

Frequently Asked Questions Amendment to Importation of Animal Parts Rule

Q1: What does the proposed temporary rule change?

- A:** The temporary rule prohibits importation, transportation, or possession of cervid carcasses and carcass parts originating from outside of North Carolina, except as follows:
- meat that has been boned out; such that no pieces or fragments of bone remain;
 - caped hides with no part of the skull or spinal column attached;
 - antlers, antlers attached to cleaned skull plates, or cleaned skulls with no meat or brain tissue attached;
 - cleaned lower jawbone(s) with teeth or cleaned teeth; or
 - finished taxidermy products and tanned hides.

Any cervid carcass, carcass part, part(s), or container of cervid meat or carcass part exceptions listed above are required to be labeled with the following information:

- the individual's name and address;
- the state, Canadian province, or foreign country of origin;
- the date the cervid was killed and the individual's hunting license number, permit number, or equivalent identification from the state, Canadian province, or foreign country of origin; and
- the destination of the cervid carcass, carcass part(s), or container of cervid meat or carcass parts within North Carolina.

Q2: Why are cervid carcass importation regulations important?

- A:** [Chronic Wasting Disease](#) (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease found in deer, elk, moose and reindeer. This disease can be transported to new areas through cervid carcasses, particularly the brain and spinal tissues. CWD is now found in 25 states, two Canadian provinces and three foreign countries. There is no cure for CWD, nor any method to eliminate it once it has entered the environment.

Q3: Is North Carolina the only state that regulates carcass and carcass part importation?

- A:** No. There are 41 states that regulate the importation of cervid carcasses and carcass parts, primarily from states that are CWD positive. Of those states, 13 regulate importation of cervid carcasses and carcass parts from any state, regardless of CWD status. For more information, visit ncwildlife.org/ccr.

Q4: What is the difference between a temporary rule and a permanent rule?

- A:** A temporary rule allows the agency to quickly implement regulation(s) when adherence to the notice and hearing requirements of the permanent rulemaking process would be contrary to the public interest and the immediate adoption of the rule is required and meets certain criteria. Unlike permanent rules, temporary rules require one public hearing and a minimum 15-day public comment period. Additionally, temporary rules expire 270 days after publication in the N.C. Register, though they are typically replaced by permanent rules prior to expiration.

Q5: What are public comments and what does the agency do with them?

- A:** As part of the rulemaking process, an agency must accept comments on the text of a proposed rule. For temporary rulemaking, the agency must accept comments for at least 15 business days. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the agency is required to review and consider any public comments received. Based on the comments, the Commission will determine whether to adopt, adopt with amendments, or not adopt the proposed rule.

Q6: What is a public hearing?

A: Public hearings are part of the formal rulemaking process. A public hearing is an opportunity for the agency to describe and receive comments on proposed changes to regulations. The public hearing for this temporary rule and others will be held on June 6, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the [Commission's Headquarters](#) in Raleigh.

Q7: Do I have to attend the public hearing to comment on the [proposed rules](#)?

A: No. You can submit comments from Friday, May 25, 2018 to Friday, June 29, 2018 in one of three ways:

- Online: ncwildlife.org/proposed-regulations
- Email: regulations@ncwildlife.org
- Mail: Rule-making Coordinator
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission
1701 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1701