The CWD Forecasting Project

The goal of this project is to forecast the spatio-temporal change in CWD across Wisconsin by better understanding factors that influence diffusion and growth of the disease.

TIMELINE
Launch: July 2018
Funded Through: June 2021

FUNDING
Pittman-Robertson

DNR PARTNER BUREAU
Wildlife Management

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS
Deer Hunters
Private Landowners
Conservation Congress
CDAC
Interested Public

The CWD Forecasting Project seeks to investigate the long-term role of various risk factors such as sex, age, soil type and land cover in the growth and spread of CWD and to use forecasts of the growth and spread of CWD to optimize surveillance activities.

When coupled with information from the Southwest Wisconsin CWD, Deer and Predator Study on how CWD impacts deer populations, forecasts of CWD spread and growth will help identify where and when population-level impacts of CWD on deer will be expected.

This project uses the statewide CWD surveillance data collected by Wisconsin DNR, and the results of this research will benefit the agency by providing guidance based on actual data toward targeted management interventions and the development of surveillance systems that are most likely to control or quickly detect CWD on the landscape.

The CWD Forecasting Project is a collaborative project with Wisconsin DNR, the United States Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.


Linda Freshwaters Arndt

KEY POINTS

» This project investigates the role of various risk factors in the growth and spread of CWD and uses forecasts of the growth and spread of the disease to optimize surveillance activities.

» The results will benefit the Wisconsin DNR by providing guidance toward targeted management interventions and the development of surveillance systems that are most likely to control or quickly detect CWD on the landscape.

SPOKESPERSON
Daniel Storm, PhD
Deer & Elk Research Scientist
DanielJ.Storm@wisconsin.gov
(715) 365-4712

WILDLIFE RESTORATION
WISCONSIN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES