

International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Representing Fish and Wildlife Agencies since 1902

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ASSISTANCE TO STATES, FEDERAL AGENCIES, AND TRIBES IN MANAGING CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE IN WILD AND CAPTIVE CERVIDS

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States, Federal agencies, and Tribes are addressing chronic wasting disease (CWD) according to the 2002 *Plan for Assisting States, Federal Agencies and Tribes in Managing Chronic Wasting Disease in Wild and Captive Cervids* (National CWD Plan) and the *Implementation Document* for the National CWD Plan. Considerable progress has been made, especially in terms of surveillance and management of CWD in free-ranging cervids, research, dissemination of information, and publication by APHIS of the proposed rules on *Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Herd Certification Program and Interstate Movement of Captive Deer and Elk*. To date, there has been no consistent or unified Federal funding for full implementation of the National Plan. However, USDA/APHIS/Veterinary Services has provided funding toward control of CWD in the farmed cervid industry and to the 50 state wildlife management agencies for public education, as well as surveillance and management of CWD in wild deer and elk. USDI agencies have redirected limited resources toward their own CWD research and monitoring programs, and USGS has provided a small amount of funds to several States for CWD monitoring. Because of inadequate funding to all State and Federal agencies, important CWD-related activities are being implemented incrementally and with limited coordination. State wildlife management agencies are on the front line of CWD management, surveillance, and research and are the agencies in greatest need of financial support for CWD activities. To date, APHIS grants for CWD work have been the most significant and helpful sources of Federal assistance to State Wildlife Management Agencies.

DISEASE MANAGEMENT---Goals are prevention, elimination, maintenance or reduction of established prevalence, and/or containment of CWD, depending on site-specific CWD status. Needs are \$9M (through USDA-APHIS) for States, \$2M for USDA, and \$3.5M for USDI, including enhanced funding through USGS-BRD for the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS).

SURVEILLANCE---Goals are development of sampling plans, early detection, determination of distribution and prevalence of CWD in free-ranging cervids and epidemiologic investigations in the case of CWD in farmed cervids. Funding needs are \$7M (through USDA-APHIS) for States, \$1M for USDA, and \$2.25M for USDI, including enhanced funding through USGS-BRD for SCWDS.

RESEARCH---Goals are rapid diagnostic tests, better understanding of epidemiology and pathogenesis of CWD, management tools, and understanding human dimensions related to CWD. Needs are \$3.2M (through USDA) for States, \$1.5M for USDA, and \$3.5M for USDI.

DIAGNOSTICS---Objectives are to establish sufficient laboratory capacity for testing, continue use of the immunohistochemistry technique as the gold standard, assure diagnostic sample quality, and assist with validation and application of high throughput screening tests. Funding needs are \$625K for USDA to assist State laboratories and validate new tests and \$50K to USDI for training assistance.

COMMUNICATIONS---Objectives are to increase awareness and educate target audiences, provide timely scientific information on current knowledge and advances in CWD management, and provide scientific and technical training to agency personnel regarding CWD. State and Federal (USDI) needs are approximately \$105K and \$400K, respectively.

FY2005 NEEDS TOTALS

States (through appropriations to USDA) for free ranging cervids: \$19.2M
USDA: \$5.1M
USDI: \$9.85M