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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release to all Media Outlets

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**VERGE Demos 100% Success and Correlation of The VERGE Procedure**

Madison Wisconsin – VERGE Vet Services has successfully demonstrated The VERGE Procedure – the first “live” ante-mortem diagnostic test for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) - to USDA, State, Wildlife, Veterinary Professionals, and Cervid Industry representatives, with a 100% success rate and a 100% correlation of results.

The VERGE team maintained a 100% success rate in obtaining acceptable biopsies of the Medial Retropharyngeal Lymph Node (MRPLN) tissues. The test results also demonstrated a 100% correlation for both positive and “not detected” results between The VERGE biopsies, and regulatory tests taken within the following week.

VERGE continued to have no surgical or post-operative complications with any of the deer tested, with all animals returned to grazing within 15 minutes of surgery.

Observers of the procedures commented that the surgery was both quick and professional, with the VERGE team clearly “knowing what they’re doing”. Mr. Rick Vojtik, an industry observer and host of the team, specifically commented that the animals looked better after the surgery than any of the other ones in that herd.

VERGE provided 20 individual biopsy samples to NVSL for testing and evaluation. Six of these samples tested positive in the biopsies, and all six also tested positive 3 days later during the mandatory de-population of the CWD positive herd. Just as critically, all of the remaining “not detected” samples correlated 100% between the biopsies and the regulatory testing.

The test demonstration was made possible due to efforts by The North American Deer Farmer’s Association (NADeFA), Whitetails of Wisconsin (WoW), Wisconsin DATCP, USDA-APHIS, Dr. Mike Strobush of Grasslands Veterinary Service, and Mr. Rick Vojtik of Adventures Ranch.

*VERGE Vet Services is a full-service, mobile Veterinary practice, specializing in Cervid healthcare and breeding. VERGE has pioneered advances in CWD prevention and testing, including The VERGE Procedure for live testing for CWD. Dr. Nathan Shotts of VERGE is recognized as one of the nation’s foremost experts on CWD, and routinely assist both industry and regulators with cervid health issues.*

For more information contact VERGE Vet Services at [INFO@VergeVet.com](mailto:INFO@VergeVet.com), or at (281) 203-2557 or (281) 203-8460.