

Proposed Amended Regulatory Language

Section 708.5, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 708.5. Deer Tagging, Reporting, and Testing Requirements.

...

[No change to subsections (a) through (d)]

...

(e) Chronic wasting disease (CWD) Management Zones (CMZ) are defined as:

(1) Any deer hunt ~~zones~~zone in which a CWD-positive animal has been ~~taken~~detected, excluding Zone A, using sampling and testing methods based on credible science as defined in Fish and Game Code Section 33.

(2) Any deer hunt zone, excluding Zone A, within 5 miles of the location where a CWD-positive animal ~~was taken~~has been detected, using sampling and testing methods based on credible science as defined in Fish and Game Code Section 33.

(3) Any county within Zone A where a CWD-positive animal has been ~~taken~~detected or is within 5 miles of where a CWD-positive animal ~~was taken~~has been detected, using sampling and testing methods based on credible science as defined in Fish and Game Code Section 33.

(f) Annually, and prior to July 1, the ~~Director~~director of the department shall designate any CMZ ~~as~~ that will be a “~~Testing~~testing CMZ,” or a “testing and handling CMZ.”

(1) Testing CMZs shall be designated based ~~on~~on the need to better define new or ongoing CWD outbreak(s) ~~pursuant to subsection (e)~~, the department’s capacity to collect and test samples, and ~~or~~ to support management actions for the protection of natural resources.

~~(g)~~(A) All hunters who harvest and possess a deer from a ~~Testing~~testing CMZ shall provide the department ~~with the retropharyngeal lymph nodes or the head from the harvested deer~~ a sample, using only permissible sampling methods, for the purpose of CWD testing within 10 days of harvest. ~~The following are permissible~~Permissible sampling methods are:

~~(1) Bring the deer, or just the head to a California CWD sampling station (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Sampling-Station for locations)~~

~~(2)~~1. Bring the deer head (must include the retropharyngeal lymph nodes) to a California CWD sampling station (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Sampling-Station for locations) or a participating meat processor or taxidermist (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Meat-Processors-Taxidermists); or

~~(3)2. A hunter may self-~~Self-sample the deer and bring the retropharyngeal lymph nodes directly to a California CWD sampling station. The department maintains a how-to-guide and data card for CWD sampling, data collection, and self-sample submissions ~~on its website~~ (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Collect-Submit-Samples); or

3. Bring the deer (must include the retropharyngeal lymph nodes) to a California CWD sampling station (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Sampling-Station for locations) or a participating meat processor or taxidermist (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Meat-Processors-Taxidermists).

(B) When submitting a sample, the following information shall be provided: the hunter's name, GO ID number, deer tag or document number, and harvest location (GPS coordinates preferred).

(2) Testing and handling CMZs shall be designated based on the criteria of (f)(1) in addition to the risk of spreading CWD through the movement of hunter-harvested carcasses or their parts, and the department's capacity to facilitate both CWD sampling and disposal of high-risk materials.

(A) All hunters who harvest and possess a deer from a testing and handling CMZ shall provide the department with a sample, using only permissible sampling methods, for the purpose of CWD testing within 10 days of harvest. Permissible sampling methods are:

1. Bring the deer head (must include the retropharyngeal lymph nodes) to a California CWD sampling station (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Sampling-Station for locations); or

2. Self-sample the deer and bring the retropharyngeal lymph nodes directly to a California CWD sampling station. The department maintains a how-to-guide and data card for CWD sampling, data collection, and self-sample submissions (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD/Collect-Submit-Samples).

(B) When submitting a sample, the following information shall be provided: the hunter's name, GO ID number, deer tag or document number, and harvest location (GPS coordinates preferred).

(C) All hunters who harvest a deer within a testing and handling CMZ shall leave all portions of the brain, spinal column, and entrails (gut pile) at the harvest site. Exceptions are:

1. Any portion of the brain and spinal column possessed for the purpose of providing a sample for CWD testing in accordance with permissible sampling methods outlined in subsection (f)(2)(A)1 or 2, and brought directly to a department office, or California CWD sampling station within the same or an adjacent CMZ. Heads (except that portion required to

comply with subsection (a)), and any portion of the brain or spinal column removed from the harvest site for the purpose of CWD testing shall be relinquished to the department.

2. Heart, liver, and kidneys if possessed for human consumption.

~~(h) Hunters shall provide the following minimum information when submitting a sample pursuant to subsection (f): the hunter's name, GO ID number, deer tag or document number, and harvest location (GPS coordinates preferred).~~

~~(g) The department maintains and updates shall maintain and update a website detailing current CMZs, as defined in subsection (e), Testing CMZs, CMZ designations pursuant to subsection (f), and current CWD surveillance information, including general locations and deer hunt zones where CWD-positive animals have been detected, using sampling and testing methods based on credible science as defined in Fish and Game Code Section 33 (see wildlife.ca.gov/CWD).~~

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 203, 265 and 1050, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 33, 1050 and 4336, Fish and Game Code.