Surveillance of Harvested Deer Heads for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

Mandatory submission of all deer heads is required from WMUs 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 138, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166, 200, 202, 203, 204, **206, 208, 228**, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, **240**, **242**, 254, 256, 258, 500, 728 and 730 for CWD testing. (bold numbers NEW for 2017)

Also, please submit deer heads from three WMUs of Special Concern (250, 252 and 260). These units will be mandatory in 2018.

Precise location of each kill is required, either GPS or Sec/Twp/Rng, in addition to the WMU.

A CWD-labelling system provides a unique identification number of each head submitted. Heads should be kept frozen and dropped off at any Fish and Wildlife office or, during rifle seasons, at any of the 24-hr freezers located in or near the CWD risk area. Green CWD labels and instructions are available when you submit the head.

Results:

When your results are available, a message will be sent to the email address in your AlbertaRELM account.

Although CWD is not known to infect humans, health authorities advise against eating CWD-infected deer.

A usable sample consists of the intact head with or without the antler skull plate*.

Please provide all the information requested on BOTH SIDES of the green CWD label so that we can complete each data record and get results back to you in a timely manner. Precise location of the kill is required, either GPS or Sec/Twp/Rng, in addition to the WMU.

• Mature males with the antlers and skull plate removed are still usable for testing. If possible, please do not shoot deer in the head.

For more information, including a map of 24-hr freezers available during rifle seasons, visit www.aep.alberta.ca or contact your local Fish and Wildlife office or Dr. M. Pybus 780-427-3462 (for toll free, dial 310-0000 first).

Thank you for your continued support of this important program.

