

**CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH THE
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR**

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§41 22 5(b) and 41 22 6(c) (2)a. and b.

I certify that the attached emergency amendment is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on Thursday, November 16, 2023.

AGENCY NAME:	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
RULE NO. AND TITLE:	220-2-.167 Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone Rule
EXPIRATION DATE OF RULE:	Sunday, January 14, 2024
<p>NATURE OF EMERGENCY: Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease that affects several species in the deer family. The disease is infectious and communicable in white-tail deer. An emergency regulation was filed on September 12, 2023 in order to make changes prior to the commencement of the 2023-2024 gun deer season that began in November. This emergency regulation is set to expire on January 10, 2024 and the certified regulation will not become effective until January 14, 2024. This is a continuing emergency. Additionally, changes have been made to incorporate comments from commenting period that ended on November 6, 2023.</p>	
STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 9-11-301 and 9-11-305
SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON A PERMANENT BASIS:	Yes
NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE:	Charlanna W. Skaggs; 64 N. Union Street, Room 474, Montgomery, AL 36130. 334-242-3165.

Christopher M. Blankenship

Chris Blankenship

Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt rules and
regulations or his or her deputy

REC'D & FILED
NOV 16, 2023
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

(1) Hunters SHALL submit samples for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing from all deer harvested on ~~Lauderdale WMA, Freedom Hills WMA, Riverton CHA, and Seven Mile Island WMA~~any Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Special Opportunity Area (SOA), Community Hunting Area (CHA), State Waterfowl Refuges, or Physically Disabled Hunting Area (PHDA) located within a CWD High Risk Zone (HRZ) or Buffer Zone (BZ) at the WMA Check Station, or Drop-off Sampling freezer locations, or a scheduled DCNR Mobile Sampling location.

(2) Hunters SHALL submit samples for CWD testing from all deer harvested within the ~~area WEST of U.S. Highway 43 in Lauderdale County (High Risk Zone (HRZ))~~High Risk Zone (HRZ) of the Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone (CMZ) at DCNR mobile sampling locations or Drop-off Sampling freezer locations on scheduled dates announced by press release and posted to the website below. All other days, hunters are encouraged to submit samples for CWD testing. www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info

(3) Hunters SHALL submit samples for CWD testing from all deer harvested within the ~~area of Lauderdale County EAST of U.S. Highway 43 and all of Colbert County (Buffer Zone (BZ))~~Buffer Zone (BZ) of the CMZ at DCNR mobile sampling locations or Drop-off Sampling freezer locations on scheduled dates announced by press release and posted to the website below. All other days, hunters are encouraged to submit samples for CWD testing. www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info

(4) All deer harvested in the ~~Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone (CMZ)~~CMZ must be properly recorded and reported through the Game Check System pursuant to Regulation 220-2-.146.

(5) No ~~whole cervid or cervid body parts taken from the area WEST of U.S. Highway 43 in Lauderdale County (HRZ) shall be transported outside of this area of Lauderdale County~~cervid or cervid body parts taken from the HRZ shall be transported outside of the HRZ. This restriction shall not apply to meat of a cervid species that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached bare antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; unattached bare antlers or sheds; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides.

(6) No ~~whole cervid or cervid body parts taken from the area of Lauderdale County EAST of U.S. Highway 43 and all of Colbert County (BZ) shall be transported outside the area of Lauderdale~~

~~or Colbert Counties~~cervid or cervid body parts taken from the (BZ) shall be transported outside the CMZ. This restriction shall not apply to meat of a cervid species that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached bare antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; unattached bare antlers or sheds; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides.

(7) Deer processors or taxidermists shall apply for a DCNR Carcass Disposal Transport permit when transporting outside of the designated zones, as applicable. www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info

(8) ~~Deer located in Lauderdale or Colbert Counties shall not be transported out of Lauderdale or Colbert Counties for relocation or rehabilitation~~Cervid rehabilitation shall not be permitted within a CMZ nor shall Cervid be transported out of a CMZ for rehabilitation purposes.

(9) Hunters may find DCNR Best Management Practices for carcass disposal at the following link: www.outdooralabama.com/CWD-Info.

(10) There shall be no baiting or supplemental feeding of wildlife within the CMZ. Grain, salt products, minerals, or consumable natural and manufactured products may not be placed or put out for wildlife with the following exceptions:

(a) Seed or grain used solely for normal agricultural, forest management, or wildlife food plot production purposes.

(b) Feed solely placed inside an active hog trap.

(c) Feed for attracting birds and squirrels with common bird and squirrel feeders placed within 100 feet of a residence or occupied building.

(d) Feed as permitted by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Author: Christopher M. Blankenship

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§9-2-2, 9-2-6, 9-2-7, 9-2-12, 9-11-244.

History: New Rule: Published May 31, 2022; effective July 15, 2022. EMERGENCY AMENDMENT: Filed September 12, 2023; effective September 12, 2023. EMERGENCY AMENDMENT: Filed November 16, 2023; effective November 16, 2023.

Penalty: As provided by law.

Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone Rule.

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Penalty: As provided by law.