

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the State of Maine - USA, has asked the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources to pass along the following information on Maine state trade restrictions regarding the importation of hunter-harvested ungulates (moose, deer, caribou, etc.) into Maine. The restrictions are intended to prevent the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) into Maine. CWD is a fatal central-nervous-system disease of cervids that is transmissible from animal to animal, particularly if exposed to central nervous system tissues from an infected animal. CWD is confirmed to occur in some cervid populations in western and central north america.

If members of your organization have moose hunting and/or deer hunting clients who are residents of Maine, or have clients who will be travelling through Maine at the conclusion of their hunt, please inform them of the special restrictions that Maine has enacted for importing and transporting deer and moose carcasses within the State.

Please see the official statements from Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife attached below. For more details, please direct any and all questions to Mr. Lee Kantar - Maine State Deer and Moose Biologist, at his contact information shown below the statement.

Kevin Craig
Big-Game and Furbearer Section
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New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources

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MAINE Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Transporting Intact Deer Carcasses From Other States / Provinces Into Maine?

To prevent the introduction of CWD into Maine and pursuant to 12 MRSA Part 12, Chapter 903, Subchapter 2, §10103.2, §10104.1, and §10105.13, it is now **illegal** for hunters who travel to any other states and provinces to hunt deer, elk, moose, or caribou to transport any carcass parts that pose a risk of containing CWD prions. Hunters may return to Maine only with boned-out meat, hardened antlers (with or without skull caps), hides without the head portion, and finished taxidermy mounts. If still attached, skull caps should be cleaned free of brain and other tissues.

It is legal for individuals to transport through the State of Maine cervid carcasses or parts destined for other states, provinces, and countries. Such transportation is to occur without undue delay and using the most reasonably direct route through Maine to the final destination for the cervid carcass or parts and in a manner that is both leak-proof and that prevents their exposure to the environment.

At this time, no state or province can claim to be free of CWD - - too little monitoring has been conducted to realistically evaluate CWD status. Accordingly, this advisory against importing potentially high-risk carcass parts applies to wild deer, moose, caribou or elk taken in any state and province outside Maine, and to cervids killed in commercial hunting preserves everywhere.

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