



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
2015 RESOLUTION  
119TH ANNUAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 22-28 2015 ~ PROVIDENCE, RI

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 9                      **APPROVED**

**SOURCE:**                                      **COMMITTEE ON CAPTIVE WILDLIFE AND ALTERNATIVE LIVESTOCK**

**SUBJECT MATTER:**                      **Chronic Wasting Disease Program Standards - Guidance on Responding to Chronic Wasting Disease Positive Herds**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

There is a need to review, revise and update the protocols for how the cervidae industry and state and federal agencies respond to chronic wasting disease (CWD) positive herds, trace back herds and trace forward herds. There is also a need to update and revise the protocols for how to release movement restrictions and reinstate herds to the appropriate herd certification program status. In order to (1) complete CWD investigations more quickly, (2) avoid unnecessary depopulation of farmed cervidae herds, and (3) avoid unnecessarily long quarantine periods, these protocols must include the use of live animal tests for CWD such as the rectal biopsy (rectoanal mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (RAMALT)).

**RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to amend the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Program Standards by deleting all language in Part B, "Guidance on Responding to CWD Affected Herds" and rewrite Part B under the guidance of a working group of state and federal regulatory officials and representatives from the farmed cervidae industry.

**INTERIM RESPONSE:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the U.S. Animal Health Association and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

VS plans to convene a working group composed of State, Federal, and industry representatives in the summer of 2016. This working group will identify sections of the chronic wasting disease Program Standards that need revision and will provide VS with options for how those sections could be revised.