.2. Any owner having proposed changes in class of license, cervid species, number of captive cervids (including births that exceed that permitted by the license) or other requirements necessitating modification, shall apply to the Department for a license modification. Births at the facility shall not be considered to violate an issued license if the owner provides the Department with an updated inventory in a timely manner.

6.3. Any person who sells or transfers ownership of a facility shall apply to the Department for a new license so long as the transferee satisfies all license requirements and fees.

§61-34-7. Inspections.

7.1. The Department shall have access to a facility, facility records and wildlife at all reasonable hours to conduct inspections for the following purpose:

7.1.a. To ensure that the facility meets the requirements of this rule prior to the granting of the desired license;

7.1.b. To secure samples and/or specimens; and

7.1.c. To assure that the provisions for containment and care of captive cervids are adequate, that the safety of the public is protected, and to assure compliance with the terms and conditions of this rule and other laws, rules and regulations as applicable.

7.2. It is recommended that a facility representative be present during inspections.

§61-34-8. Facility, Fencing, Identification and Record Keeping.

8.1. The facility shall be inspected by the Department before license is approved and shall meet the following requirements:

8.1.a. The applicant shall have all necessary federal, state and local governmental permits.

8.1.b. The applicant has paid all applicable license fees and all departmental charges for services provided to the facility.

8.1.c. A unique and permanent identifying license number corresponding to the number assigned to the premises by the WVDA Premises Registration Program has been assigned to each licensed captive cervid facility. The applicant shall submit this number with the application for a captive cervid facility license. Licensees or applicants who are without a premise identification may contact the Department for further assistance and instruction.

8.1.d. The facility shall provide fencing and meet specifications to prevent the escape of captive cervids and the infiltration of wild cervids into a captive cervid farming facility as follows:

8.1.d.1. The facility shall be constructed of such material, strength and design to contain the captive animals within the enclosure;

8.1.d.2. To safeguard both the captive animals and the public against injury;

8.1.d.3. To prevent the transmission of disease by indirect contact from the captive animals to wild white-tailed deer and the public;

8.1.d.4. To prevent the escape of captive animals;

8.1.d.5. To prevent wild white-tailed deer from entering the enclosure; and

8.1.d.6. Require a five foot cleared buffer around outer perimeter in order to inspect integrity of fence.

8.1.e. Perimeter fencing shall be adequate to prevent the following:

8.1.e.1. Ingress or egress of cervids;

8.1.e.2. Shall be designed and constructed to take into account topography and terrain features;

8.1.e.3. Shall be constructed to withstand commonly expected occurrences that would cause the fence to be breached. Such occurrences shall include; but not limited to:

8.1.e.3.a. High winds;

8.1.e.3.b. Ice storms;

8.1.e.3.c. Large snowfall amounts; and

8.1.e.3.d. Flooding.

8.1.f. The perimeter fence shall meet the following requirements; or the equivalent thereof:

8.1.f.1. Fence material shall be New Zealand style deer fence or equivalent;

8.1.f.2. Total height of fence shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet;

8.1.f.3. Minimum 12.5 gauge high tensile woven wire with locking knots and a maximum six (6) inch spacing shall be used;

8.1.f.4. Posts shall be metal 'T' posts, treated 4 X 4 posts, 6 inch treated round post or equivalent;

8.1.f.5. Corner posts shall be properly braced and installed;

8.1.f.6. Posts shall be properly spaced and anchored;

8.1.f.7. Rigid posts shall be set at lowest points of dips and on crowns or humps;

8.1.f.8. Trees or other structures that could threaten the fence shall be removed or fencing shall be constructed so as to prevent the breach of the fence from the fall of a tree or structure;

8.1.f.9. Gates shall be of sufficient strength and construction with no gaps;

8.1.f.10. Gates shall have functional locks;

8.1.f.11. Fencing shall be properly attached to post;

8.1.f.12. Bottom strand of fence shall be at ground level and reinforced; and

8.1.f.13. Water courses, gullies, ditches, etc. shall be properly fenced to prevent escape.

8.1.g. The minimum size for captive cervid facilities shall be 5,000 square feet for one animal. The enclosure size shall be increased by 25% for each additional animal.

8.1.h. The owner shall provide appropriate shelter and bedding material for the captive animals that protects them from inclement weather.

8.1.i. Fresh drinking water shall be provided daily.

8.1.j. The owner shall provide captive animals daily with food that is wholesome, palatable, free from contamination and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain all animals in good health. No person shall feed any cervid with any material that contains protein derived from any mammalian tissues.

8.1.k. Where necessary, fecal and food waste shall be removed from the enclosure and stored or disposed of in a manner that prevents noxious odors or insect pests and is in accordance with best management practices. Food, urine, fecal waste, and soils exposed to these waste materials must not be disposed where it may be exposed to free ranging white tail deer.

8.1.l. The owner shall keep all cervids free from parasites, sickness or disease. If sick, cervids must be given immediate professional medical attention or be humanely destroyed.

8.1.m. Co-mingling of different cervid species will be allowed if the population density is at least 20,000 square feet per animal and if all best management practices are followed by the captive cervid facility. Food, water and waste material from captive cervids must not be available to or exposed to free ranging white-tailed deer.

8.1.n. The facility shall not restrict the movement or trap existing free ranging deer inhabiting the land on which the facility is constructed. Department personnel shall verify the absence of entrapped deer and may require snow cover for the detection of deer prior to the release of any captive cervids within the facility.

8.1.o. Prior to reaching twelve (12) months of age, all captive cervids shall be marked with an official ID as defined by the animal disease traceability rule (840 RFID or metal tag with USDA shield) or a metal ear tag with a unique identification number affixed to the ear. In addition, all captive cervids must be marked a unique marker visible and identifiable.

8.1.p. The Commissioner may exempt cervids currently in existing commercial shooting preserves from this tagging requirement provided that the licensee will provide an annual minimum of 30 cervids or 10 percent of the cervids, whichever is less in the enclosure for CWD sampling and, provided that all cervids that are handled or added to the enclosure shall be tagged and inventoried.

8.1.q. An owner shall maintain an accurate and current inventory of all animals in the captive cervid herd on forms provided by the Department.

8.1.q.1. The inventory shall include the following information:

8.1.q.1.a. All cervid and other animal acquisitions;

8.1.q.1.b. Sales;

8.1.q.1.c. Possession transfer;

8.1.q.1.d. Escapes;

8.1.q.1.e. Births; and

8.1.q.1.f. Mortalities.

8.1.r. A licensee shall maintain all appropriate permits which shall include the following:

8.1.r.1. Names;

8.1.r.2. Addresses;

8.1.r.3. Sales documentation;

8.1.r.4. Tag numbers;

8.1.r.5. Origins and destinations of all transaction concerning captive cervids; and

8.1.r.6. All CWD testing records.

8.1.s. A licensee shall forward a copy of the records of all acquisitions, mortalities, births, sales or possession transfers to the state veterinarian's office within fifteen (15) days. Applications to receive or transfer captive cervids shall be made on forms provided by the Department.

8.1.t. A licensee shall obtain prior approval from the Department to move captive cervids both interstate and intrastate. The Department may grant approval on a case by case basis.

Failure to obtain approval for the transfer of a cervid prior to the transfer of such cervid may result in a \$1,000.00 administrative penalty per animal levied against both the facility releasing the cervid for transport and the facility receiving the cervid along with the possible suspension of the license of the facility releasing the cervid for transport and the facility receiving the cervid.

§61-34-9. CWD, TB and Brucellosis Standards and Testing.

9.1. All captive cervid facilities shall enroll the cervid herds in an accreditation program for TB and certification program for Brucellosis as defined by the USDA.

9.2. Captive cervid facilities shall only accept cervids from TB and Brucellosis accredited herds that meet the CWD monitoring and surveillance program requirements. All such tests for TB and Brucellosis shall be performed by a licensed and accredited veterinarian certified by the USDA to perform such testing.

Failure to obtain approval for the transfer of a cervid prior to the transfer of such cervid may result in a \$1,000.00 administrative penalty per animal levied against both the facility releasing the cervid for transport and the facility receiving the cervid along with the possible suspension of the license of the facility releasing the cervid for transport and the facility receiving the cervid.

9.3. A captive cervid facility may receive animals coming from a herd within the state only if the proposed transfer is from a herd that has an ongoing and appropriate CWD surveillance record for at least sixty (60) months.

If a licensee has a monitoring program which has been in effect for at least thirty-six (36) months, the Department may approve intrastate movement of cervids from the facility's herd on a case by case basis only after reviewing a facility's monitoring records.

9.4. A captive cervid facility in the state shall not receive live captive cervids or any byproduct thereof, or captive cervid genetic materials from a captive cervid facility that has had a confirmed CWD or TB positive cervid in the last sixty (60) months.

9.5. All cervids sold or transferred from a licensed captive cervid facility in this state shall be tested by a West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian for any future approved live animal test for CWD prior to movement.

9.6. A licensee shall make every effort to prevent escapes of animals from the captive cervid facility. A licensee shall report all known escapes within eight (8) hours or upon discovery of the escape, whichever is sooner, to the state veterinarian or West Virginia Department of Agriculture Animal Health Division personnel.

Failure to report an escaped cervid may result in the immediate forfeiture of the captive cervid license. Any negligent act that results in captive cervids escaping is a violation of the license.

9.7. Any captive cervid that escapes from the captive cervid facility shall be dispatched by Department or DNR personnel where possible.

9.8. Appropriate samples shall be collected and submitted for CWD and other transmissible diseases.

9.9. All costs for depopulating an animal that escapes due to a negligent act, including sample collection and testing, are the responsibility of the licensee.

9.10. Captive cervids shall not be intentionally released into the wild.

9.11. An authorized representative of the Department shall periodically inspect the captive cervid facility, records and animals to assure compliance with all requirements mandated for this license.

9.12. Licensees are required to submit appropriate samples for testing and enroll in the USDA programs such as, but not limited to, TB and Brucellosis herd accreditation status and CWD programs as defined by the USDA as a term and condition of the captive cervid license.

9.13. The licensee shall report any captive cervids that die of unknown causes and or are slaughtered to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours. Unless otherwise instructed by the state veterinarian, the licensee shall submit the animal to a West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian to determine cause of death or condition along with CWD testing.

9.14. The licensee shall submit appropriate samples as determined and directed by the Department from all captive cervids over twelve (12) months of age that die or are slaughtered for CWD testing to a USDA approved laboratory. Testing for other transmissible diseases is also required. Any captive cervid that is fourteen (14) months of age or older that dies or is slaughtered must be tested for TB and Brucellosis by a West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian or inspector if a visual inspection of the animal indicates a reasonable likelihood of either disease. Test results shall be made available to the Department and DNR. All costs for this disease testing and surveillance shall be the responsibility of the licensee unless federal funds become available.

9.15. The licensee shall notify the Department with the CWD test report results within five (5) days of receiving test results.

9.15.a. Any sample test that has a positive result for CWD shall be immediately reported, by the most expedient means possible, to the state veterinarian.

9.15.b. Should any animal test positive for CWD within the captive cervid facility, the facility shall be immediately quarantined and the captive herd may be immediately depopulated in accordance with guidelines established collaboratively by the USDA and the Department.

9.16. Epidemiological investigations shall be conducted to identify any captive cervid herds linked by animal movements and appropriate responses shall be taken including quarantine and testing of epidemiological associated animals. All costs associated with the quarantine, depopulation and testing shall be the responsibility of the licensee unless federal funds become available.

9.17. The Department will develop an accreditation program for captive cervids for diseases including TB, Brucellosis and CWD.

9.18. Captive cervid facilities are required to enroll their herds in the West Virginia CWD herd certification program following the USDA CWD herd certification program guidelines.

9.19. A herd plan must be developed following the USDA APHIS program standards for infected or exposed herds.

9.20. Routine sampling and diagnostics for disease and parasites may be required by the Department.

9.21. The owner shall have a West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian perform an annual visual examination of each animal and take an inventory to reconcile inventory records submitted with the license application or renewal. Owners shall submit the veterinarian report to the Department within sixty (60) days of receipt and the inventory within thirty (30) days of completion.

9.22. All testing or examinations of captive cervids shall be performed by a West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian certified by the USDA to perform testing on cervids, including CWD, TB and Brucellosis testing.

9.23. The collection of samples for CWD testing shall be performed by trained personnel within the Department, DNR, a trained West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian or other official authorized by the Department.

9.24. The licensee shall have the following options for the purpose of collecting tissue for CWD testing:

9.24.a. The licensee may deliver to the Department, DNR, a trained West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian or other official authorized by the Department the head of the cervid or the entire cervid with head intact; or

9.24.b. The licensee may contact the Department, DNR, a trained West Virginia licensed and accredited veterinarian or other official authorized by the Department to go to the premise to collect and obtain the tissue sample. After sufficient and necessary tissue samples have been collected, the remaining tissue may be shared with the captive cervid facility licensee.

9.25. Failure to comply with this rule, unless otherwise provided, may result in the revocation of the captive cervid facility license. Revocation shall count as a lapsed license requiring a new application to be completed and approved.

§61-34-10. Additional Specifications for Commercial Shooting Preserves.

10.1. The following terms and conditions shall apply for commercial shooting preserve sizes and boundaries:

10.1.a. The commercial shooting preserve shall contain a minimum of two hundred (200) acres in one tract of leased or owned land. The shooting preserve shall be no larger than three thousand (3,000) contiguous acres;

10.1.b. The exterior boundaries of the shooting preserve shall be clearly defined and posted with signs erected around the extremity at intervals of one hundred fifty (150) yards or less. The signs shall have the words "LICENSED SHOOTING PRESERVE" on them and shall be signed by the licensee;

10.1.c. The shooting preserve shall be enclosed by fencing to prevent the ingress of native wildlife or egress of stocked wildlife species. The fencing shall be of sufficient strength and height to prevent the escape of the stocked wildlife; and

10.1.d. The licensee shall display the license in plain view at the entrance to the shooting preserve.

10.2. Stocked wildlife means those animals that were either obtained from a licensed commercial dealer and released at the shooting preserve, imported into this state under a valid wildlife importation permit and released at the shooting preserve, or raised at the shooting preserve under a valid licensed cervid farm facility.

10.3. Shooting preserves must also operate under the Captive Cervid Farming Rules. In order to import cervids, the licensee must first obtain a cervid importation permit issued by the WVDA.

10.4. The licensee must maintain accurate and current records of all animals purchased for, imported to or raised at the shooting preserve, including official identification.

10.5. Records of animals purchased for the shooting preserve must include a bill of sale for all animals acquired, importation permit issued by the Department, the date of importation, number of each species that were imported and the sex of each animal that is imported and official identification.

10.6. Records of animals raised at the shooting preserve must include the license issued by the Department, the date of birth and the sex of each animal born.

10.7. The licensee must maintain accurate and current records of all wildlife releases made at the shooting preserve which must include date of release, number of release, sex and official ID if from a farmed cervid facility.

10.8. The licensee must also maintain a registration book listing the name, address and hunting license numbers of each customer or guest, date of hunt, number of cervids taken, the number of tag affixed to each carcass and official ID, if applicable.

10.9. The licensee must submit a shooting preserve report to the Commissioner on a form provided by the Department by July 10 of each year.

§61-34-11. Slaughter.

11.1. Any animal regulated as a captive cervid under W. Va. Code §19-2H-1 shall be slaughtered and processed under inspection if venison from that animal is to be sold at a commercial outlet or to an individual.

11.2. Any animal regulated as a captive cervid under W. Va. Code §19-2H-1 taken as a hunted animal, for a fee, may be processed with the assistance of a facility owner or facility employee at the facility site or a licensed custom or commercial establishment.

11.3. Inspection may be provided at any state or federal licensed commercial facility.

11.4. Records must be kept for a minimum of two (2) years with respect to sales of venison.

