

RESOLUTION #5
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE IN CAPTIVE CERVID FACILITIES

WHEREAS, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is potentially a major fatal health threat to North American's wild cervid species; and

WHEREAS, there exists no cure, live test or early detection method for CWD; and

WHEREAS, CWD has been diagnosed in privately-owned elk on a number of game farms in Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Saskatchewan since 1996 causing great concern for further spread of CWD to both native and captive cervid; and

WHEREAS, the USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS-VS) has developed a proposed national program for control and eradication of CWD in captive cervid facilities; and

WHEREAS, controls on import/export of captive cervids vary from state to state with no national standard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies encourages the IAFWA to support and promote USDA's national program directed at controlling and/or eradicating Chronic Wasting Disease through the establishment of national standards for the operation and maintenance of captive cervid facilities to include appropriate fencing requirements and adequate health certification procedures for preventing the further spread of CWD through the translocation and/or shipment of cervid species across state lines.

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.