



CWD MANAGEMENT

November 12, 2019

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to our CWD sampling efforts! We collected 770 samples last week (10/30 – 11/5/2019) for a season total of 1787 samples since 04/01/2019. We received results from the first week of the general hunting season with new suspects/positives including: 10 WTD in/around Libby, 1 MD in Region 5, and 3 MD and 2 WTD in Region 6, including a new detection in HD 690, leading to an [expanded CWD Management Zone there](#). Existing or pending results are publicly available online (fwp.mt.gov/cwd).

Below is a brief update on where we are with respect to our sampling goals, including maps and figures. We have also included a list of general reminders for those involved in sampling efforts. We will send weekly updates like this one throughout the general hunting season. **These results are considered preliminary.**

Glen Doubek (179), Julie Herrick (145), John Randolph (120), Samantha Treece (108), Elizabeth Wyatt-Pescador (84), and Chrissy Webb (83) have collected the most samples this season! Thank you so much! Thanks again, everyone. If anyone needs anything CWD-related, please contact John Thornburg (john.thornburg@mt.gov) or myself (ealmborg@mt.gov).

General Reminders:

- **When removing scalpel blades, please use the orange blade removers.** We've already had one person suffer a bad cut (6 stiches). Take your time when removing samples and take breaks if you need to warm up your hands. Also, use sturdy knives and pliers from the multitools that we provided to remove teeth. Avoid using the scalpel blades to remove teeth since they're more likely to slip/break.
- **Please make sure all information is filled out on the cards at the time of data collection.** We've had missing location information, hunter contact information, etc., which significantly slows the data entry process and can render a sample worthless.
- **Keep your eye out for enlarged and puss-filled/abscessed lymph nodes.** When you notice that a deer/elk/moose's retropharyngeal lymph node is abscessed, we want to test that animal for bovine TB.
 - Please submit one lymph node for CWD testing to CSU (preferably the more 'normal looking' one); the other will go to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory.
 - For the lymph node going to NVSL: Split the abscessed lymph node into two. Place one half in a small formalin-filled vial and keep this at room temperature – not frozen. The other half should ideally be refrigerated, not frozen. If already frozen, keep it frozen.
 - If you're with the hunter when you notice an abscessed or puss-filled lymph node, but sure to ask the hunter whether they noticed anything unusual when they were gutting/field dressing the animal. Please record this on the data card.
 - Please notify Jennifer, Gina, and I, send us a copy of the hunter data card, and one of us will pull together the lab submission form. We then would like someone in the region to mail it overnight to the National Veterinary Services Lab as soon as possible (M-W).
 - If we send a fixed portion of the tissue to NVSL, they can get us a preliminary answer within ~48 hours. However, if that comes back suspect or if we only have frozen material, they have to rely on culture which takes 6-8 weeks.



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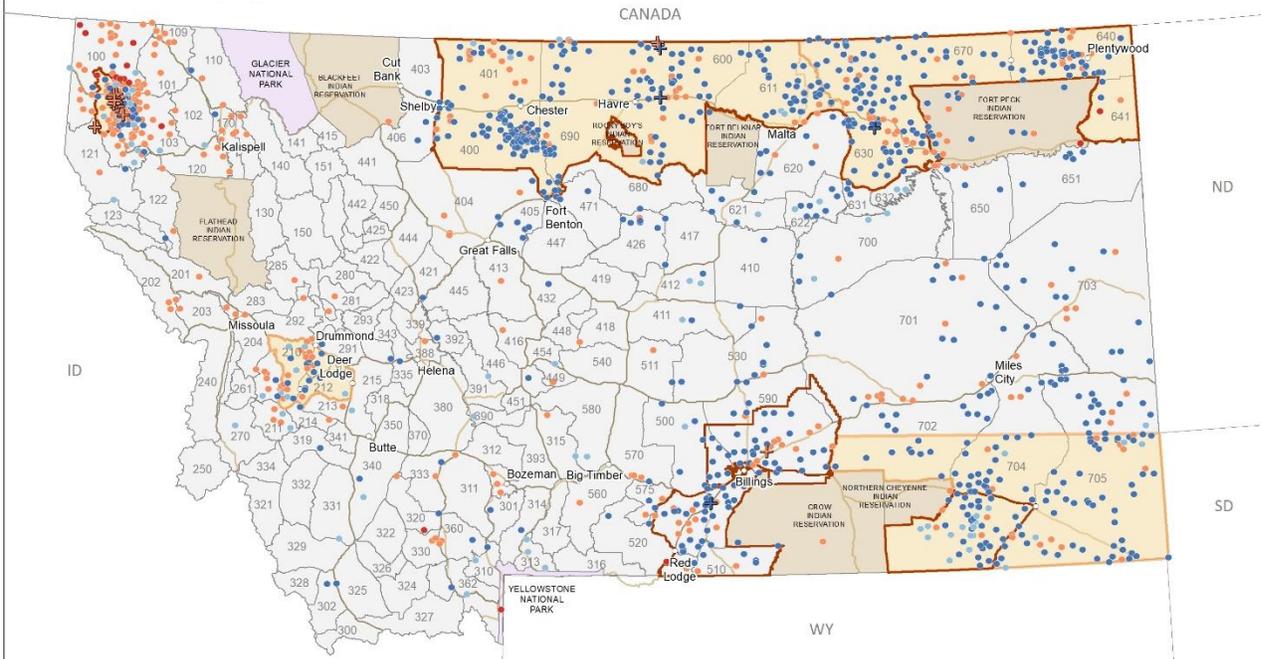
- **Samples from symptomatic animals are still a state-wide priority.** If you encounter a symptomatic deer/elk within or near any CWD positive areas, please collect and freeze the obex as well as the retropharyngeal lymph nodes. We are trying to 'strain type' prions from the Libby, Northern and Southern CWD Management Zones.
- **Please freeze the cryovials with genetic samples and desiccant.**
- **Please record "Hunter submitted – [Location]" for any sample that a hunter has collected themselves, even if they drop it off at a regional office or check station.** For example, "Hunter submitted – R3 HQ".

2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

State-wide CWD Sampling

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 11/12/2019



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWD Management Zone 2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area Deer and Elk Hunting District Interstate and Highway 	CWD samples within Montana		CWD Surveillance Areas	
		Total *	Positive or suspect	
	Mule deer	831	4	
	White-tailed deer	642	33	
	Elk	81	0	
Moose	17	0		

Updated: 20191112 Map produced by: MTFWP Geographic Data Services * Samples with an unknown location or of an unknown species are not represented in the map or table. Hunting districts valid for the 2019 hunting season. CWD sample data from MTFWP health lab. Reference data from MTFWP and Montana State Library. 0 40 80 Miles



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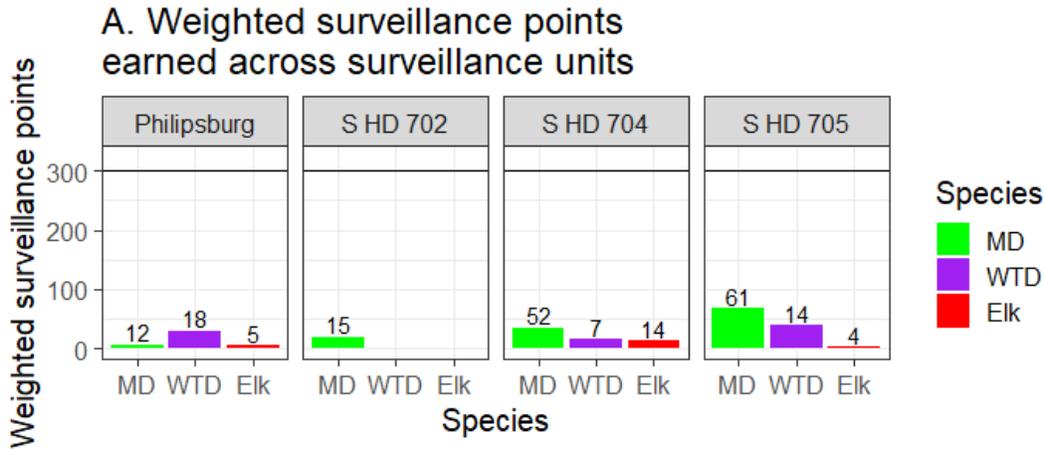


Figure A. Weighted surveillance points earned for mule deer (MD), white-tailed deer (WTD), and elk within each of the four minimum surveillance units, 2019. Under the weighted surveillance framework, different demographic groups (age, sex, or cause of death categories) of a species are assigned different point-values based on their relative risk of being infected and summed to a total point value. Our goal is to reach 300 weighted surveillance points in mule deer to detect $\geq 1\%$ prevalence with 95% confidence. The number of animals sampled is displayed above each bar.

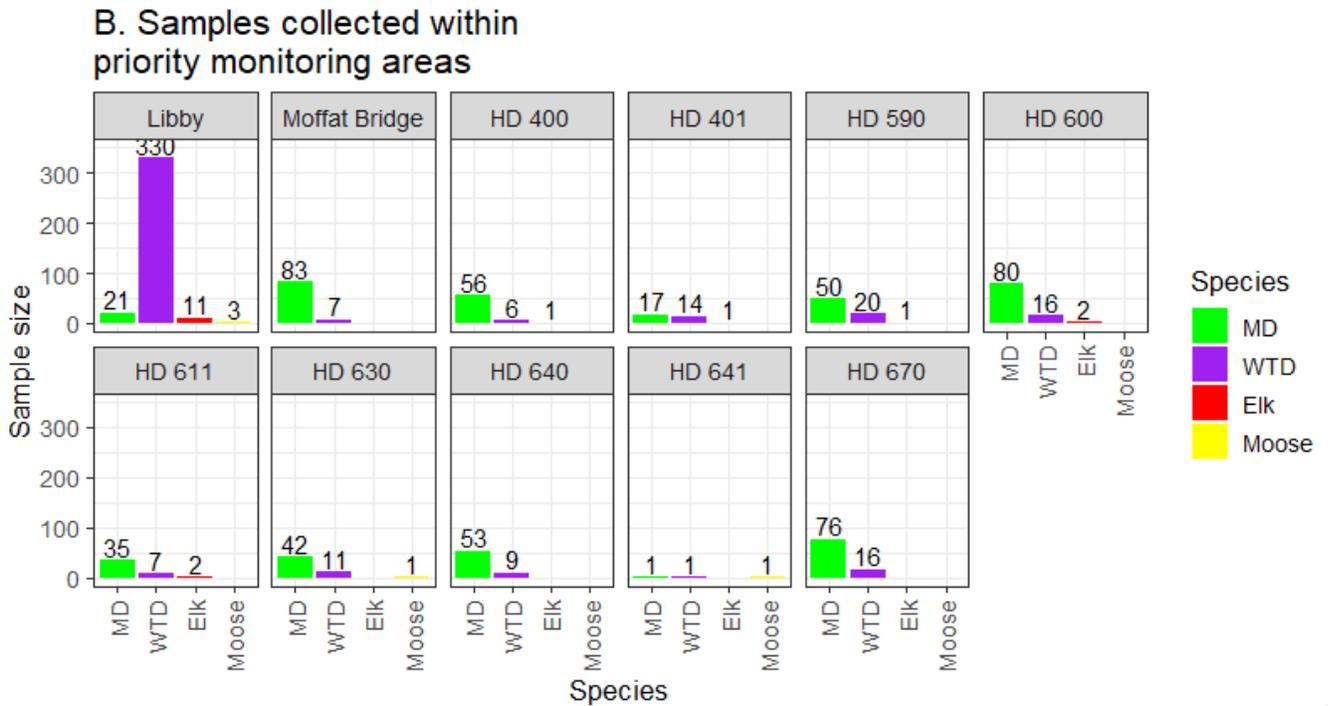


Figure B. Number of mule deer (MD), white-tailed deer (WTD), elk, and moose sampled for CWD testing within the priority monitoring areas around the state since July 1, 2019. “Libby” refers to the Libby CWD



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Management Zone, “Moffat Bridge” refers to the Moffat Bridge Special CWD Hunt Area, and HD 400 displays samples collected within hunting district 400 but outside of the Moffat Bridge Special Hunt

Area. Our goal is to increase sampling across species, age, and sex-groups to improve estimates of prevalence. The sample size is displayed above each bar.

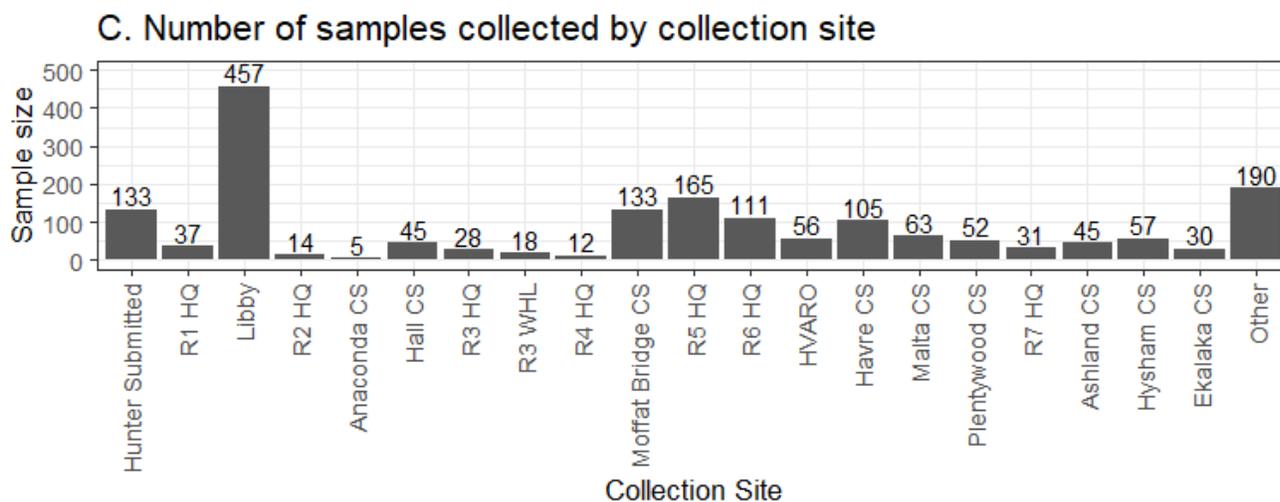


Figure C. Number of samples collected at various sampling locations, or collection sites, around the state. “Hunter submitted” is the number of sampled collected and submitted by hunters. “HQ” and “CS” stand for headquarters and check station, respectively. “R3 WHL” stands for the Region 3 Wildlife Health Lab. “HVARO” stands for Havre Area Resource Office.



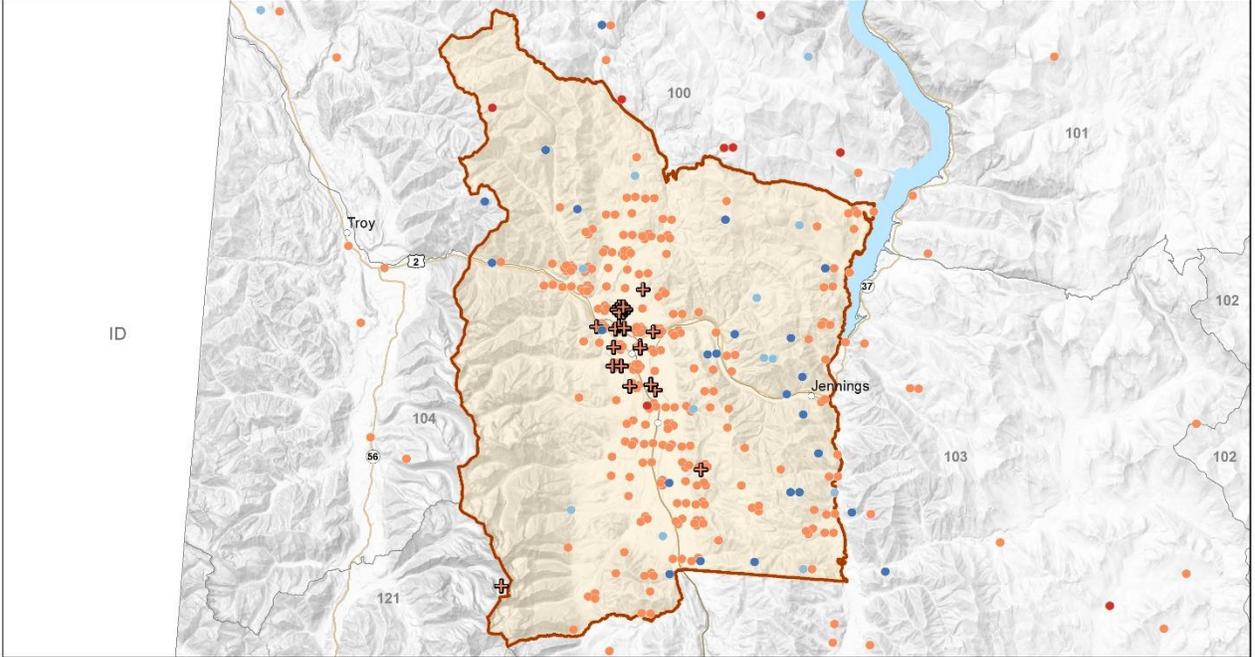
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

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Minimum Surveillance Area: Libby

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 11/12/2019



- CWD Management Zone
- 2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area
- Deer and Elk Hunting District
- Interstate and Highway

CWD samples within Libby Area		Positive or suspect	
	Total *		
Mule deer	20	+	0
White-tailed deer	326	+	29
Elk	11	+	0
Moose	2	+	0



Updated: 20191112 Map produced by: MTFWP Geographic Data Services * Samples with an unknown location or of an unknown species are not represented in the map or table. Hunting districts valid for the 2019 hunting season. CWD sample data from MTFWP health lab. Reference data from MTFWP and Montana State Library. 0 4 8 Miles



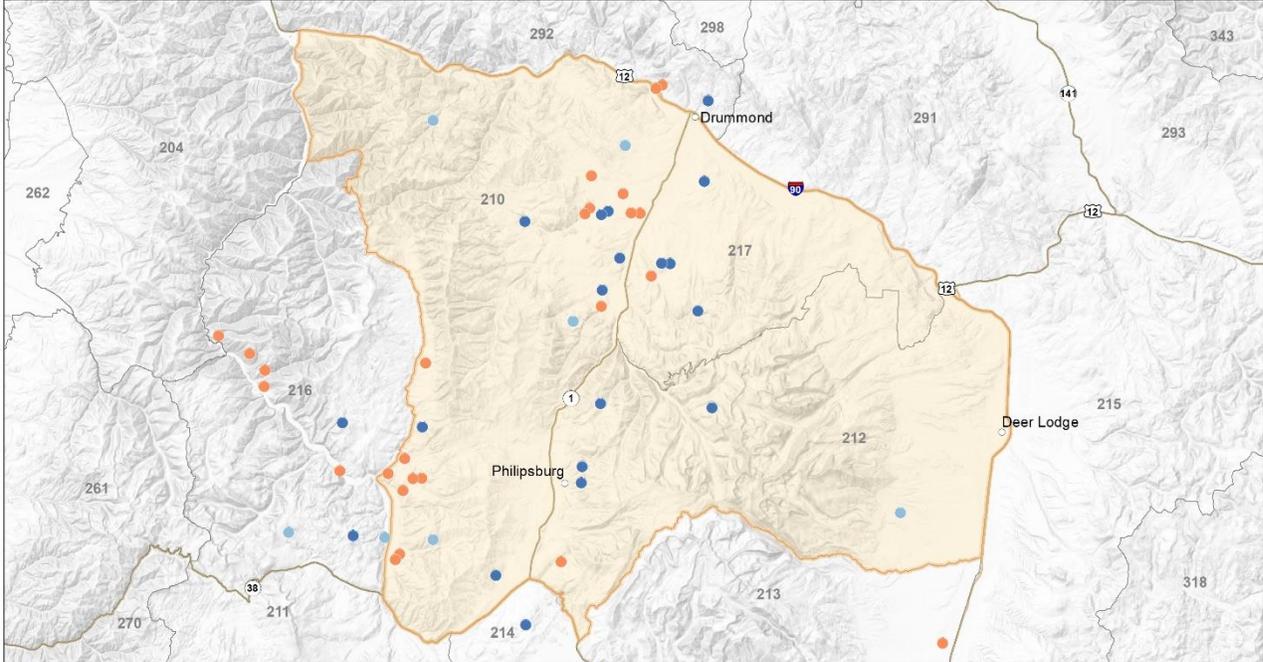
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

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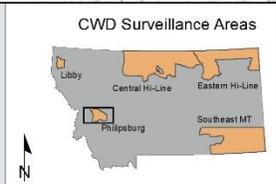
Minimum Surveillance Area: Philipsburg

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 11/12/2019



- CWD Management Zone (not in map extent)
- 2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area
- Deer and Elk Hunting District
- Interstate and Highway

CWD samples within Philipsburg Area			
		Total *	Positive or suspect
Mule deer		15	+ 0
White-tailed deer		17	+ 0
Elk		5	+ 0
Moose		0	+ 0



Updated: 20191112 | Map produced by: MTFWP Geographic Data Services | * Samples with an unknown location or of an unknown species are not represented in the map or table. Hunting districts valid for the 2019 hunting season. CWD sample data from MTFWP health lab. Reference data from MTFWP and Montana State Library.



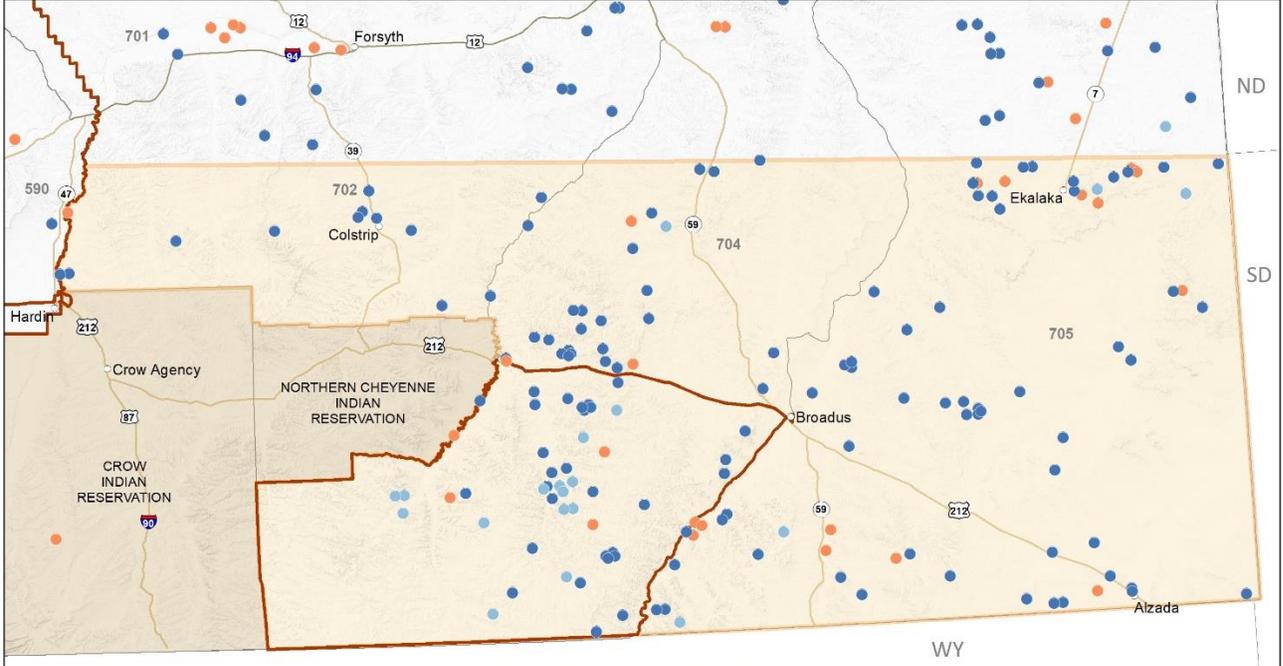
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

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Minimum Surveillance Area: Southeast MT

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 11/12/2019



- CWD Management Zone
- 2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area
- Deer and Elk Hunting District
- Interstate and Highway

CWD samples within Southeast MT Area			
	Total *	Positive or suspect	
Mule deer	125	+	0
White-tailed deer	20	+	0
Elk	19	+	0
Moose	0	+	0



Updated: 20191112 Map produced by: MTFWP Geographic Data Services * Samples with an unknown location or of an unknown species are not represented in the map or table. Hunting districts valid for the 2019 hunting season. CWD sample data from MTFWP health lab. Reference data from MTFWP and Montana State Library.



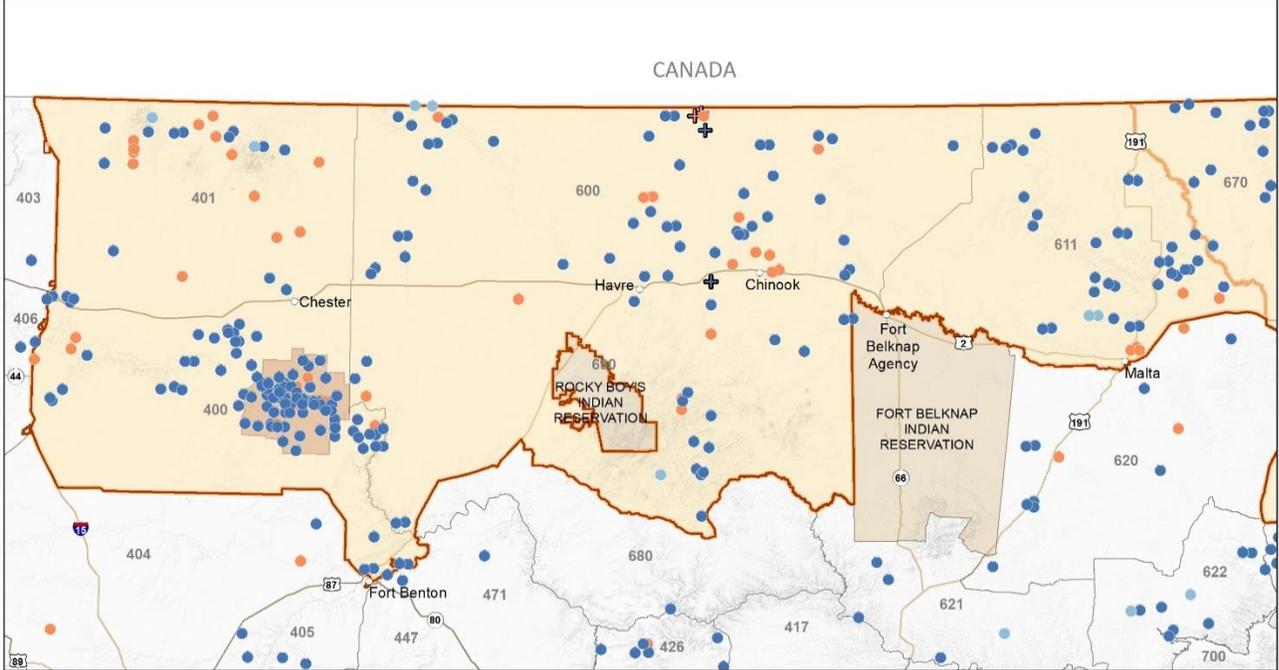
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

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Minimum Surveillance Area: Central Hi-Line

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 11/12/2019



- CWD Management Zone
- 2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area
- Moffat Bridge Hunt Area
- Deer and Elk Hunting District
- Interstate and Highway

CWD samples within Central Hi-Line Area

	Total *	Positive or suspect
Mule deer	244	2
White-tailed deer	48	2
Elk	7	0
Moose	0	0

CWD Surveillance Areas



Updated: 20191112 Map produced by: MTFWP Geographic Data Services * Samples with an unknown location or of an unknown species are not represented in the map or table. Hunting districts valid for the 2019 hunting season. CWD sample data from MTFWP health lab. Reference data from MTFWP and Montana State Library.



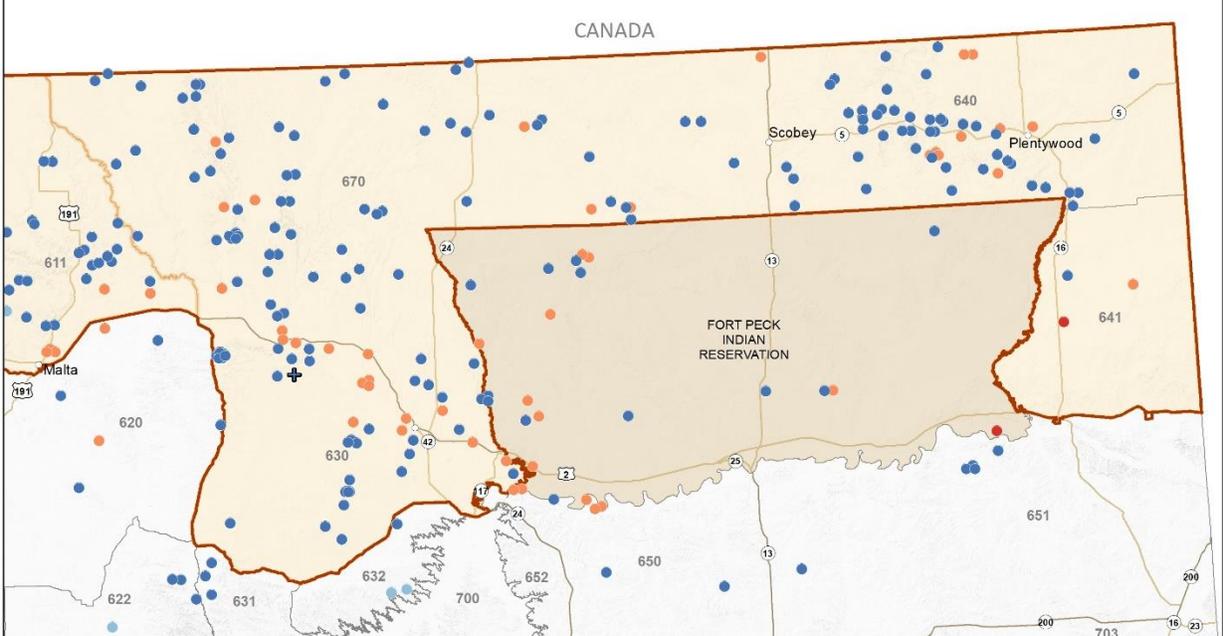
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

Minimum Surveillance Area: Eastern Hi-Line

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 11/12/2019



- CWD Management Zone
- 2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area
- Deer and Elk Hunting District
- Interstate and Highway

CWD samples within Eastern Hi-Line Area			
	Total *	Positive or suspect	
Mule deer	● 166	+	1
White-tailed deer	● 33	+	0
Elk	● 0	+	0
Moose	● 1	+	0



Updated: 20191112 | Map produced by MTFWP Geographic Data Services | * Samples with an unknown location or of an unknown species are not represented in the map or table. Hunting districts valid for the 2019 hunting season. CWD sample data from MTFWP health lab. Reference data from MTFWP and Montana State Library. | 0 10 20 Miles