



CWD MANAGEMENT

December 20, 2019

Thank you, everyone, for your patience and your persistence in contributing to our CWD sampling efforts! With the conclusion of the general season, we have reached a season total of 6829 samples and 115 suspects/positives since 04/01/2019. We are still waiting on some of the results from samples collected during and after closing weekend, which we expect to receive and post today (12/20). Sampling locations and CWD suspects/positives to date are illustrated on the maps below. Existing or pending results are publicly available online (fwp.mt.gov/cwd).

Below is a **preliminary summary** of the samples collected over this season, including maps and figures. **Again, these results are considered preliminary.** We will issue a final, publicly posted report in March/April.

Julie Herrick (468), John Randolph (460), Chrissy Webb (458), Samantha Treece (436), Glen Doubek (400), and Robbie Seykora (390) collected the most samples this season! Thank you so much!

Thanks again, everyone. Questions/comments/feedback on the season can be directed to John Thornburg (john.thornburg@mt.gov) and myself (ealmsberg@mt.gov).

General Reminders:

- **Please do not ship samples to Colorado State University between December 23-January 3.** The lab is taking some time off over the holidays and we don't want to risk samples getting misplaced. Please convey this delay to any hunters submitting samples.
- **Samples from symptomatic animals are still a state-wide priority.**
- **Please freeze the cryovials with genetic samples and desiccant.**
- **After the holidays, please coordinate with John Thornburg and myself to ship any remaining archived samples, teeth, and genetic samples to the Wildlife Health Lab in Bozeman.**



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A. Weighted surveillance points earned across surveillance units

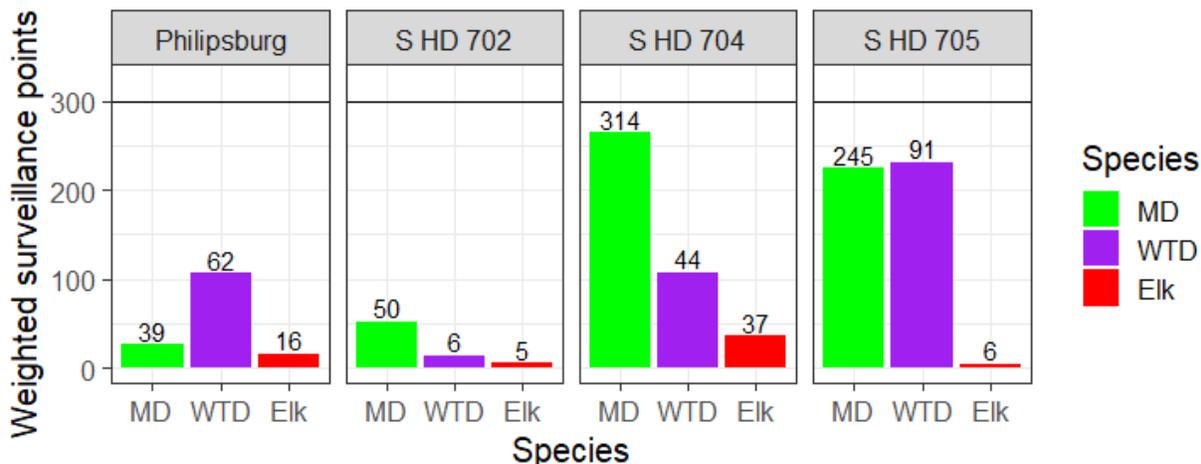


Figure A. Weighted surveillance points earned for mule deer (MD), white-tailed deer (WTD), and elk within each of the four minimum surveillance units, 2019. Under the weighted surveillance framework, different demographic groups (age, sex, or cause of death categories) of a species are assigned different 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.

B. Samples collected within priority monitoring areas

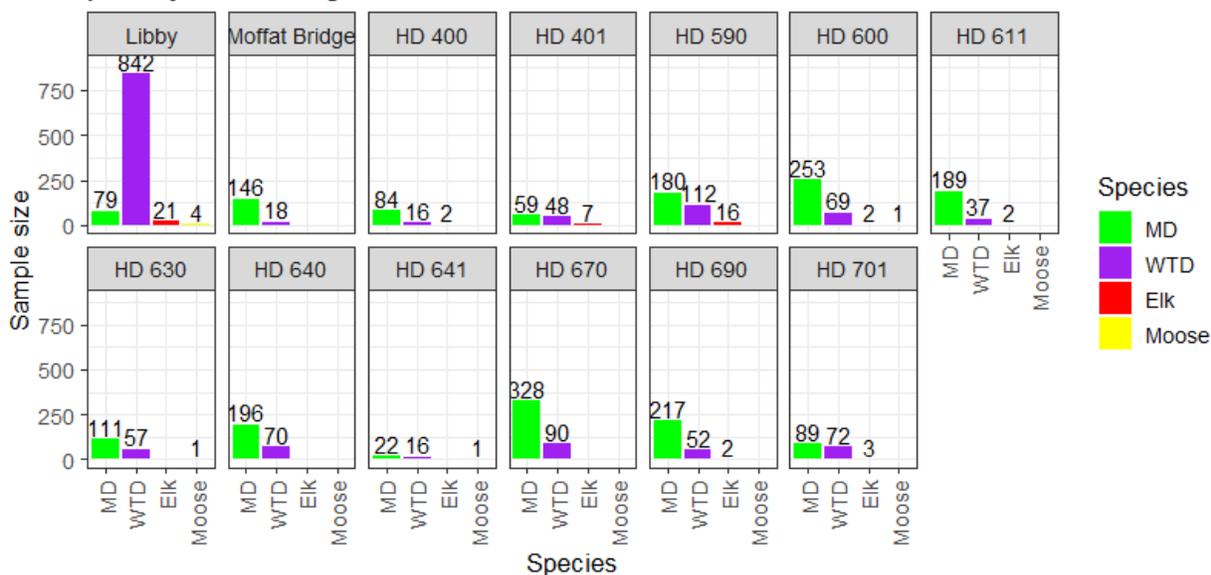


Figure B. Number of mule deer (MD), white-tailed deer (WTD), elk, and moose sampled for CWD testing within the priority monitoring areas around the state since April 1, 2019. “Libby” refers to the Libby CWD Management Zone, “Moffat Bridge” refers to the Moffat Bridge Special CWD Hunt Area, and HD 400 displays samples collected within hunting district 400 but outside of the Moffat Bridge Special Hunt



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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.

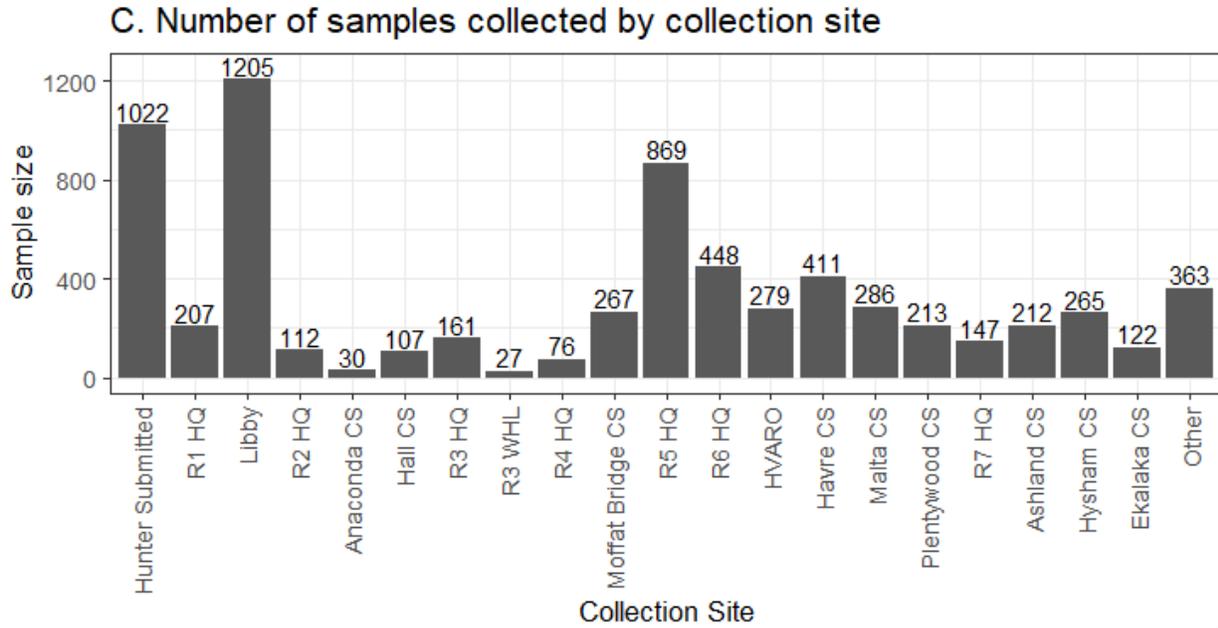


Figure C. Number of samples collected at various sampling locations, or collection sites, around the state. “Hunter submitted” is the number of sampled collected and submitted by hunters. “HQ” and “CS” stand for headquarters and check station, respectively. “R3 WHL” stands for the Region 3 Wildlife Health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



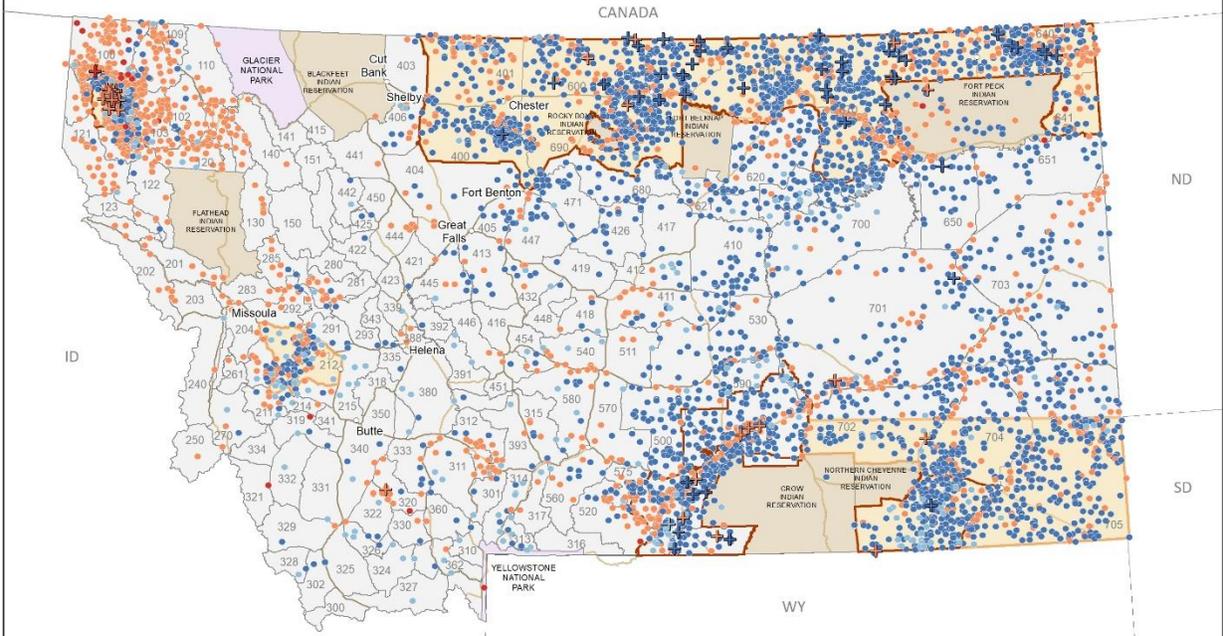
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

State-wide CWD Sampling

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 12/19/2019



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

CWD samples within Montana

	Total *	Positive or suspect
Mule deer	3772	46
White-tailed deer	2676	67
Elk	276	1
Moose	22	1

CWD Surveillance Areas



Updated: 20191219 | 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



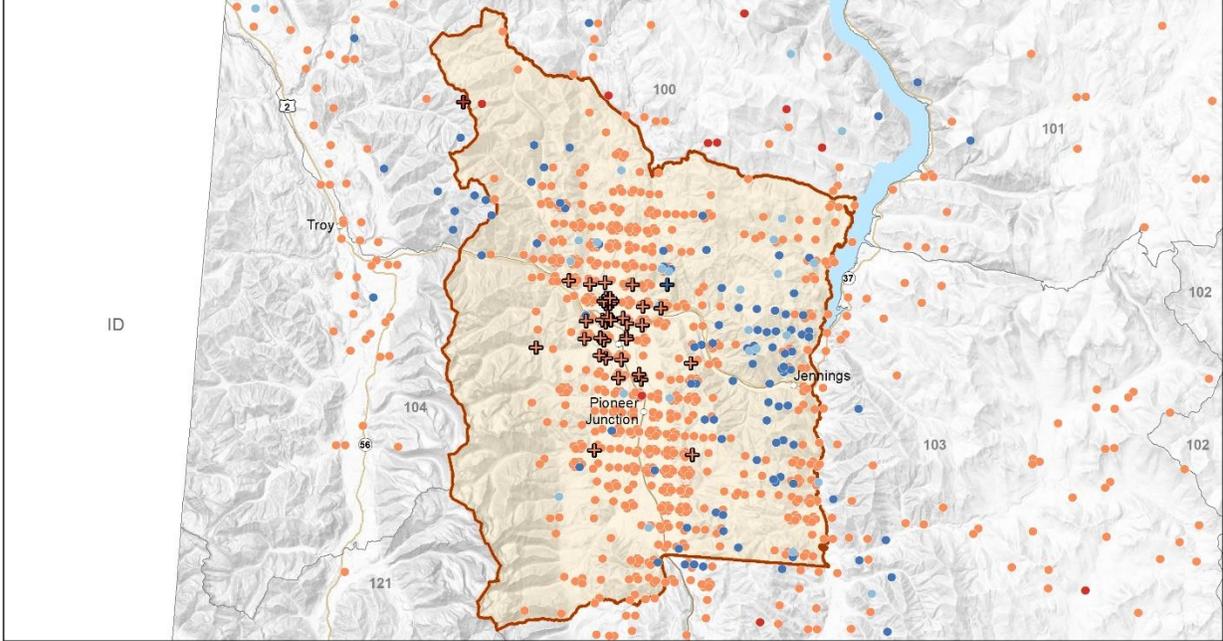
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

Minimum Surveillance Area: Libby

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 12/19/2019



- 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	80		1
White-tailed deer	830		48
Elk	22		0
Moose	2		0



Updated: 20191219 | 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.



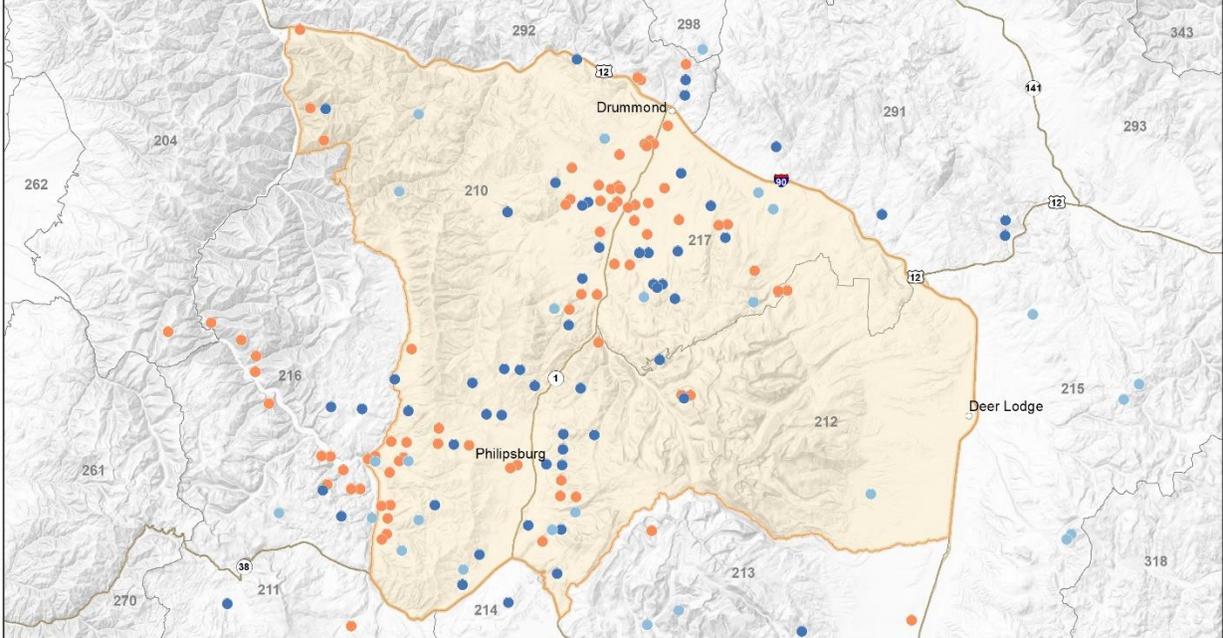
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

Minimum Surveillance Area: Philipsburg

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 12/19/2019



- 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 ●	41	+ 0
White-tailed deer ●	62	+ 0
Elk ●	16	+ 0
Moose ●	0	+ 0

CWD Surveillance Areas



Updated: 20191219 | 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.



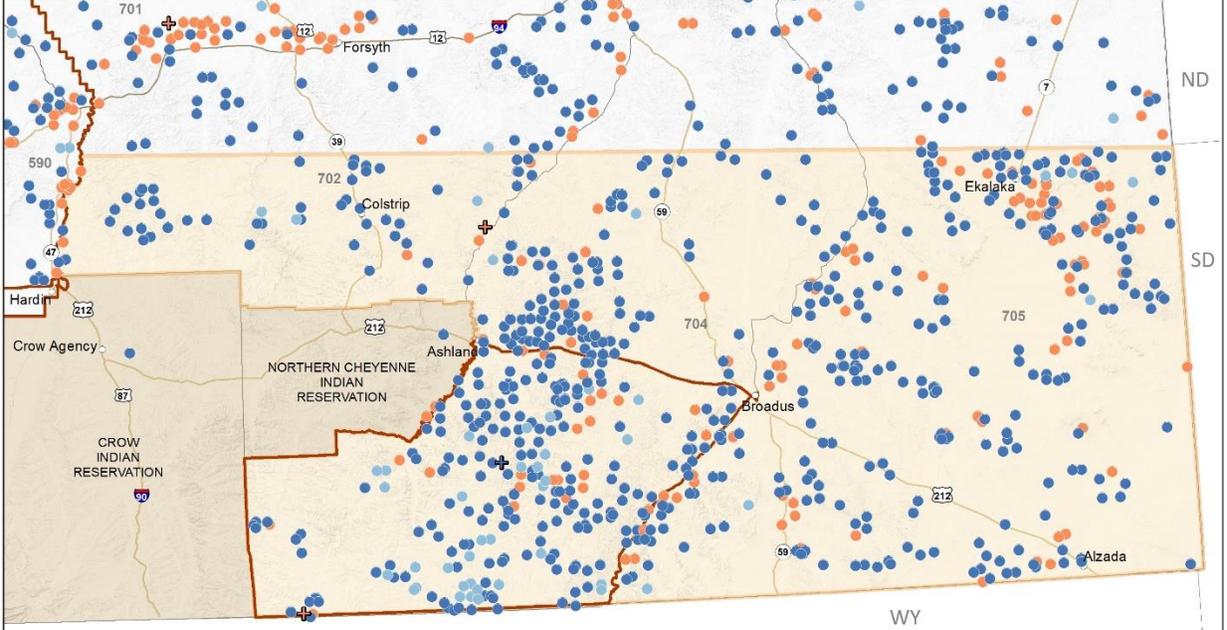
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

Minimum Surveillance Area: Southeast MT

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 12/19/2019



- 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	612		1
White-tailed deer	138		2
Elk	47		0
Moose	0		0



Updated: 20191219 | 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.



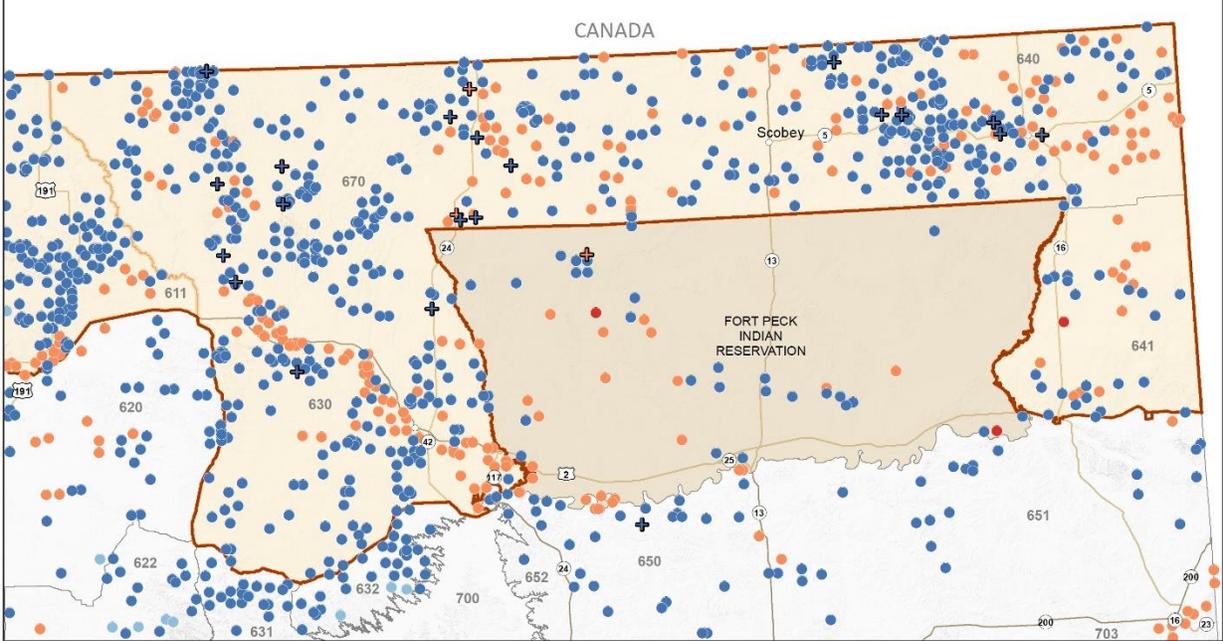
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

Minimum Surveillance Area: Eastern Hi-Line

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 12/19/2019



CWD Management Zone		CWD samples within Eastern Hi-Line Area		CWD Surveillance Areas	
Symbol	Description	Species	Total *	Positive or suspect	Count
	CWD Management Zone	Mule deer	652	+	19
	2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area	White-tailed deer	227	+	2
	Deer and Elk Hunting District	Elk	0	+	0
	Interstate and Highway	Moose	1	+	0

Updated: 20191219 | 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



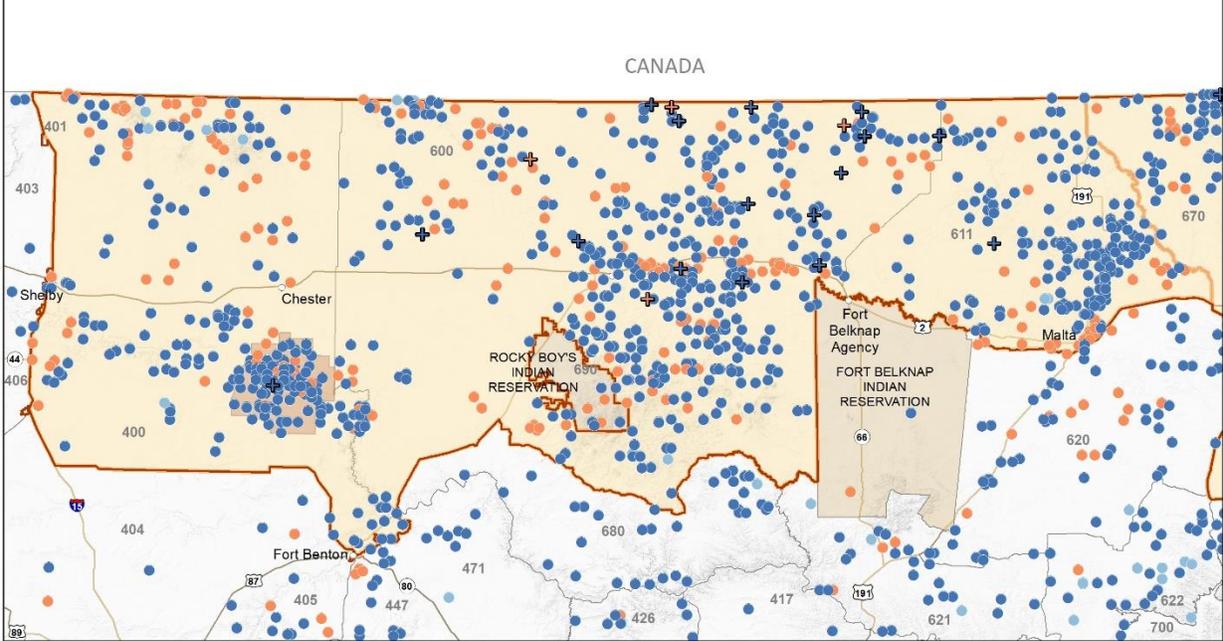
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2019 Montana Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance

MONTANA FWP

Minimum Surveillance Area: Central Hi-Line

Samples collected from: 04/01/2019 - 12/19/2019



CWD Management Zone		CWD samples within Central Hi-Line Area				CWD Surveillance Areas	
Symbol	Description	Species	Total *	Positive or suspect	Symbol	Count	Area
	CWD Management Zone	Mule deer	930	17		Central Hi-Line	Central Hi-Line
	2019 Priority CWD Surveillance Area	White-tailed deer	232	5		Eastern Hi-Line	Eastern Hi-Line
	Moffat Bridge Hunt Area	Elk	15	0		Southeast MT	Southeast MT
	Deer and Elk Hunting District	Moose	0	0		Libby	Libby
	Interstate and Highway					Phillipsburg	Phillipsburg

Updated: 20191219 | 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 12.5 25 Miles