

Subject Farmed Cervidae

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Overview

This bill modifies a number of provisions regarding farmed Cervidae (ex. deer and elk).

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Running at large prohibited.
Requires the owner of farmed Cervidae (e.g. deer, elk, and moose) to immediately notify the DNR of an escaped animal if the animal is not returned/captured within 24 hours. Allows a licensed hunter to kill and possess an escaped farmed Cervidae without being liable to the owner for the loss of the animal. Requires farmed Cervidae killed by a hunter or the DNR to be tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD) at the owner's expense. Provides an effective date of September 1, 2021, for the provision. |
| 2 | Fencing
Requires perimeter fencing for farmed Cervidae to be constructed and maintained to prevent physical contact between farmed Cervidae and free-roaming Cervidae beginning September 1, 2022. |
| 3 | Fencing; commercial herds.
Requires commercially farmed white-tailed deer to be confined by two or more perimeter fences of at least 120 inches high beginning September 1, 2022. |
| 4 | Identification.
Requires identification of farmed white-tailed deer to include certain contact information of the owner. Provides an effective date of September 1, 2022, for the provision. |

Section	Description
5	<p>Mandatory registration.</p> <p>Prohibits new white-tailed deer farm registrations effective the day following final enactment.</p>
6	<p>Mandatory surveillance for chronic wasting disease; depopulation.</p> <p>Prohibits the movement of farmed white-tailed deer from any premises to another location. Requires fencing on premises where chronic wasting disease (CWD) has been detected to be maintained for ten years (current law requires the fencing for five years) and prohibits raising farmed Cervidae on the premises for at least ten years.</p>
7	<p>Importing Cervidae carcasses.</p> <p>Expands a provision prohibiting the importation of Cervidae carcasses (e.g. deer, elk, and moose). Under current law, a person cannot import a hunter-harvested Cervidae carcass unless it has been processed to meet certain requirements to ensure it has been cleaned of all brain tissue and the spinal column (e.g. cut and wrapped meat, finished taxidermy mounts, or quartered without the spinal column or head attached). This section would expand the provision to all Cervidae carcasses, not just hunter-harvested ones. The section would become effective the day following final enactment.</p>
8	<p>Transfer of duties; farmed Cervidae.</p> <p>Transfers oversight of cervid farms from the Board of Animal Health (BAH) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) effective August 1, 2021. This transfer would follow a standard statutory process whereby existing farmed cervid statutes and rules would remain in effect and the corresponding BAH personnel would transfer to the DNR.</p>
9	<p>Adopt-a-dumpster program; appropriation.</p> <p>Appropriates \$250,000 in fiscal year 2022 from the general fund to the DNR for the CWD adopt-a-dumpster program.</p>
10	<p>Revisor instruction.</p> <p>Requires the Revisor to modify Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules to conform to the transfer of oversight in section 8.</p>



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