

NEWS RELEASE

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Johnsrud calls for DNR to issue emergency animal health orders

MADISON - - State Representative DuWayne Johnsrud, R-Eastman, today called on the Departments of Natural Resources, Agriculture Trade & Consumer Protection, and Health & Family Services to close state borders to all interstate movement of deer and elk and to order all feeding of wild deer and elk to cease.

So far three wild deer have tested positive for chronic wasting disease. The disease is similar to mad cow disease in cattle and scrapie in sheep. It is unknown if Chronic wasting disease is transmissible to humans or domestic livestock but we certainly know that our wild deer herd is in grave danger here.

Johnsrud called the presence of chronic wasting disease an “emergency situation” and called for the state agencies to use their emergency rule making power. “Collectively, there are a lot of options out there to use in an emergency situation like this,” he said. “We cannot allow this to get out of control like it is in other states.”

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