FSP 3 - CWD Testing of Escaped Farm-Raised Deer Enforcement Protocol

s. ATCP 10.52, Wis. Adm. Code establishes Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) testing requirements, for test eligible farm-raised deer. In this section it sets forth specific testing levels based on the herd status, circumstances of death and location of death.

An escaped deer, that is a test eligible deer, does not qualify for any of the reduced levels of testing established under s. ATCP 10.52(b) therefore if a test eligible farm-raised deer is killed outside of the farm-raised deer fence (escaped) and the owner of the farm-raised deer is known, the farm-raised deer keeper is required to have the deer tested for CWD. This deer would not be eligible for any of the CWD testing exemptions listed within ATCP 10 (i.e., shipped to slaughter or killed on a hunting preserve).

A test eligible farm-raised deer is defined as follows:

- Non CWD Herd Status enrolled herds: a farm-raised deer that is at least 16 months old.
- CWD Herd Status enrolled herds: a farm-raised deer that is at least 12 months old

All farm-raised deer escapes of test eligible farm-raised deer must be sampled and tested. The sampling, testing and submission must be completed in compliance with s. ATCP 10.52, Wis. Adm. Code.

Failure to sample and submit a test eligible farm-raised deer for CWD testing in compliance with s. 10.52, Wis. Adm. Code, as such failure to have CWD test performed on an escaped farm-raised deer may result in compliance action, see FSP 1.

Often times a DNR Conservation Warden is the person that is made aware of an escaped farm-raised deer that has been killed, either by the Conservation Warden or someone else. Below is the recommended protocol for Conservation Wardens that has been provided to DNR:

If a DNR Conservation Warden is contacted about, or involved in, an investigation about an escaped farm-raised deer that has been killed in the wild, and the owner of the farm-raised deer is known, the Conservation Warden will return the deer to the farm-raised deer keeper so the “keeper” can have the deer tested for CWD if the farm-raised deer is a test eligible deer. The Conservation Warden could inform the “keeper” that the deer is required to be tested in accordance with DATCP administrative code. Any questions could be referred to the DATCP CWD Program Manager. The Conservation Warden will also provide the DATCP CWD Program Manager with all identification numbers of the deer and any other known circumstances; such as, owner of deer, date deer was killed, and date deer was returned to the “keeper” for testing. DATCP will monitor the situation to confirm the deer was tested and pursue compliance action if the deer is not tested for CWD.

Effective Date: 12/30/12
Signed: [Signature]

Dr. Robert G. Ehlenfeldt, State Veterinarian