

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 13 and 23 Combined **APPROVED**

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

SUBJECT MATTER: FUNDING FOR INDEMNITY OF CHRONIC WASTING
DISEASE POSITIVE OR EXPOSED ANIMALS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Administrator is authorized to pay for the purchase and destruction of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) positive animals, CWD exposed animals, and CWD suspect animals (9 CFR 55.2). Subject to available funding, the amount of the Federal payment for any such animals will be 95 percent of the appraised value established in accordance with 55.3 of this part, but the Federal payment shall not exceed \$3000.00 per animal.

In the past, the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services has provided funding to pay for the purchase of farmed cervids that tested positive for CWD, were exposed to CWD positive animals, or were suspect animals, in order to mitigate the risk of the spread of CWD to other captive and wild cervids. Federal funding for this purpose is no longer available and farmed cervidae producers are no longer indemnified for the destruction of their animals. Without federal funding for the purchase of destroyed animals, producers will suffer considerable financial damages.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to provide funding for a federal program to pay indemnity for animals euthanized because of infection or exposure to Chronic Wasting Disease.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association regarding chronic wasting disease (CWD) and appreciates the opportunity to respond. In fiscal year 2012, the congressional appropriation for the CWD program was reduced to approximately \$1.9 million; further reductions are expected for fiscal year 2013 pending congressional budget approval. Consequently, VS no longer has funds to pay

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
2012 RESOLUTION

indemnity for CWD positive, suspect, or exposed farmed cervids. VS has directed remaining program funds to the administrative costs associated with implementation of the national CWD herd certification program and will continue to advise States on development of herd plans to manage CWD affected herds.