

## Fiscal Year 2018 Farmed Cervidae Herds in Minnesota

Species	Herds	Animals	Average Herd Size	Certified Herds
Elk	87	3623	42	58
White-Tailed Deer	238	2052	9	84
Mixed Species	70	2331	33	27
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>8006</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>169</b>

End of SFY 2017: 10,607 farmed cervids in Minnesota.

## SFY 2018 Farmed Cervidae Activities and Testing Summary

- **468 Farmed Cervidae inspections**
  - Each herd inspected at least once annually, with follow up and re-inspections as needed
- **82 Compliance / Enforcement actions**
  - 9 Civil Penalties
  - 73 Notices of Violation
- **1849 Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Tests Performed**
  - 1733 Not Detected
  - 9 Positive
  - 107 Unsuccessful samples (wrong tissue, unacceptable or decomposed tissue)
- **1940 Tuberculosis Tests**
- **1605 Brucellosis Tests**
- **Interstate Cervid Imports**
  - 113 Total animals:
    - **49 White-tailed deer (13 Shipments)**
      - Wisconsin: 4 shipments, 17 animals
      - Iowa: 4 shipments, 12 animals
      - Pennsylvania: 3 shipments, 18 animals
      - Oklahoma: 1 shipment, 1 animal
      - South Dakota: 1 shipment, 1 animal
    - **44 Elk (4 shipments)**
      - Wisconsin: 1 shipment, 32 animals
      - Michigan: 2 shipments, 2 animals
      - Kansas: 1 shipment, 10 animals
  - **5 Reindeer (5 shipments)**
    - Illinois: 2 shipments, 2 animals
    - South Dakota: 1 shipment, 1 animal
    - Washington: 1 shipment, 1 animal
    - Wisconsin: 1 shipment, 1 animal
  - **Miscellaneous (3 shipments)**
    - New York: 1 shipment, 3 misc. cervid species
    - North Dakota: 1 shipment, 1 mule deer, 1 muntjac
    - Missouri: 1 shipment, 10 Pudu

Many program changes have been implemented in the last year. In 2017, producer education materials were developed to explain the current program regulations and provide instruction on CWD sampling procedures. A CWD sample collection training program will start in 2019 for producers and veterinarians. The program will also be implementing a physical animal inventory requirement for all herds to be performed every 3 years.

Additional hunter-harvested wild deer have been identified as CWD positive in Southeast Minnesota in 2017 and 2018. The Board has established a CWD endemic area in Southeast Minnesota including all locations within ten miles of a confirmed case of CWD in the wild deer population. The Board will expand the endemic area accordingly if additional positive wild deer are identified in the state. The current CWD endemic area includes 21 farmed cervid herds. The Board places movement restrictions on farmed cervid herds within the endemic area. Together with

DNR, BAH has drafted a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to coordinate data sharing, escape response, and response to CWD in the wild and farmed populations.

The sole CWD monitored farmed cervid herd in Minnesota was established in 2012 as a breeding farm and hunting preserve in Crow Wing County. The farm has 106 animals on the site as of December 28, 2018. The herd was first identified as CWD infected in December 2016 when two white-tailed deer tested positive for CWD. The herd has been quarantined and is operating under a CWD Herd Plan. In 2017, 62 animals were harvested and tested CWD Not Detected. In 2018, 32 animals have been harvested and tested for CWD. Of these, seven have tested positive for CWD. The Board is working with USDA to establish an appraisal for indemnity and plans to make an official offer of indemnity to the producer if federal funds become available.

In November 2017, a small white-tailed deer herd in Southeast Minnesota was found to be infected with CWD. The herd was depopulated and 7 of the 8 animals tested positive for CWD. Taxidermy was found to be the greatest risk factor for introduction of CWD into this deer herd. This was Minnesota's 8th farmed cervid herd found to be infected with CWD since 2002.

## SFY 2018 Escape Information

Animal Type	Escaped	Returned	Killed	Lost	Reason for Escape
WTD	12	0	9	3	Tree fell on fence.
WTD	3	2	1	0	Dog outside fence chasing animals. Fawns went through wire.
WTD	1	1	0	0	Gate left open.
Elk	1	1			Gate left open by producer.
Elk	1	1	0	0	Second escape within 2 weeks. This time, vet on farm working with animals when it escaped from chute.
WTD	1	1	0	0	Through fence on west end, recaptured and harvested.
WTD	1	0	1	0	Escaped in the spring when dogs killed fawns. Didn't get reported until Fall 2017.
WTD	6	2	4	0	Coyote got under fence and chased deer.
Elk	10	0	10	0	Gate left open by visitors.
WTD	1	0	0	1	Owners abandoned property and deer not in enclosure. They may have taken deer with them, but no information is known.
WTD	1	0	1	0	Doe may have jumped fence or gate left open.
WTD	8	8	0	0	Tornado destroyed fence.
WTD	8	6	2	0	Gate left open by person taking care of animals.
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>	

## SFY 2018 Escape and CWD Testing/Results Information by Farm Type

Farm Type	Escaped	Returned	Killed	Lost	Number Killed, CWD Tested and Results
10 WTD Farms	42	20	18	4	12 Not Detected, 2 Unacceptable, 3 not tested, 1 = <1 year old
3 Elk Farms	12	2	10	0	7 Not Detected, 3 = <1 year old

MINNESOTA BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Healthy Animals for Healthy People and Communities

625 Robert Street North | St. Paul, MN 55155 | 651-296-2942 | [www.mn.gov/bah](http://www.mn.gov/bah) | [farmed.cervidae@state.mn.us](mailto:farmed.cervidae@state.mn.us)