

Chronic Wasting Disease Management ACT (H.R. 4454)

Date of Introduction: November 21, 2017

Lead Sponsor: Congressman Ron Kind (D-WI)

Original Cosponsors: Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI)

Committee of Jurisdiction: House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture;
House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands



BACKGROUND :

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a specific disease affecting only cervids such as deer, elk, and moose. A slow and progressive disease with a lengthy incubation period, infected deer, elk, and moose may not present visible symptoms of the disease until years after the time of infection. At this time there is no way to conclusively identify the presence of CWD within an animal until a necropsy has been performed, and there are no treatments or vaccines available.

The lack of definitive information regarding CWD, and its potential to impact large portions of North America's cervid populations, establishes a critical need for additional resources to be made available to the state and tribal agencies dealing with this disease. As it currently stands, state fish and wildlife agencies are forced to divert funding from various other conservation projects in order to address the threat of CWD. As a result, surveillance and research efforts related to CWD are underfunded, and come at the expense of other conservation efforts.

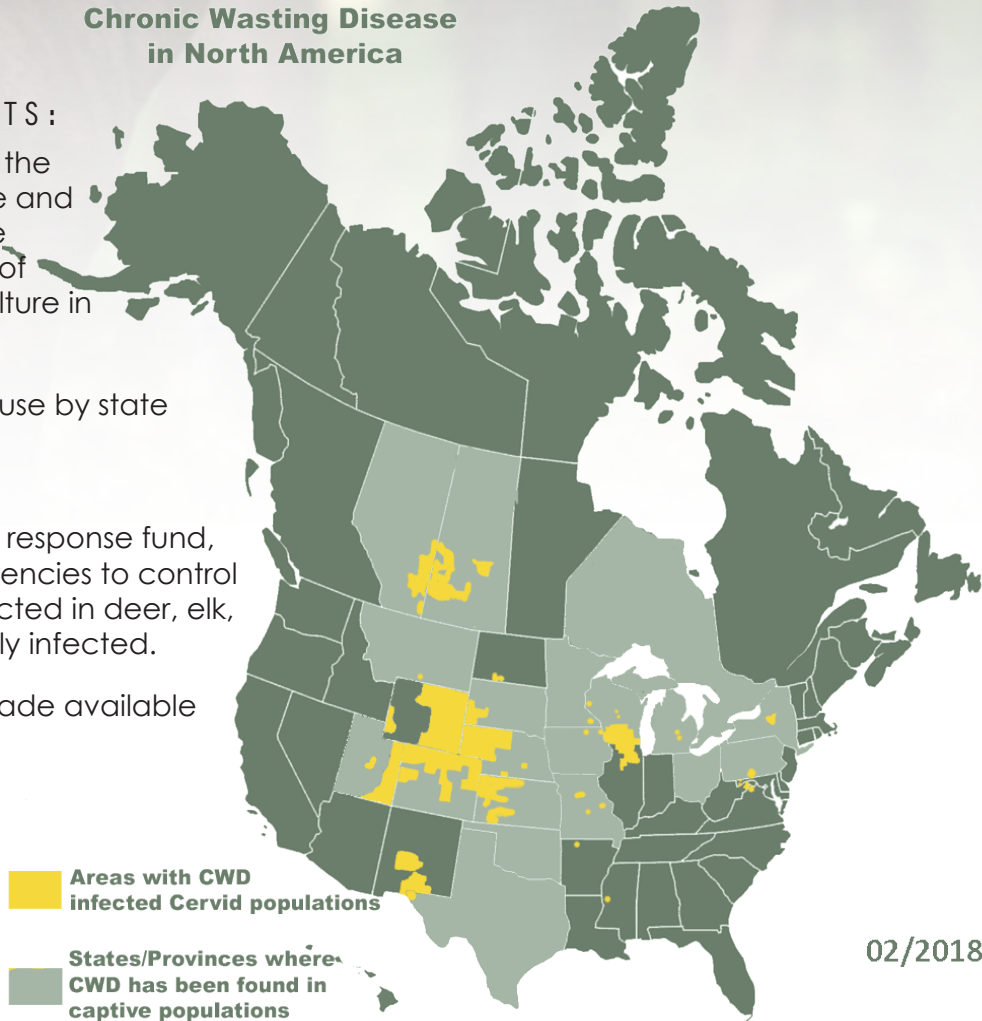
Chronic Wasting Disease in North America

LEGISLATIVE GOALS AND EFFECTS:

\$35 MILLION will be appropriated for the Secretary of Agriculture to support state and tribal efforts to manage and control the spread of CWD. An administrative cap of 3% is applied to the Secretary of Agriculture in administering these grants.

- **\$20 MILLION** is to be set aside for use by state fish and wildlife agencies.
- **\$5 MILLION** for tribal agencies.
- **\$10 MILLION** allocated to a rapid response fund, which will go to state and tribal agencies to control the spread of CWD when it is detected in deer, elk, or moose populations not previously infected.

An additional **\$10 MILLION** will be made available for applied research on CWD.



TO COSPONSOR: Ethan Holmes
Congressman Kind's Office
ethan.holmes@mail.house.gov
202-225-5506

TO LEARN MORE: Brent Miller
States Program Administrator &
Senior Director, Northeastern States
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
bmiller@congressionalsportsmen.org
802-430-7171

DID YOU KNOW? 50% OF STATES HAVE NOW DETECTED CWD WITHIN THEIR BORDERS AND SEVERAL STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES HAVE FULL-TIME STAFF TO DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH CWD.

02/2018