

**CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH THE
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR**

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§41 22 5(b) and 41 22 6(c)(2)a. and b.

I certify that the attached emergency amendment is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on Monday, December 23, 2024.

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

RULE NO. AND TITLE: 220-2-.167 Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone Rule

EXPIRATION DATE OF RULE: Tuesday, April 22, 2025

NATURE OF EMERGENCY: Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease that affects several species in the cervid family. This disease is infectious and communicable. These changes are needed after a deer tested positive for CWD in Colbert County, Alabama on December 20, 2024.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Code of Ala. 1975, §§9-2-2, 9-2-6, 9-2-7, 9-2-12, 9-11-244.

SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON A PERMANENT BASIS: Yes

NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE: Charlanna W. Skaggs; 64 N. Union Street, Room 474, Montgomery, Alabama 36130; (334) 242-3165.

Christopher M. Blankenship

Chris Blankenship

Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt rules and
regulations or his or her deputy

REC'D & FILED

DEC 23, 2024

LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

220-2-.167

Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone Rule.

(1) Hunters **SHALL** submit samples for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing from all deer harvested on any Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Special Opportunity Area (SOA), Community Hunting Area (CHA), State Waterfowl Refuges, or Physically Disabled Hunting Area (PHDA) located within a CWD High Risk Zone (HRZ) or Buffer Zone (BZ) at the WMA Check Station, or Drop-off Sampling freezer locations, or a scheduled DCNR Mobile Sampling location.

(2) Hunters **SHALL** submit samples for CWD testing from all deer harvested within the High Risk Zone (HRZ) of the Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone (CMZ) at DCNR mobile sampling locations or Drop-off Sampling freezer locations on scheduled dates announced by press release and posted to the website below. All other days, hunters are encouraged to submit samples for CWD testing. www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info

(3) Hunters **SHALL** submit samples for CWD testing from all deer harvested within the Buffer Zone (BZ) of the CMZ at DCNR mobile sampling locations or Drop-off Sampling freezer locations on scheduled dates announced by press release and posted to the website below. All other days, hunters are encouraged to submit samples for CWD testing. www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info

(4) All deer harvested in the CMZ must be properly recorded and reported through the Game Check System pursuant to Regulation 220-2-.146.

(5) No cervid or cervid body parts taken from the HRZ shall be transported outside of the HRZ. This restriction shall not apply to meat of a cervid species that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached bare antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; unattached bare antlers or sheds; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides.

(6) No cervid or cervid body parts taken from the BZ shall be transported outside the CMZ. This restriction shall not apply to meat of a cervid species that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached bare antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; unattached bare antlers or sheds; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides.

(7) Deer processors or taxidermists shall apply for a DCNR Carcass Disposal Transport permit when transporting outside of the designated zones, as applicable. www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info

(8) Cervid rehabilitation shall not be permitted within a CMZ nor shall Cervid be transported out of a CMZ for rehabilitation purposes.

(9) Hunters may find DCNR Best Management Practices for carcass disposal at the following link: www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info.

(10) There shall be no baiting or supplemental feeding of wildlife within the CMZ. Grain, salt products, minerals, or consumable natural and manufactured products may not be placed or put out for wildlife with the following exceptions:

(a) Seed or grain used solely for normal agricultural, forest management, or wildlife food plot production purposes.

(b) Feed solely placed inside an active hog trap.

(c) Feed for attracting birds and squirrels with common bird and squirrel feeders placed within 100 feet of a residence or occupied building.

(d) Feed as permitted by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(11) Any licensed game breeder facility or permitted cervid facility within the CMZ will be placed on non-movement qualified status until testing can determine CWD prevalence. Facility operators will be required to check the integrity of the perimeter fencing daily. If CWD is not detected in any licensed game breeder facility or permitted cervid facility within the CMZ after initial prevalence testing is complete, then movement may be allowed within the CMZ upon notification by authorized Division personnel. The following also applies to any movement from a licensed game breeder facility or permitted cervid facility located within the CMZ:

(a) No cervid or cervid body parts taken from the HRZ shall be transported outside of the HRZ. This restriction shall not apply to meat of a cervid species that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached bare antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; unattached bare antlers or sheds; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides.

(b) No cervid or cervid body parts taken from the BZ shall be transported outside the CMZ. This restriction shall not apply to meat of a cervid species that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached bare antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; unattached bare antlers or sheds; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides.

Author: Christopher M. Blankenship

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§9-2-2, 9-2-6, 9-2-7, 9-2-12, 9-11-244.

History: **New Rule:** Published May 31, 2022; effective July 15, 2022. **Amended:** Published November 30, 2023; effective January 14, 2024. **Amended (ER):** Filed December 23, 2024; effective December 23, 2024; expires 120 days, April 22, 2025.

Penalty: As provided by law.