



For Immediate Release  
June 2, 2023

## TAHC Rule Proposal Open for Public Comment

### Chronic Wasting Disease Movement Restriction Zones

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) held a regularly scheduled Commission meeting April 4, 2023, at its headquarters in Austin.

The following amendment was proposed during the meeting and is open for comment from June 2, 2023 – July 2, 2023.

#### **Chapter 40, Chronic Wasting Disease**

The proposed amendments to §40.6, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Movement Restriction Zones clarifies, corrects, and updates information regarding CWD management. The proposed amendments clarify the definition of Exotic CWD Susceptible Species, specifically adding muntjac (*Muntiacus*) and specifying that mule deer, white-tailed deer, and other native species under the jurisdiction of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are excluded from that definition. Proposed amendments also change the mortality testing age from 16 months to 12 months and clarify that testing must occur within seven days. The amendments also provide information on where test results and lab reports may be submitted. These proposals are intended to increase surveillance in designated containment and surveillance zones and align the requirements with federal standards for CWD testing.

This proposed amendment also updates the geographic depiction to align with amendments to the rule which went into effect May 17, 2023. Additionally, geographic depictions have been added to the sections as attached graphics for each of the movement restriction zones.

Comments on the rule proposals and rule reviews may be submitted to Amanda Bernhard, Texas Animal Health Commission, by mail at 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas 78758, by fax at (512)-719-0719 or by email to [comments@tahc.texas.gov](mailto:comments@tahc.texas.gov). When commenting, please indicate in the subject line the intent to comment on Chapter 40, CWD proposals.

Complete details of the rule proposals are also available on the TAHC website at <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/proposals.html#proposals>.

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*The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) was established in 1893 as the Livestock Sanitary Commission and charged with protecting the state's domestic animals "from all contagious or infectious diseases of a malignant character." TAHC remains true to this charge while evolving with the times to protect the health and marketability of all Texas livestock and poultry. Learn more about the TAHC by visiting [www.tahc.texas.gov](http://www.tahc.texas.gov).*