

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Exposed Herd and Premises Management Plan

Herd Owner: Jeff Lerwill

Premises Owner: Jeff Lerwill

Doing Business as: Rocky Mountain Elk Ranch

Herd/ Premises Address: 3100 W 6960 S Rexburg, ID 83440 (Riverside facility)

GPS Coordinates: 43°43'41.8"N 111°50'24.5"W

Purpose of Herd Plan:

This herd plan establishes an agreement between the following herd/ premises owner:

Jeff Lerwill (HERD OWNER)

and the official agencies: **Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA)** and the **United States Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (USDA APHIS VS)** for the management of CWD exposed animals and premises and as one condition for the herd owner to operate and manage herd operations for the duration of the Hold Order period. This plan establishes measures to be implemented that are intended to minimize risks associated with the transmission of the CWD infectious agent from the exposed animals and premises to other uninfected populations of susceptible species.

History:

On February 28, 2023, the HERD OWNER imported sixty-one (61) elk into his Riverside facility that originated from 41218 Range Road 22 Bentley, Alberta. On March 27, 2023 USDA was notified that CWD test results from the herd of origin were found to be positive on a recently deceased cervid. The sixty-one animals imported to the Riverside facility were determined to have all been in close proximity and present on the same facility as the animal that tested positive for CWD.

Upon notification of the laboratory findings, the premises was placed under a State-issued quarantine that restricted movement of susceptible animals on or off the premises. (Hold Order CWD 23-3-28SL). The status of the sixty-one imported elk, as well as all resident cervids present at the Riverside facility at the time of import, are considered High Risk Exposed to CWD.

Inventory:

An inventory of the elk on this premises was completed and reported by ISDA Livestock Investigator Kelly Mortensen on April 24, 2023. (see attached; highlighted IDs are the imported cervids from the CWD-affected premise in Alberta).

Categorization of Premises:

The premises is currently best characterized as having **"No to Minimal Environmental Contamination"** as defined in the CWD Program Standards, Appendix IV: Guidelines on Environmental Contamination and Recommended Procedures for Disinfection and Decontamination of Premises. See excerpt below:

“No to Minimal Environmental Contamination”: A premises where there is little evidence that there has been transmission on the premises and there is no evidence of longstanding infection of the herd. The number of cases is minimal and history and records indicate that the animals likely contracted the disease on another premises (i.e., purchased or trace animals). The animals are preclinical at the time of CWD diagnosis or are early in the clinical course of the disease.

The categorization of the premises could change depending on diagnostic findings and better understanding of the actual disease prevalence following depopulation of the herd.

The owner of the exposed premises agrees to the following:

- (a) To, upon request, make herd records available for inspection or copying by APHIS VS representatives and State representatives, given reasonable prior notice and to assist with the epidemiological investigation related to individual animal information, animal movements, high risk animals, etc.
- (b) To request that the breed associations and registries, livestock markets, and packers disclose records to APHIS representatives or State representatives. (Note: these records will be used to identify source herds and to trace exposed animals including high-risk animals.)
- (c) To clean and disinfect the premises as outlined or referenced in the CWD Program Standards, Appendix IV: Guidelines on Environmental Contamination and Recommended Procedures for Disinfection and Decontamination of Premises;
- (d) To maintain the premises as outlined or referenced in this document.

Fencing Requirements:

The HERD OWNER must maintain fences in accordance with APHIS and State regulations and adequate to prevent the ingress and egress of cervids until all sixty-one (61) cervids imported from Alberta have died and tested negative for CWD OR the quarantine has remained in place, in accordance with all state and federal regulations for a period not less than sixty (60) months. Specifically, pursuant to IDAPA 02.04.19.505.06, the HERD OWNER “must construct a second perimeter fence that meets the requirements for perimeter fence, as provided in Section 102, such that no domestic cervidae on the domestic cervidae ranch can get within ten (10) feet of the original exterior perimeter fence or as approved by the Administrator.” The HERD OWNER agrees to allow inspections of these fences by APHIS or State representatives.

Movement Restrictions:

If the HERD OWNER chooses to relocate any cervids from the Riverside facility to another one of the registered cervid premises currently under the same ownership, he MUST 1) contact ISDA in advance of the movement and receive written authorization; 2) Schedule an ISDA or USDA employee to physically verify the identification of all cervids in the shipment and issue a movement permit; 3) Complete construction of a secondary fence at the destination facility, in accordance with the above listed

requirements, PRIOR to the introduction of any Riverside cervids to any new facility. 4) Any additional cervids introduced to the HERD OWNER's facility that fall under the Hold Order provisions shall be immediately assimilated into the existing herd and be subject to all provisions of the Hold Order.

If the HERD OWNER chooses to move any cervids from the Riverside facility directly to a slaughter plant, he MUST 1) contact ISDA in advance of the movement and receive written authorization; 2) Schedule an ISDA or USDA employee to physically verify the identification of all cervids in the shipment and issue a movement permit.

Other Requirements

With proper notification, the Owners shall, during normal business hours, allow State and/or APHIS officials to enter the premises to inspect the facilities, property, fences, inventory records, and animals as the State and/or APHIS officials consider necessary to verify compliance with the provisions of this herd plan.

Once all sixty-one (61) of the CWD-exposed cervids, imported to the Riverside facility on February 28, 2023, have been confirmed to have tested negative for CWD, using a USDA-approved CWD test specific for elk, the facility will be eligible for Hold Order release. If any cervids at the Riverside facility test positive for CWD during the Hold Order period, this management plan must be updated. Upon the death (natural or harvested) of any of the cervids located at the Riverside facility, the HERD OWNER must collect tissue from 100% of the deceased animal(s) and send to an accredited laboratory for CWD testing within ten (10) days of the death of the animal. The HERD OWNER is responsible for collecting, packaging and shipping all CWD test samples to an accredited laboratory for testing, as well as the associated testing expenses. All test results must be forwarded to ISDA.



Herd Owner

11/26/23

Date

 Digitally signed by Scott Leibsle
DVM
Date: 2023.11.28 12:17:41 -07'00'

State Veterinarian, Idaho State Dept. Agriculture

Date

Other State Representative (if appropriate)

Date

CYNTHIA GABORICK
Digitally signed by CYNTHIA GABORICK
Date: 2023.11.28 12:29:52 -07'00'

[insert State name] Area Veterinarian In Charge, USDA APHIS VS Date