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Comment from Huestis, Adrienne

Posted by the **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service** on Jan 26, 2026

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I support the renewal of this policy and appreciate the transparency of the burden this places on civil servants and affiliates. I would like to know where specimen submission and appraisal and indemnity claim forms have been moved to because other information collection may not prioritize Chronic Wasting Disease as they should. Prions are critically important to food safety because of their propensity to harbor in the soil for years and gravitate up the food chain. Although CWD hasn't crossed into livestock (infecting only cervids as of yet) nor infected any human model experiments, there is still a possibility the prion will have a conformation change that breaks through this species barrier. Given how extensive CWD is in North America, we will be the first affected by such a strain. As such, I want to see more progress in the control of CWD such as surveillance of environmental contamination and research into increased degradation of environmental prions.

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