

UNIFIED SPORTSMEN OF PENNSYLVANIA'S CWD SPONSORED RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP FORM

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a lethal neurological disease of species within the deer family (cervids), including deer, elk, and moose. For the last 40 years, the working hypothesis, known as the prion theory, claims that the causative agent of CWD is a malformed protein. However, Dr. Frank Bastian, a scientist at Louisiana State University, has discovered that the transmissible agent of CWD is a tiny wall-less bacterium called a spiroplasma, and that the prion is a by-product of the bacterial infection.

Dr. Bastian is now attempting to develop a diagnostic test for the disease and possible vaccine. He estimates that it will require \$100,000 of new funding for each of the next three years in order to complete these tasks. The rewards of his research in stopping the progression of CWD throughout America are incalculable, as are the negative consequences if CWD is left unchecked.

Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania (USP or Unified) has entered into a mutually-beneficial agreement toward ending CWD and protecting human health in Pennsylvania and throughout America. According to the agreement, Unified will provide grant funding for Dr. Bastian to complete his research. In return, Unified will be provided with first-stage diagnostic tests for Pennsylvania hunters to test deer in the field at the point of harvest for CWD infection – thus protecting humans from the possible infection of CWD. The diagnostic tests would further be a significant research and management tool for understanding and remediating CWD. Unified would also be offered first-stage testing of a vaccine if development is successful. These Unified coordinated Pennsylvania field tests would serve as a national demonstration project for dispersing these CWD strategies throughout America.

Unified has created a private CWD Sponsored Research Partnership to provide the opportunity for other concerned organizations and individuals to participate as partners in this historic effort to protect the health of sportsmen and those who consume venison from possible infection of CWD, to prevent further infection of cervids, to advance the science and management strategies of CWD prevention, and to place the disease in remediation within Pennsylvania and throughout America.

Organizations are now encouraged to join Unified in this historic partnership. The future of deer, elk, and moose depend on the research of Dr. Bastian, and his research may depend on the success of our Partnership.

CWD Donation Form

We (I) agree to join Unified in this Sponsored Research Partnership. Along with this agreement form, we (I) have included grant funding toward continuation of Dr. Bastian's research. Funding should be made payable to "Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania", and will be deposited in a CWD account for transfer to Dr. Bastian. It is understood that neither Dr. Bastian, LSU, or Unified can guarantee the successful outcome of the research nor the ability to successfully field-test associated diagnostic tests and/or vaccines. Unified will acknowledge all funding entities as being partners in this historic endeavor.

Name of Partner: _____

Address: _____

Officer or Representative: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Amount of Grant: _____ Type of Payment: _____

Email(s): _____

Phone(s): _____

Make grants payable to "Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania". Please send this form and funding to: Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania, c/o Pete Kingsley (Treasurer), 340 Hilltop Road, Strasburg, PA 17579. If questions: (717)682-3999.