

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### **Supplemental Feeding Ban in Union and Morehouse Parishes**

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953.1 and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule.

On December 2, 2021, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission announced that a Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) positive doe was discovered in Union County, Arkansas. The CWD positive doe was located just a few miles north of the Louisiana Border on Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge.

Therefore, in response to the discovery of CWD in Arkansas near the Louisiana Border, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is implementing its CWD Response Plan to monitor and curb the spread of CWD into Louisiana. The immediate cessation of all supplemental feeding, including mineral or salt licks, is hereby initiated for Union and Morehouse Parishes. The purpose of this feeding ban is to reduce the potential for the spread of CWD into Louisiana by reducing the risk of exposure when deer are concentrated around feeding sites.

The use of approved bait not normally ingested by deer for feral hog trapping will still be allowed. All bait must be placed and contained within the trap itself. Backyard bird feeders are also exempt from this Declaration of Emergency.

This Declaration of Emergency shall become effective December 6, 2021, and will remain in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and extend it if necessary.

Jerri G. Smitko  
Chair