

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE & SPREAD

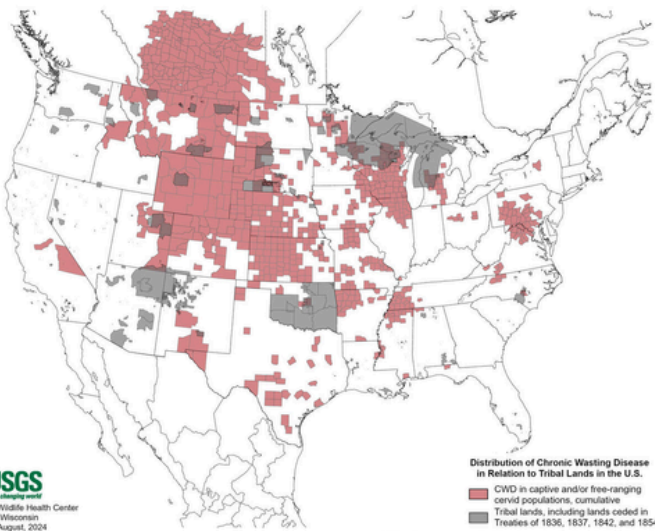
Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a highly contagious and fatal neurological disease that affects cervids such as deer, elk, reindeer, and moose. The disease spreads through direct contact and environmental contamination by infected individuals.

Tribal Impacts

CWD can be detrimental to food security, cultural and spiritual practices, and economic well-being. Surveillance on Tribal lands is crucial for managing the impacts and spread.

Distribution

As of August 2024, CWD has been identified in 30 U.S. states, 4 Canadian provinces. See a map of CWD in proximity to Tribal lands at <https://on.doi.gov/3xn6akr>.



About Us

The Native American Fish & Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with 227 support member Tribes in 7 Regions - Alaska, Great Lakes, Great Plains, Northeast, Pacific, Southeast, and Southwest.

Our mission is to assist Native American and Alaska Native Tribes with the conservation, protection, and enhancement of their fish and wildlife resources.

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NATIVE AMERICAN FISH
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CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Managing CWD on
Tribal Lands

CWD SYMPTOMS



Emaciated



Droopy ears,
excessive saliva



Wide stance,
lowered head



Asymptomatic

Additional symptoms:

- Listlessness or stumbling
- Excessive teeth grinding
- Increased thirst, salivation & urination
- Reduced fear of humans, roads and vehicles

Report Sightings

Report sick or dead animals and general location to your local Tribal or state wildlife agency.



HUMAN DIMENSIONS

To date, there is no evidence CWD can spread to humans, however, the Centers for Disease Control advises avoiding contact with or eating animals who have tested positive or appear sick (cdc.gov).

Hunter Safety

In regions with CWD, the following recommendations can protect hunters and Tribal Lands:

- Do not shoot, handle, or eat meat from animals that look sick, behave strangely, or test positive for CWD
- When field dressing:
 - Wear gloves
 - Avoid cutting through bone or spinal cord
 - Bone out meat
 - Disinfect all tools with bleach
- Contact your local Tribal wildlife officials about:
 - CWD testing sites
 - Reporting sick or dead animals
 - Disposal of carcasses

STOP THE SPREAD

Help minimize the spread of CWD on Tribal Lands:

- DO NOT feed wildlife
- Increase awareness of CWD
- Limit the movement of open carcasses
- Report sick or dead animals to the local Tribal wildlife officials
- Allow CWD diagnostic samples to be taken from harvested adult deer

NAFWS RESOURCES



NAFWS provides education, trainings, outreach materials & technical support to Tribal fish & wildlife departments responding to CWD outbreaks.

Learn more at

www.nafws.org/cwd