

RESOLUTION #4
STOPPING THE SPREAD OF CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)
IN THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, white-tailed and mule deer are a valued wildlife resource throughout the Midwest and United States; and

WHEREAS, chronic wasting disease is a serious disease of elk, white-tailed and mule deer; and

WHEREAS, the distribution of chronic wasting disease in wild deer is currently limited to Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of chronic wasting disease to white-tailed deer populations in the Midwestern states could be devastating to deer populations and states' ability to manage deer through hunting; and

WHEREAS, the harvest and transportation of elk, white-tailed or mule deer from CWD endemic disease areas in Colorado, Wyoming, or Nebraska is a possible mode of transmission for spreading the disease; and

WHEREAS, wildlife agencies in states with chronic wasting disease should take all steps necessary to limit the spread of the disease; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies strongly urges the states of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska to take necessary steps to limit the spread of chronic wasting disease.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage the states of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska to enact regulations that prohibit hunters from removing unprocessed deer or elk from the chronic wasting disease endemic area and that only boned meat and cleaned skulls are allowed to be removed from the chronic wasting disease endemic areas of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska.

Passed by Board of Directors of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies at the 68th Annual meeting in Saint Paul, Minnesota on July 17th, 2001, with amendments.