













Chronic Wasting Disease and Cervidae Regulations in North America

BI Department of Natural Resources  
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State/Province	Agency (with jurisdiction over captive cervids) and Contacts	Standard Regulations (listed only if different or in addition to those listed in Summary below)	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Regulations for Captive Cervids	New Regulations in Development	CWD Testing for Captive Cervids	CWD Testing for Free-ranging Cervids	Baiting Banned?	Feeding Banned?	Ban on Importation and Movement of Cervid Carcasses/Parts or Animal Products?	CWD Found in Captive Cervids	CWD Found in Free-Ranging Cervids
Saskatchewan, Canada	Saskatchewan Agriculture has primary responsibility for farmed cervids; contact Dr. Stephanie Smith, CVO Veterinary Unit, Livestock Branch, Saskatchewan Environment has primary authority for captive cervids held in zoos, and other Non-game farm facilities. Also final authority for all cervid imports: contact Dr. Iga Stasiak, Fish, Wildlife and Lands Branch.	<b>Farmed Cervids:</b> <i>The Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations, 2019</i> , at: <a href="http://www.sgo.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/A20-2R10.pdf">http://www.sgo.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/A20-2R10.pdf</a> Requires licence to operate a game farm for the following species: elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, WTD-mule deer hybrid, moose, fallow deer, reindeer/caribou, antelope, big horn sheep, American bighorn sheep, mouflon sheep, musk deer, and mountain goat. The regulations require minimum fence height, handling facilities, unique identification of animals (before 12 months of age, except fallow deer at ~14 months), accurate herd records / inventory, reporting of escapes and intrusions, reporting of movements by manifest or CFIA permit, mandatory CWD surveillance program, permits for import, slaughter processing requirements, and prohibit game farming for Sika deer, Red deer, and elk-Red deer hybrids. <b>Other Captive Cervids:</b> <i>The Wildlife Regulations, 1981</i> and <i>The Captive Wildlife Regulations</i> , at respectively: <a href="http://www.sgo.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/W13-1R11.pdf">http://www.sgo.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/W13-1R11.pdf</a> , and <a href="http://www.sgo.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/W13-1R13.pdf">http://www.sgo.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Regulations/Regulations/W13-1R13.pdf</a> Wildlife regulations allow wildlife to be held in captivity, with a licence, for the purpose of an operating zoo or commercial wildlife farm. Wildlife regulations also hold legislative authority for the issue of import permits for domestic game farm animals.	<i>The Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations, 2019</i> require enrollment of licensees in the mandatory provincial CWD surveillance program. All cervid deaths (> 12 months age) must be reported and submitted for CWD testing, including slaughter animals. Physical inventories are completed as required, annually under the current CWD surveillance program. Imported cervids must originate from a herd with a documented history, at least, equivalent to a herd status of Level B, or above, on the National CWD Voluntary Herd Certification Program.	<i>The Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations, 2019</i> came into force November 15, 2019. Changes include a fee for a game farm licence and the ability for the Minister to cancel or impose conditions on a game farm licence. Changes to the Federal response to CWD in farmed cervids April 1, 2018 require development of new provincial policies for response to CWD-positive farmed cervids. Positive farms, when there is no federal response, are under provincial controls under The Animal Health Act, with no movements without provincial authorization. Depopulation is not ordered. Movement only to terminal premises or inspected slaughter.	Saskatchewan's first detection of a CWD-positive farmed cervid was in 1998. CWD became a federally reportable disease in 2001. SK began a mandatory CWD surveillance program Dec 31-01; mandatory for all licensees, and associated farmed cervids, regulated under <i>The Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations, 2019</i> . Must report all deaths within 24 hours and submit samples for CWD testing from ALL cervid deaths (> 12 months of age), within 15 days. Laboratory testing fees, for CWD, are paid by the province. On-farm physical inventory and compliance assessment annually. Since January 2001 until December 31, 2020 a total of 61,176 farmed cervids have been tested for CWD.	Saskatchewan operated a voluntary CWD hunter surveillance program from 1997 to 2012. During this time, 45,434 wild cervids were tested (including targeted surveillance), with 387 CWD-positive animals found. In 2014 and 2015, hunter surveillance was not offered, but, targeted samples of sick or dead animals were collected by conservation officers and collar-marked research animals were also tested. Of these, 34,116 animals tested CWD-positive. Voluntary testing of hunter submissions was restarted in 2015, and remains ongoing. Per-species CWD-positives vs total testing, included: mule deer (137/321,281), white-tailed deer (386/19,517), elk (22/2,060), and moose (8/612). In all, 53,470 animals have been tested since 1997 (31,281 mule deer, 19,517 white-tailed deer, 2060 elk, and 612 moose). In 2020, 466 of 2703 animals tested, were CWD-positive as follows: mule deer (335/1049), white-tailed deer (121/1326), elk (5/167), and moose (5/141). The disease has not yet been detected in caribou. CWD is now found in 56/83 wildlife management zones in the province and is considered endemic across the farmland south of the boreal forest. Data and mapping can be found at <a href="http://saskatchewan.ca/cwd">saskatchewan.ca/cwd</a> .	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Yukon, Canada	Yukon Department of Environment has authority over captive and wild cervids in Yukon. Contact Chief Veterinary Officer - Mary VanderKop - 867-456-5582	Wildlife Act - Game Farm Regulations	No regulations but a moratorium exists to prohibit the import of game farmed animals (elk are the only game farmed cervid in Yukon) and there is a prohibition against the import of cervids making exception for animals in transit through Yukon.	Regulation enacted May 2, 2013 to prohibit the import of cervids that died or were killed outside Yukon with exemption for imports from Northwest Territories, Northern hunting zones in BC and for edible meat that is deboned or removed from spinal column and head, finished taxidermy mounts, teeth, antlers with No tissue and hide contained before delivery for processing. Exemption for carcasses in transit if contained (leak-proof). Also prohibit possession, sale, import any product for hunting or trapping that contains cervid parts.	Yes, mandatory program as condition of the Game Farm Licence to test all captive cervids.	Yes - all harvested wild elk are tested (mandatory with hunting license) and road killed cervids are tested opportunistically. All negative to date.	Not practiced here	Not practiced here	Regulation enacted May 2, 2013 to prohibit the import of cervids that died or were killed outside Yukon with exemption for imports from Northwest Territories, Northern hunting zones in BC and for edible meat that is deboned or removed from spinal column and head, finished taxidermy mounts, teeth, antlers with No tissue and hide contained before delivery for processing. Exemption for carcasses in transit if contained (leak-proof). Also prohibit possession, sale, import any product for hunting or trapping that contains cervid parts.	No	No