When Processing a deer or elk from a CWD positive state

- Label, store, and process deer and elk meat from a CWD-positive state separately from other deer, elk, and livestock. Hang on separate rails or encase in a protective covering to prevent contact between meats.
- Process all deer and elk individually at the end of the day. Avoid commingling meat and cross contamination between meats.
- Clean equipment of organic material and sanitize instruments between animals or use new or disposable instruments.
- Wear gloves, protective washable aprons, and rubber boots.
- Carefully debone to minimize cutting into brain or spinal cord.
- Contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Wildlife Investigations Lab at (916) 358-2790 or a CDFW Regional Office about disposal procedures if brain or spinal column are present.
- All scraps or waste not packaged for the hunter, should be held in double-lined plastic bags and either incinerated and/or disposed of at an approved landfill (www.CalRecycle.ca.gov).
- Do not render parts, wastes, or scraps from these animals.

Thoroughly Clean and Sanitize equipment after Processing

- Scrape, clean, and remove all organic materials from tables, saws, knives, aprons, boots, rubber gloves, floor, and other contaminated surfaces using a detergent with activity against prions such as Tergazyme™.
- Disinfect tools and equipment using 2% bleach (1-part household bleach to 1- to 1.5-parts water) and a minimum of 10 minutes contact time.
- Whenever possible use disposable tools and disinfect in the same manner prior to appropriate disposal (sharps, incineration, or landfill).
- Allow the facility, equipment, and tools to dry before use.
- Re-inspect facility, equipment, and tools before use; repeat if needed.

For more information and resources, refer to the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency’s CWD BMPs at https://www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-acts/ afwa-committees/fish-wildlife-health-committee.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends not consuming meat from animals that test positive for CWD. https://www.cdc.gov/prions/cwd/index.html