



TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

CWD

**MANAGEMENT
AND REGULATIONS
FOR HUNTERS**

2017-2018

NEW FOR THIS YEAR



- » Modifications to the Panhandle and South-Central Texas CWD Zones
- » Hunters now have additional time (48 hours) to provide CWD samples at check stations
- » New operating dates and times for check stations
- » Mandatory testing and carcass movement restrictions now apply in South-Central Texas CWD Zone
- » Texas Animal Health Commission has new CWD rules that apply statewide to harvested exotic CWD susceptible species such as elk, red deer, sika, moose, and reindeer. Please go to www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/elk-deer/ for more details (see page 5).

For more information regarding Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) management and regulations visit tpwd.texas.gov/cwd

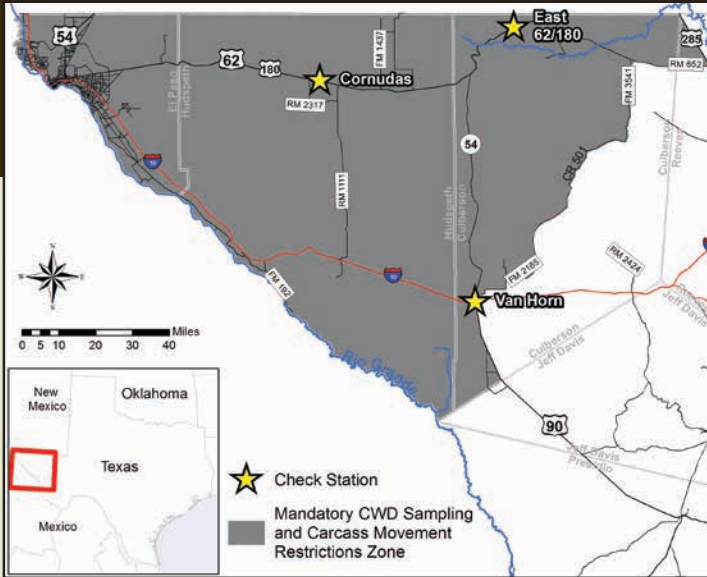
CWD MANAGEMENT AND REGULATIONS FOR HUNTERS

Hunters who harvest mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species within the CWD Zones are **REQUIRED** to bring their animals to a TPWD check station within 48 hours of harvest (see included maps).

- » See following pages for locations, operating dates and times, and contact numbers for each check station.
- » Carcass movement restrictions apply in CWD Zones (page 6). It is **ILLEGAL** to import intact carcasses of deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species from states or countries where CWD is known to exist or to remove intact carcasses from CWD Zones. If leaving a CWD Zone immediately after checking animal, please quarter carcass before coming to check station (see page 7).
- » When bringing quartered animals and their associated heads to a check station, please be sure to remove the head from the carcass 2-3 vertebrae below the head (see page 7). This will ensure that the appropriate tissues for CWD testing are not damaged.
- » Hunters will receive a CWD check station receipt for compliance, which has a link to CWD test results posted on the TPWD CWD website. The receipt also serves as proof-of-sex documentation.
- » As an alternative to the TPWD check stations, a list of TAHC Certified CWD Postmortem Sample Collectors who are also TPWD-approved sample collectors is provided on the TPWD CWD website.
- » Please report any “sick looking” deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species while hunting in any CWD Zone to TPWD.

	CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE SAMPLE RECEIPT
	CWD sample number on reverse side.
Scan above for link to CWD test results.	For CWD test results and general information about CWD, visit: tpwd.texas.gov/cwd
	PROOF OF SEX Sex: Buck or Antlerless Species: MD or WTD Date: / /

TRANS-PECOS CHECK STATIONS



Hunters who harvest a deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species in the Trans-Pecos CWD Zone are **REQUIRED** to have their animals sampled for CWD within 48 hours of harvest.

CHECK STATION DATES & HOURS OF OPERATION

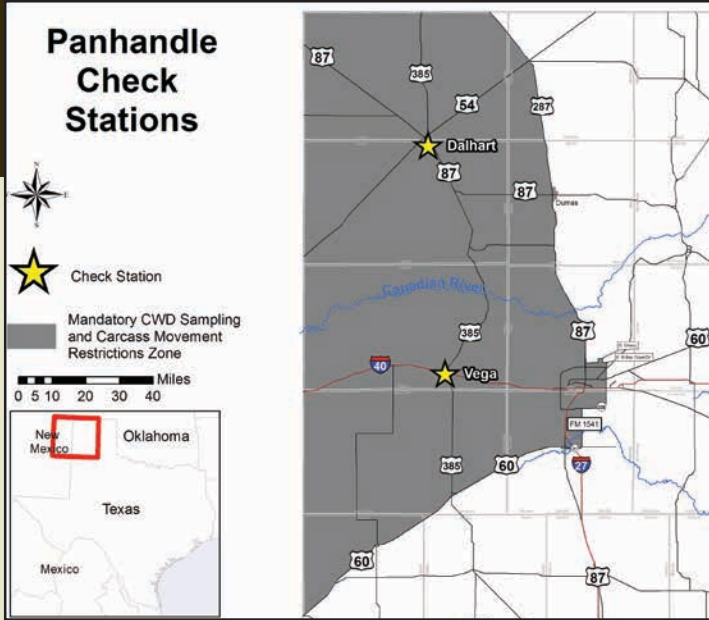
Check stations will be open during the entire general mule deer season (Nov 24 to Dec 10) from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. local time, and the following Monday, Dec 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. local time. Hunters who harvest deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species in special archery seasons and extended MLDP seasons should contact TPWD at (512) 221-8491.

CHECK STATION LOCATIONS

- » **VAN HORN:** Van Horn Convention Center, 1801 West Broadway Street. Coordinates (31.037440, -104.852833). Contact number (512) 221-8491.
- » **EAST US 62/180:** Pine Springs TXDOT Rest Area, US 62/180 – Eastbound, about 7 miles from Texas/New Mexico state line. Coordinates (31.960389, -104.680334). Contact number (512) 803-6498.
- » **CORNUDAS:** May's Café on US 62-180 at mile 82.5. Coordinates (31.779729, -105.471281). Contact number (512) 803-5822.

Please call (512) 221-8491 if you see any “sick looking” or road killed deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species within the Trans-Pecos CWD Zone.

PANHANDLE CHECK STATIONS



Hunters who harvest a deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species in the Panhandle CWD Zone are **REQUIRED** to have their animals sampled for CWD within 48 hours of harvest.

CHECK STATION DATES & HOURS OF OPERATION

Open Dates: Nov 4-6, Nov 10-13, Nov 17-22, Nov 24-Dec 4, Dec 8-11, Dec 15-18, Dec 22-23, Dec 26-Jan 1 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. local time.

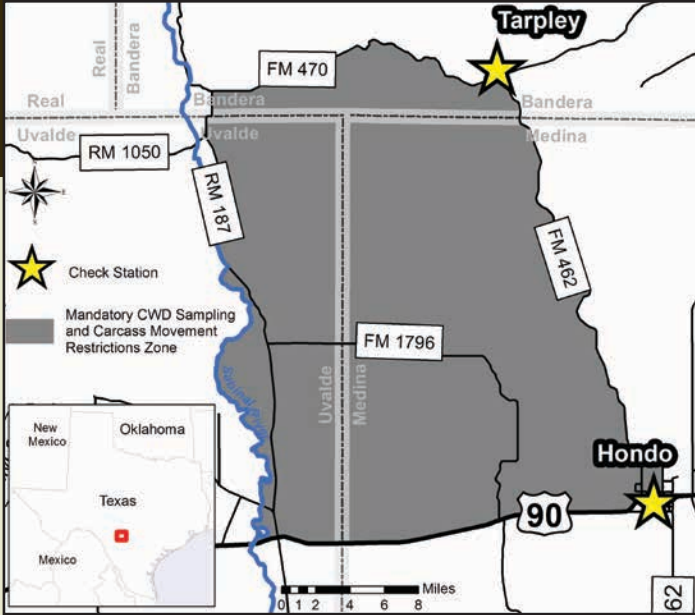
Please call TPWD at (806) 420-0439 or either check station to have your animals sampled during dates the check stations are closed.

CHECK STATION LOCATIONS

- » **DALHART:** Rita Blanca Lake Park off of Lake Drive. Check station is across from People's Church (1929 Apache Drive). Coordinates (36.038269, -102.506358). Contact number (512) 803-5972.
- » **VEGA:** Walnut RV Park. Business Loop of I-40, 1403 Vega Blvd. Coordinates (35.243253, -102.434296). Contact number (512) 803-6158.

Please call either check station for any questions about sampling your hunter-harvested animals or to report a "sick looking" or road killed deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species within the Panhandle CWD Zone.

SOUTH-CENTRAL TEXAS CHECK STATIONS



Hunters who harvest a deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species in the South-Central Texas CWD Zone are **REQUIRED** to have their animals sampled for CWD within 48 hours of harvest.

CHECK STATION DATES & HOURS OF OPERATION

Open Dates: Sept 30–Nov 3: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. both check stations.

Nov 4–Jan 7: Hondo: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekends and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays; Tarpley: everyday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Jan 8–21: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. both check stations.

Jan 22–Feb 28: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Hondo check station only.

Closed Dates: Nov 23, Dec 24 (at 12 p.m.), Dec 25, and Jan 1.

Please call either check station to have your animals sampled during dates the check stations are closed.

CHECK STATION LOCATIONS

» **HONDO:** 1701 19th Street. Check station is in the parking lot adjacent to Life Check Drug Store located on Highway 90. Coordinates (29.346774, -99.148061). Contact number (512) 803-6184.

» **TARPLEY:** 264 Valentine Road. Check station is located next to the Tarpley Volunteer Fire Department. Coordinates (29.657711, -99.279426). Contact number (512) 803-6174.

Please call either check station to report a “sick looking” or road killed deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species within the South-Central Texas CWD Zone.

TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION (TAHC) STATEWIDE REGULATIONS FOR EXOTIC SUSCEPTIBLE SPECIES

Includes North American elk or wapiti, red deer, sika, moose, reindeer, and any associated subspecies and hybrids. Go to www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/elk-deer/ for more information.

TAHC rules require:

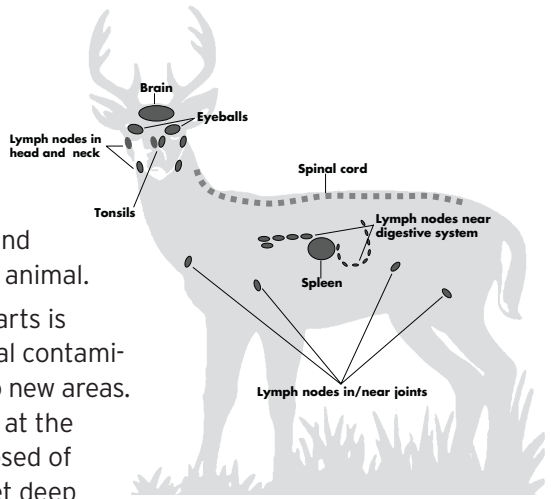
- » **For Properties Located Within a TAHC CWD Movement Restriction Zone:** All exotic CWD susceptible species, 16 months of age or older, that are hunter harvested within a TAHC CWD Zone shall be tested for CWD. No part of a carcass of a susceptible species, either killed or found dead may be removed from a zone unless a testable CWD sample from the carcass is collected and tested. The results shall be provided to TAHC within 30 days of receiving the test results.
- » **For Properties Not Located Within a TAHC CWD Movement Restriction Zone:** Each calendar year, the owner of a premises must have all exotic CWD susceptible species eligible mortalities CWD tested until such time that three (3) animals are tested and valid test results are obtained. This applies to any high fenced, low fenced, or no fenced premises where exotic CWD susceptible species are located. An eligible mortality is a death from any cause of an exotic CWD susceptible species that is 16 months of age or older. This includes hunter harvested mortalities or herd culling, natural mortalities, or animals moved directly to slaughter.
- » All CWD test samples must be collected by a state or federal animal health official, USDA accredited (Category II) veterinarian, or a TAHC Certified CWD Postmortem Sample Collector. An owner must report all test results accompanied with a test record form to the TAHC within 30 days of receiving the test results. Go to the link above for a list of TAHC Certified CWD Postmortem Sample Collectors.
- » Owners of exotic CWD susceptible species must maintain an exotic CWD susceptible species mortality record when an eligible mortality occurs. The mortality records shall be submitted to TAHC on or before April 1.

PRECAUTIONS

Prions generally concentrate in the brain, spinal cord, eyes, lymph nodes and spleen, and they are shed in saliva, urine, blood, soft-antler material, feces, and from decomposition of an infected animal.

Proper disposal of these carcass parts is important to prevent environmental contamination and spread of this disease to new areas. These inedible parts should be left at the site of harvest, or preferably, disposed of in a landfill, or buried at least 6 feet deep at the ranch/farm of harvest in any CWD Zone.

Always use common sense precautions while handling and processing deer and elk. Never eat meat from an animal that looks sick. Never eat brain, eyeballs, spinal cord, spleen, or lymph nodes from a deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that there is no strong evidence that CWD can infect humans; however, CDC recommends that hunters consider testing CWD susceptible species harvested in CWD Zones before consumption.



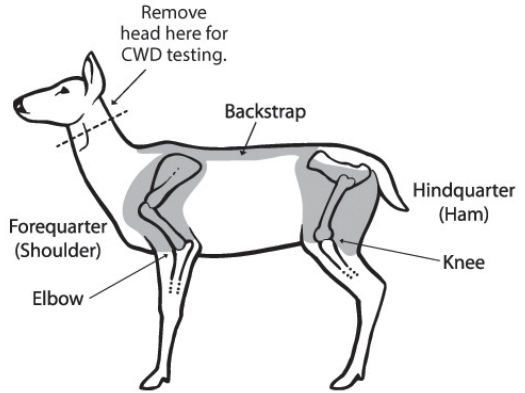
CARCASS MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS

No deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species carcasses or parts of carcasses can enter Texas from a state or country known to have CWD, and no deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species carcasses or parts of carcasses can be transported out of a CWD Zone EXCEPT:

- » Cut quarters with all brain and spinal cord tissue removed
- » Boned meat – Texas regulations do not allow processing beyond quarters until reaching your final destination (home or processing facility).
- » Cut and wrapped meat – Texas regulations do not allow processing beyond quarters until reaching your final destination (home or processing facility).
- » Caped hides with skull not attached
- » Skull plate with antlers attached and cleaned of all soft tissue
- » Finished taxidermy products
- » The skinned or unskinned head of a susceptible species may be transported to a taxidermist, provided all brain material, soft tissue, spinal column and any unused portions of the head are disposed of in a landfill in Texas permitted by TCEQ. The deer head waiver form (see page 7) to transport the intact head may be obtained from a TPWD CWD check station or the TPWD CWD website.

PROCEDURES TO BRING HARVESTED ANIMALS TO CHECK STATIONS

- » All deer, elk, and other CWD susceptible species harvested within the CWD Zones must be sampled for CWD.
- » Carcass movement restrictions do not apply if the carcass will not be moved outside of a CWD Zone. However, it is recommended to always properly dispose of unused carcass parts.
- » A hunter who leaves a CWD Zone with a harvested animal must quarter the deer/elk and remove the head from the carcass 2-3 vertebrae below the head. See illustration.
- » Place head in a plastic trash bag and keep cool until arriving at a CWD check station.
- » Heads can be disposed of at the CWD check stations provided the hunter has a CWD receipt, which serves as a proof-of-sex document.



DEER HEAD WAIVER

**DEER HEAD WAIVER
FOR AREAS WITH CARCASS RESTRICTIONS**

This waiver is a legal document issued by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to allow a hunter who has harvested a white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk or other susceptible species to transport an intact head to a taxidermist for taxidermy purposes from a Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Zone in Texas, other state, Canadian province, or other area outside of a Zone where CWD is known to exist. The hunter must also provide this waiver to the taxidermist.

Hunter's Name (First, Last) _____

Hunting or Owner's License Number (State) _____

Deer Species Harvested (Circle): White-tailed deer Mule deer Elk Other _____

Date of Harvest: _____ State and County of Harvest: _____

Resub of Harvest (if applicable) _____

Taxidermy Business to Receive Deer Head: _____

I hereby acknowledge I am required to take the specified restricted carcass part (intact head) only to a taxidermist for the purpose of a taxidermy product within 7 days of leaving a CWD Zone in Texas or entering from another state, Canadian province, or area outside of Texas where CWD is known to exist. I also understand that I must give this waiver to the taxidermist so they can properly dispose of unused carcass materials.

Complete section below only for animals harvested in Texas CWD zones.

NOTE: A CWD sample must be collected from all deer or other susceptible species harvested within a CWD zone with mandatory CWD testing requirements before the head leaves the zone.

TPWD CWD Receipt Number: _____

TPWD Witness: _____

Date Waiver Received by Hunter: _____

FOR TAXIDERMISTS:

The associated deer head is from a deer harvested within a CWD Zone in Texas or coming from a CWD area within the state of Texas. Please note in order that Texas Parks and Wildlife regulations require proper disposal of unused carcass material through a trash service or landfill permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Your trash removal service should advise if they are permitted by a TCEQ permitted landfill. You may also call TCEQ Office of Waste at (512) 239-2300 to see if a landfill is permitted by TCEQ.

PWD 1410 - 09/06/14

A hunter who wants to take an intact skinned or unskinned deer head to a taxidermist outside of the CWD Zones should obtain the Deer Head Waiver (PWD 1410) at any CWD check station or at the TPWD CWD website.

The waiver should be completed and kept on your person or with the deer head until it reaches the taxidermist.

Hunters bringing intact deer heads into Texas from a state or country with CWD should also have this waiver.

CWD QUICK FACTS

- » Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease in some deer species such as mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, red deer, sika, moose, and reindeer, which is caused by a misfolded protein called a prion.
- » Two primary sources of infection for deer are from animal to animal contact and a contaminated environment by infected animals shedding prions through body fluids and from decomposition of an infected animal.
- » Because eradication is thought to be impossible once CWD becomes established in a population, it is imperative that a sound CWD management program be established to reduce the severity of implications resulting from the disease.
- » In order to contain the disease, TPWD and TAHC must understand the geographic extent and prevalence of CWD. This is done by collecting samples from hunter-harvested deer, elk, and other CWD susceptible species at CWD check stations. Containment strategies include restricting movements of live CWD susceptible species and certain carcass parts.
- » The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that there is no strong evidence that CWD can infect humans; however, recent research has indicated that some non-human primates are susceptible to CWD. The CDC recommends that hunters consider testing CWD susceptible species harvested in CWD Zones before consumption.



Scan code to go to the TPWD CWD website or visit tpwd.texas.gov/cwd

OTHER CWD RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

CWD Tracking

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/diseases/cwd/tracking/#nationalMap>

FAQs for landowners in Texas

http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/diseases/cwd/docs/CWD_landowner_FAQ_2016.pdf

CDC website

<https://www.cdc.gov/prions/cwd/index.html>

CWD Alliance website

<http://cwg-info.org/>

CWD regulations for all states

http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/diseases/cwd/media/cwd_all_states.pdf



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