

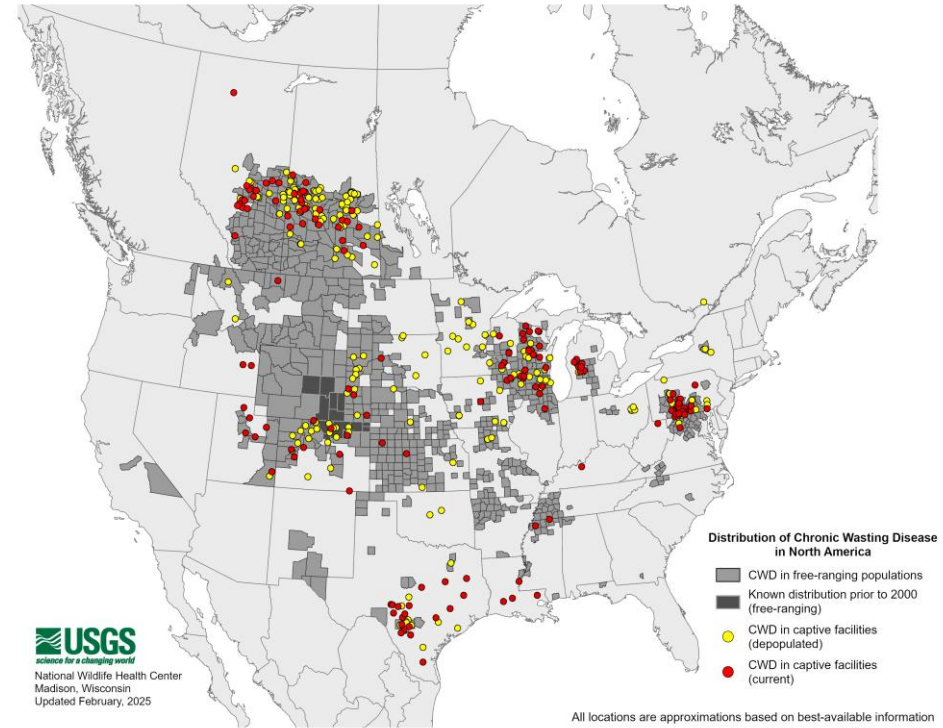
# CWD RULES UPDATE

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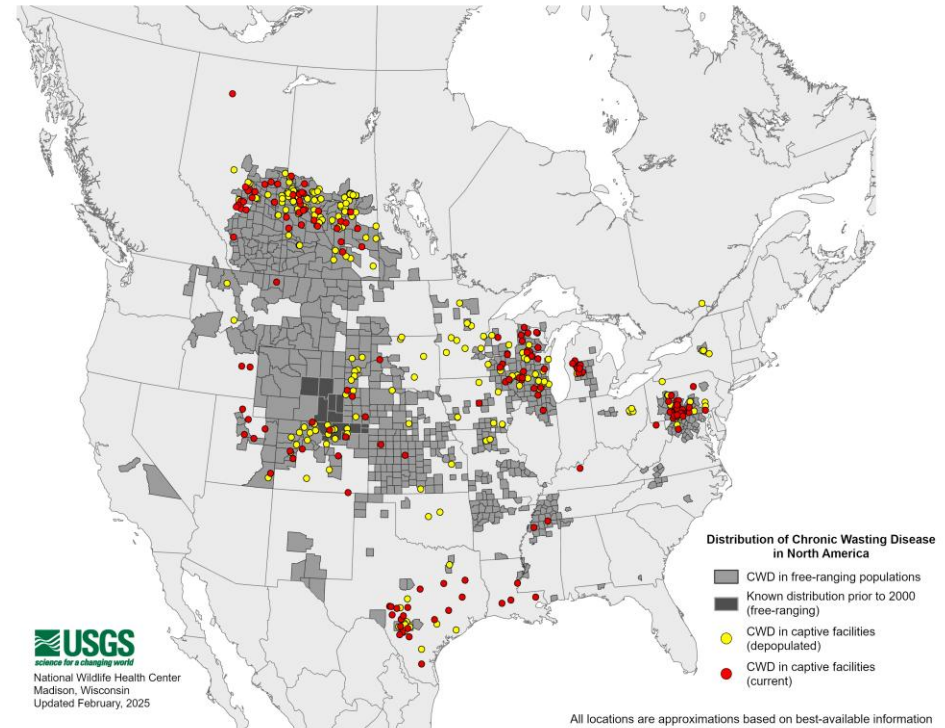
# Chronic Wasting Disease Overview

- CWD is a fatal, neurologic disease that affects deer, elk, and moose (cervids).
- The disease is spread directly or indirectly to animals, and by human facilitated movement.
- The disease is now present in 36 states and four Canadian provinces.



# Chronic Wasting Disease Overview

- CWD is the most important disease threatening North American cervids
- It is always fatal
- There is no vaccine or treatment
- Disease impacts can result in population decline



# Best Management Practices

Synthesizes existing knowledge on CWD to inform effective prevention, surveillance, and management.

Key recommendations:

- Dedicated surveillance; optimize sampling
- Restrict transport/movement of infectious material
- Prohibit or mitigate unnatural concentrations

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**AFWA Technical Report on Best Management Practices for Prevention, Surveillance, and Management of Chronic Wasting Disease**

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Washington, D. C.



**Citation:** Gillin, Colin M., and Mawdsley, Jonathan R. (eds.). 2018. AFWA Technical Report on Best Management Practices for Surveillance, Management and Control of Chronic Wasting Disease. Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Washington, D. C. 111 pp.

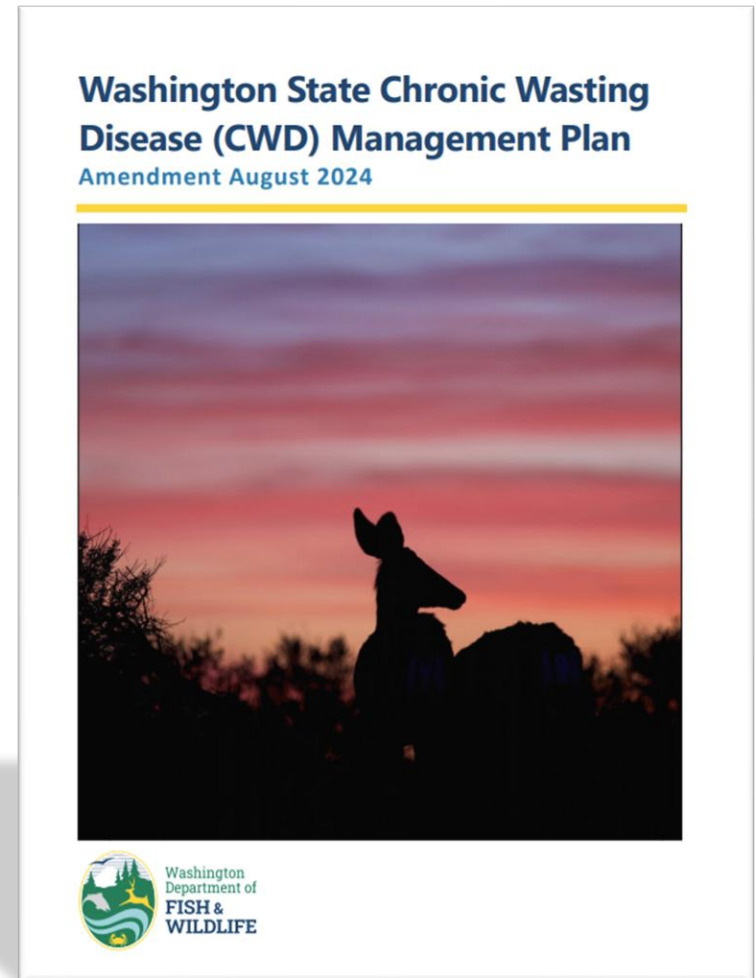


# CWD Management Plan

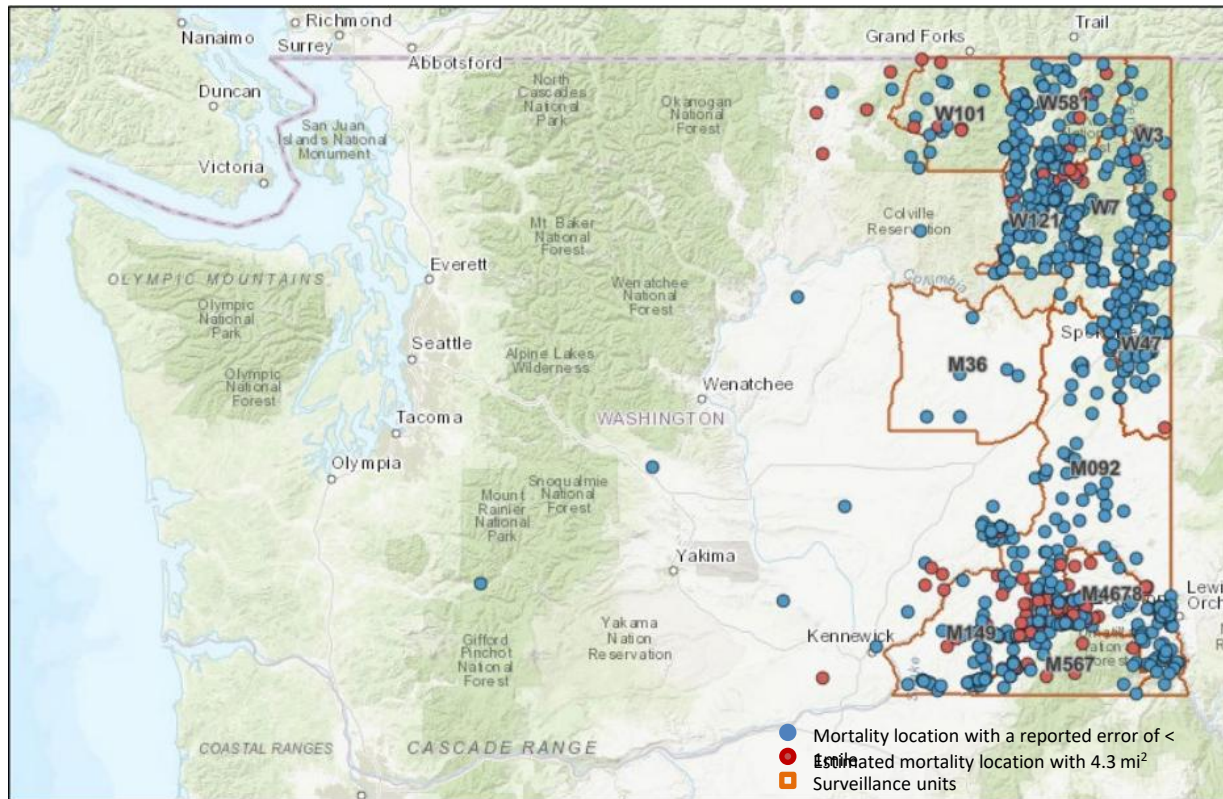
## Adopted CWD Plan in December 2021

- Background of the disease
- Public outreach and communication
- Risk assessment and minimization
- Initiate pre-detection surveillance
- Initial Emergency Response\*, strategies for:
  - Disease prevalence and distribution
  - Containment
  - Carcass disposal

If CWD is detected, goal is to contain the disease



## Samples collected July 2023 to June 2024



## Pre-detection surveillance

Opportunistically started in 1995

Initiated formal CWD disease surveillance program in 2021 focused in areas bordering Idaho.

Objective is early detection; 95% confidence in detecting disease at 1% prevalence.

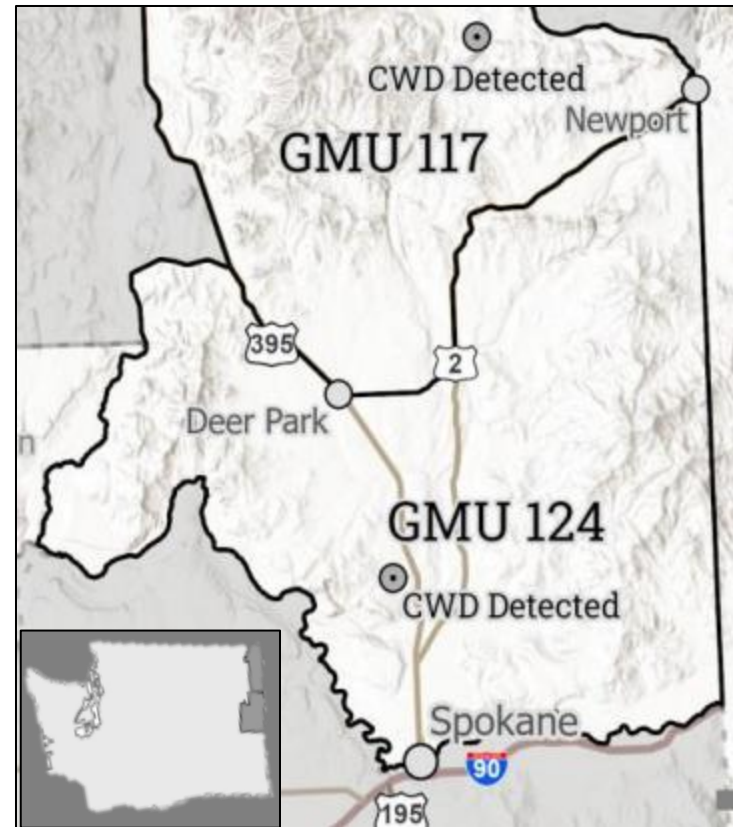
Program has been voluntary and has not met sampling objectives.





# Initial Detection

- First Detection July 2024
- Additional detections in October and November 2024 hunting seasons
- Emergency rules enacted August 2024:
  - Mandatory testing of salvage and harvested cervids (GMUs 124, 127, 130)
  - Restrict cervid carcass transportation (Region 1)
  - Ban on cervid baiting (GMUs 124, 127, 130)

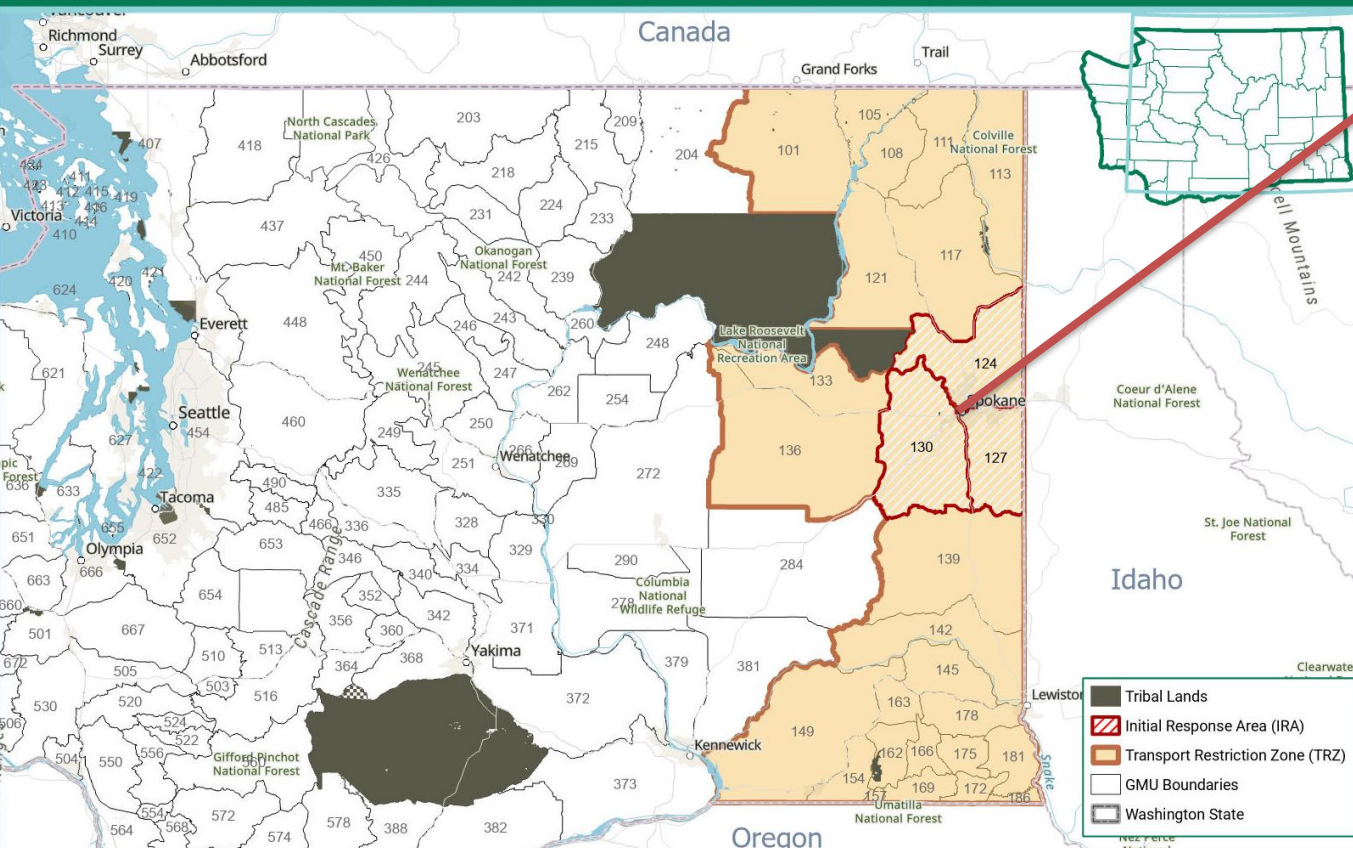


# Emergency Rules

## Chronic Wasting Disease Management Areas

WDFW CWD Detection Response

Initial Response Area with mandatory CWD testing and Transport Restriction Zone for deer, elk, and moose carcasses.



### Initial Response Area (IRA) emergency rules:

1. Mandatory testing of harvested/salvaged deer, elk, and moose
2. Baiting for hunting deer, elk, and moose prohibited
3. Urine-based scents/lures for hunting deer, elk, and moose prohibited
4. Public feeding deer, elk, and moose prohibited



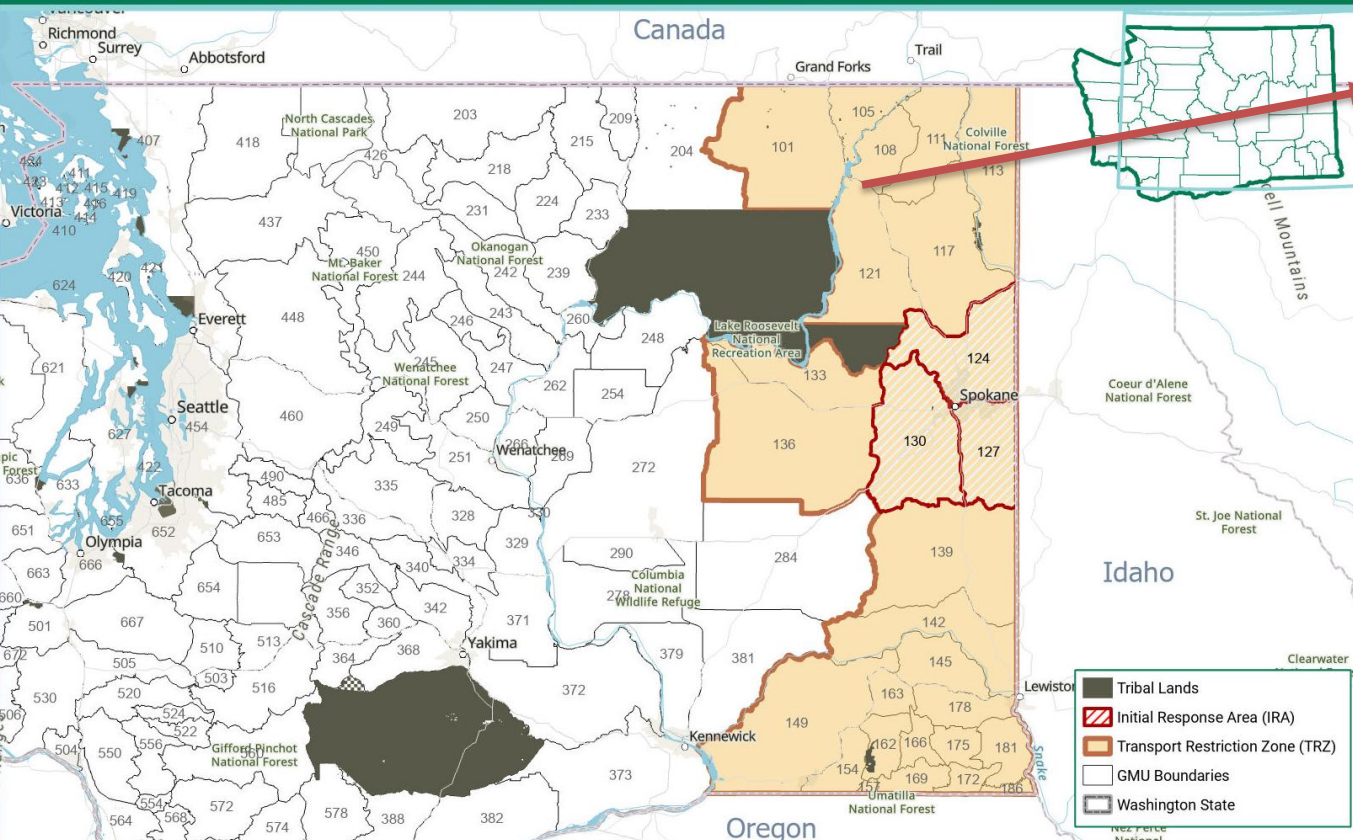


# Emergency Rules

## Chronic Wasting Disease Management Areas

WDFW CWD Detection Response

Initial Response Area with mandatory CWD testing and Transport Restriction Zone for deer, elk, and moose carcasses.

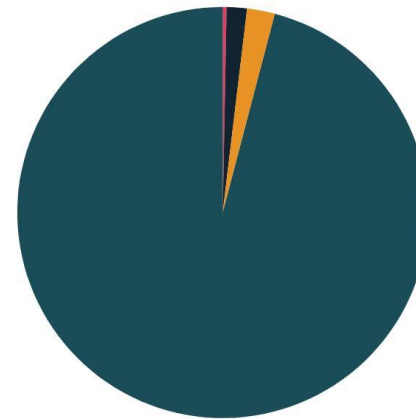
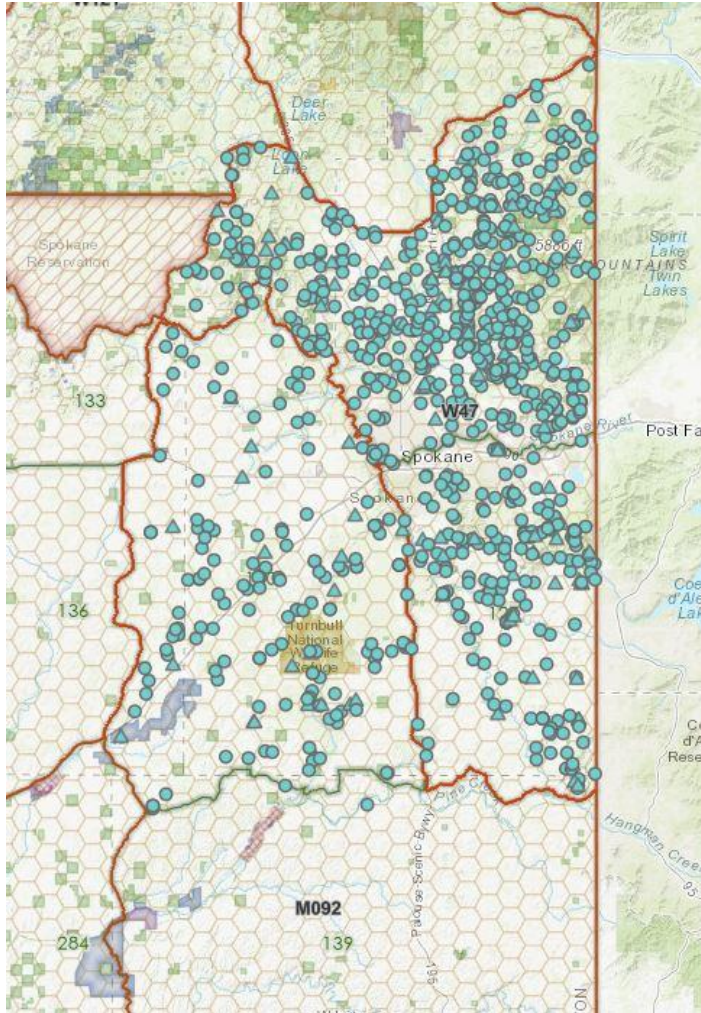






**Transportation Restriction Zone (TRZ) emergency rule:** Can only transport outside of 100 series GMUS meat that is deboned, finished taxidermy mounts, heads/skull plates with all soft tissue removed, and capes without heads attached.



# IRA Testing Results

## 1,000 Samples

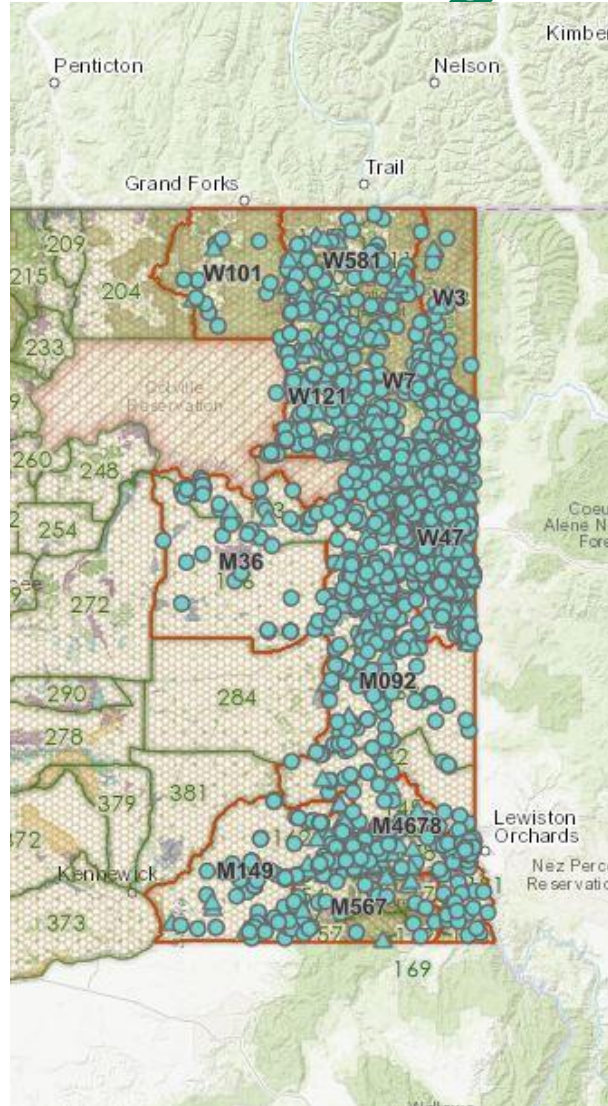


	CWD Detected	- 3
	Pending	- 16
	Unable to test sample	- 22
	CWD Not Detected	- 959

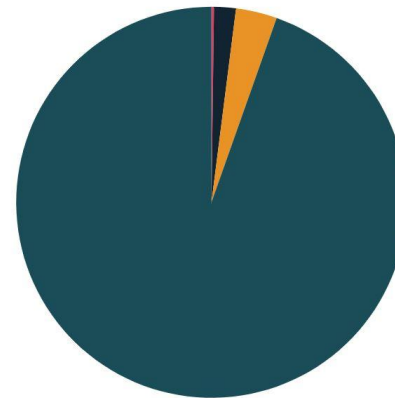








# TRZ Testing Results



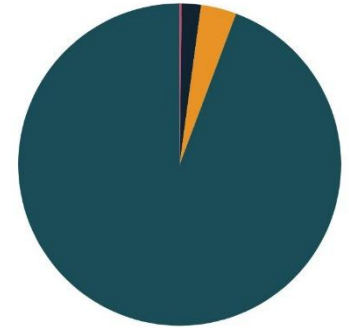
## 1,938 Samples







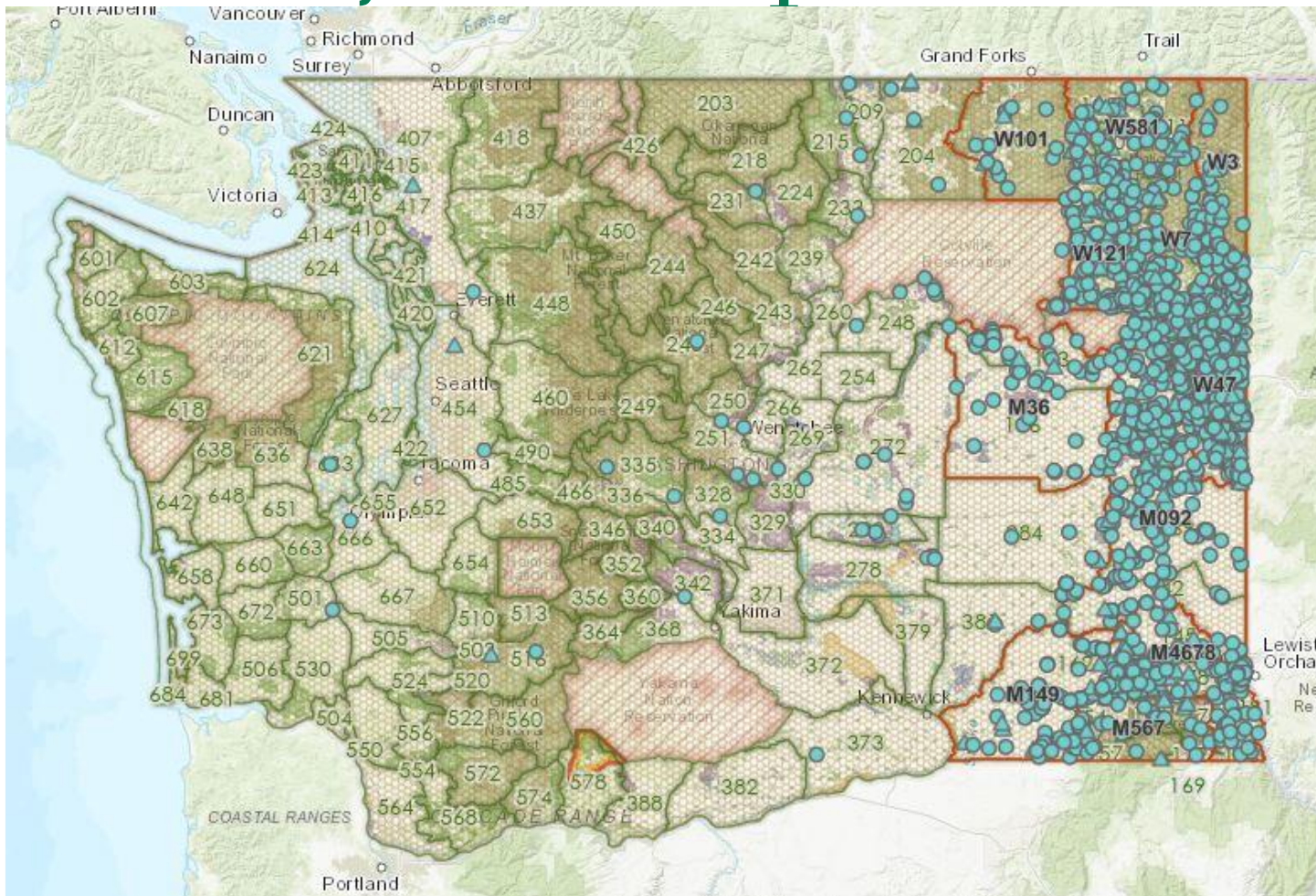
	CWD Detected	- 4
	Pending	- 35
	Unable to test sample	- 66
	CWD Not Detected	- 1.8k



# Statewide Testing Results 2,019 Samples

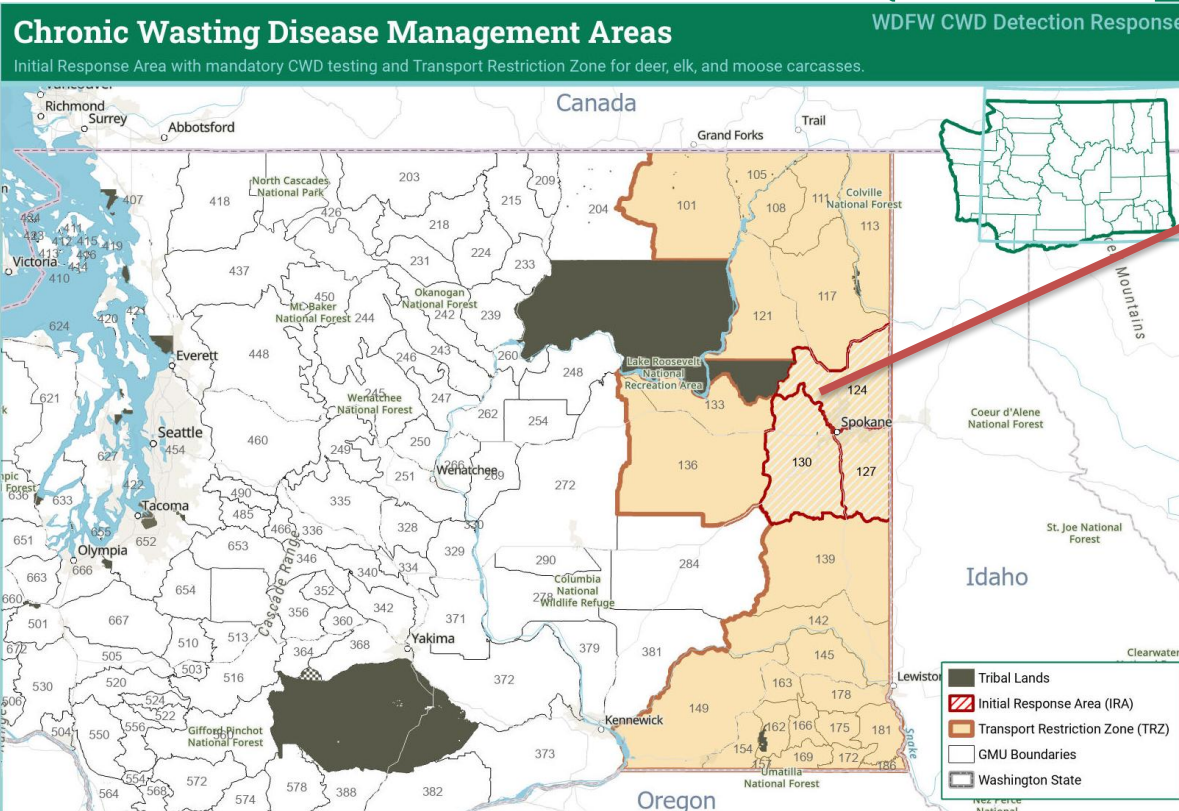


	CWD Detected	- 4
	Pending	- 39
	Unable to test sample	- 72
	CWD Not Detected	- 1.9k





# Permanent Rules (Transportation)



**Transportation Restrictions WAC 220-413-030:** Can only transport outside of any WDFW Region where CWD has been detected meat that is deboned, finished taxidermy mounts, heads/skull plates with all soft tissue removed, and capes without heads attached.

## Rationale:

- Augments existing regulations to restrict importation and movement of CWD infectious material.
- Intended to limit emergence and spread of CWD, consistent with AFWA BMPs.





# Permanent Rules (Testing)

220-400-040 Mandatory testing of salvaged deer, elk and moose in any WDFW Management Region where CWD has been detected.

## **Rationale:**

- Enables early detection and effective surveillance.
- Successful management of the disease is more likely when prevalence is low and environmental contamination by prions is minimal.

GMUs 124, 127, 130 sampling: 2023 (voluntary) = 12  
2024 (mandatory) = 57



# Permanent Rules (Testing)

220-413-100 Mandatory testing of harvested deer, elk and moose in any WDFW Management Region where CWD has been detected.

## **Rationale:**

- Enables early detection and effective surveillance.
- Successful management of the disease is more likely when prevalence is low and environmental contamination by prions is minimal.

GMUs 124, 127, 130 sampling: 2023 (voluntary) = 39  
2024 (mandatory) = 797



# Permanent Rules (Baiting)

220-414-030 Illegal to use bait or scents derived from cervid urine or glandular tissue while hunting deer, elk and statewide.

## **Rationale:**

- Baiting artificially increases cervid concentrations, which increases the potential for disease transmission.
- Where CWD is present, baiting can facilitate frequent and sustained exposure to prions through animal contact and prion-contaminated sites, resulting in greater probability of infection.
- Detection of CWD is dependent on robust surveillance which is currently limited to eastern Washington, mitigating high-risk transmission practices prevents unknown detections from spreading.



# Permanent Rules (Feeding)

220-440-260 Illegal to feed deer, elk and moose statewide.

## **Rationale:**

- Feeding artificially increases cervid concentrations, which increases the potential for disease transmission.
- Where CWD is present, feeding can facilitate frequent and sustained exposure to prions through animal contact and prion-contaminated sites, resulting in greater probability of infection.
- Detection of CWD is dependent on robust surveillance which is currently limited to eastern Washington, mitigating high-risk transmission practices prevents unknown detections from spreading.



# Literature resources

- Gillin, Colin M., and Mawdsley, Jonathan R. (eds.). 2018. AFWA Technical Report on Best Management Practices for Surveillance, Management and Control of Chronic Wasting Disease. Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Washington, D. C. 111 pp.
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**Questions?**