



ANIMALS SUBMITTED by region

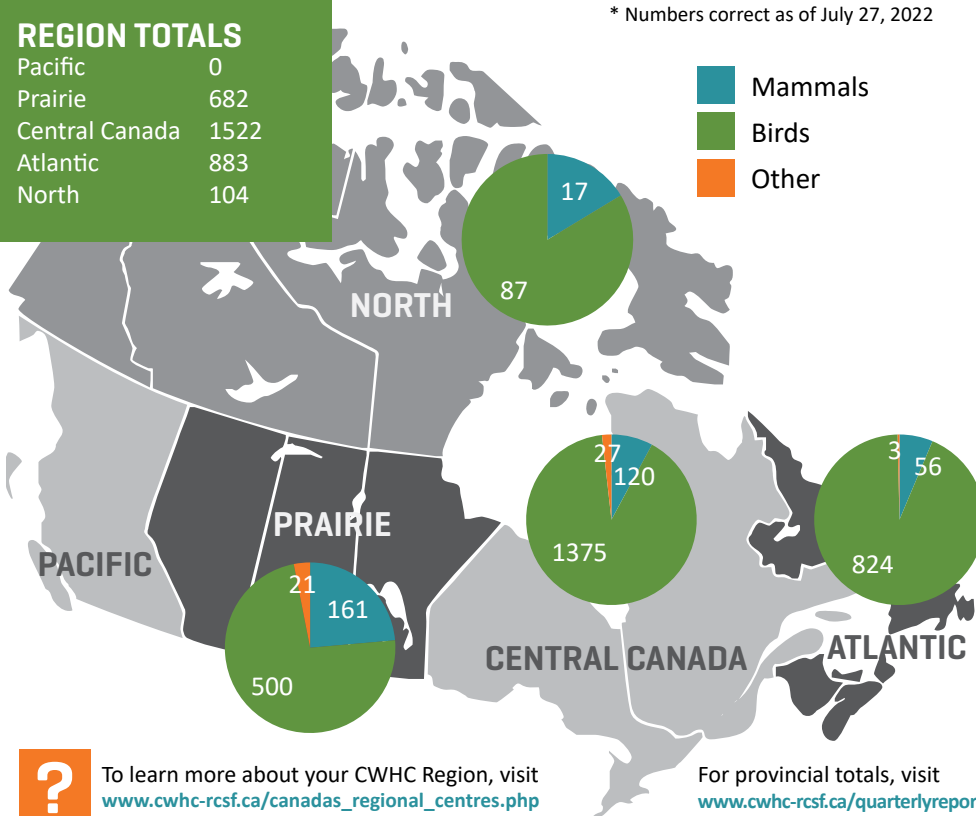
3191 ANIMALS TOTAL

* Numbers correct as of July 27, 2022

REGION TOTALS

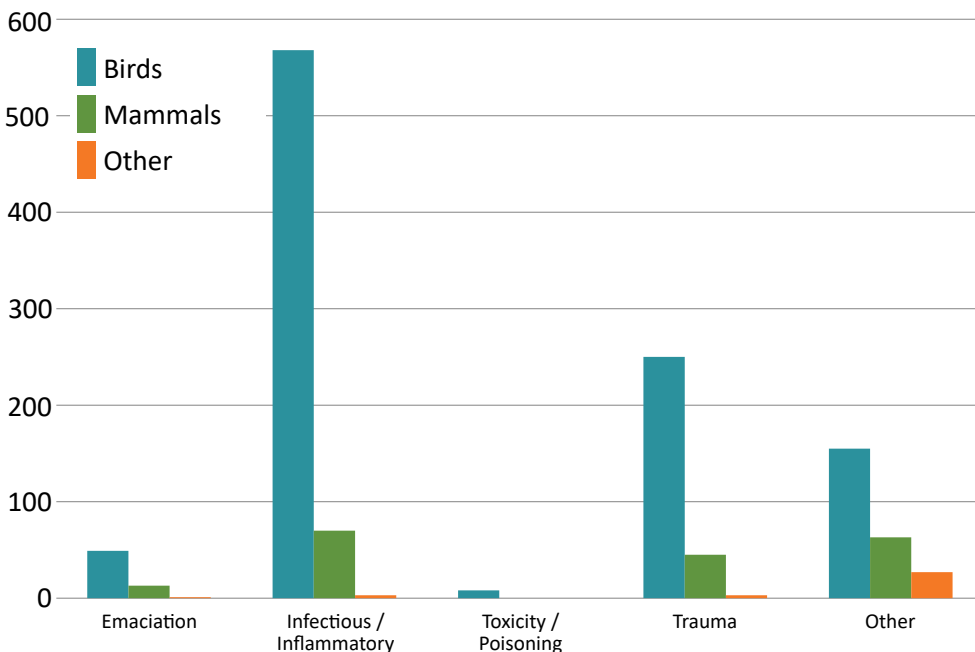
Pacific	0
Prairie	682
Central Canada	1522
Atlantic	883
North	104

Mammals
Birds
Other



To learn more about your CWHC Region, visit www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/canadas_regional_centres.php
For provincial totals, visit www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport

CAUSE OF DEATH category



PLEASE NOTE: An additional 1783 cases submitted to CWHC in this quarter are still pending cause of death determination; 1623 birds, 149 mammals, and 11 other species. 'Other' diagnoses include neoplastic, metabolic, and degenerative diseases as well as those cases where no cause of death could be determined.

SELECTED disease counts

RABIES

Examined	531
Positive	2

WHITE NOSE SYNDROME

Examined	72
Positive	4

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Examined	2786
Positive	687

PLEASE NOTE:

The AI viruses detected were of low-pathogenicity and North-American lineage. Both live bird samples and dead animal submissions are included.

SNAKE FUNGAL DISEASE

Examined	8
Positive	1

NEWCASTLE DISEASE

Examined	1010
Positive	0

WEST NILE VIRUS

Examined	2786
Positive	1

PLEASE NOTE: The cases reported above represent the data that are currently available in the CWHC database and should be considered preliminary. These data do not include all diagnostic testing for the selected pathogens carried out in Canada; additional testing is performed by other agencies and organisations. Examined refers to any candidate species for this disease. Testing is not always performed, unless the disease is suspected during necropsy or histological examination. Numbers are correct as of July 27, 2022.

For more information visit www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport



HIGHLIGHTS

A polar bear in Gaspésie, Quebec!

A polar bear was seen in the Gaspé Peninsula on May 1, near the municipality of Sainte-Madeleine-de-la-Rivière-Madeleine. Due to the risks to public safety, conservation officers from the ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs had to resign themselves to fatally shoot the animal. The bear carcass was submitted to the Centre québécois sur la santé des animaux sauvages (CWHC-Quebec) for analysis. The bear in question was a 300 kg male estimated to be around 5- or 6-year-old. The animal was in very good body condition; its reserves of subcutaneous and perivisceral fat being abundant. Our examinations did not identify any health problem in this animal. The very good body condition observed indicates that this bear has been able to eat properly over the past few weeks or months.

We can hypothesize that this exploration behaviour is related to a search for food sources. The traditional habitat of the polar bear is strongly altered by climate changes. This species is a specialist in hunting seals on the pack ice. With the melting of the ice getting earlier and earlier, the period suitable for this type of seal hunt is getting shorter and shorter. This seems to push polar bears to diversify their diet. For example, polar bears have been documented hunting caribou or waterfowl. It is possible that the presence of large numbers of harp seals, which give birth on the ice off the coast of Labrador, is attracting polar bears south. With the global changes to come, this type of exploration outside its usual distribution area could be more and more frequent in this species.

FEATURED project

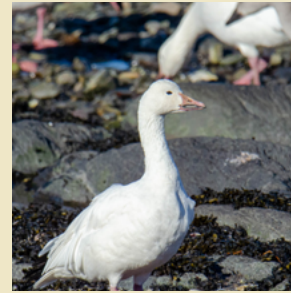
RAPTORS AND RODENTICIDES

In the summer of 2019, we analyzed the livers of deceased birds of prey submitted to the CWHC for residues of rat poisons. The most common group of commercially available rat poisons contain second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs). When the target rodent, like a rat or mouse, eats the bait containing SGARs, the SGARs interfere with the clotting cascade required for hemostasis, and cause death in the rodent by hemorrhage.

We know that SGARs are very effective at causing death in rodents but we do not know what happens to the birds of prey that eat these poisoned rodents. Over its lifetime, a bird of prey will eat thousands of rodents, and if some of them are poisoned with SGARs, the bird will be indirectly poisoned as well. The residues accumulate in body tissues, and can be measured using specific techniques. Using mass-spectrometry techniques in collaboration with the Animal Health Laboratory at the University of Guelph, we measured the levels of 14 different anticoagulant rodenticides in 133 raptors.

Our final results and analysis has been published in the Journal of Environmental Science and Pollution Research (<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11356-022-18529-z>).

WILDLIFE HEALTH tracker



First cases of HPAI in wild birds in Québec

This viral strain has been circulating in Europe since 2020 and was likely introduced to North America through migratory birds.



HPAI in Wild Birds in Ontario

Since the first confirmed report of HPAI in March 2022, CWHC Ontario has received an increased number of reports of dead wild birds throughout southern Ontario.



Influenza A (H5N1) virus detected in Wild Foxes in Ontario

One of the kits was found dead and the other was exhibiting severe neurological signs and died shortly after admission.



Mortalities in colonial seabirds associated with HPAI in Québec

Conservative estimates suggest that more than a hundred gannets died over just a few days.

For more information, click the image, or visit www.cwhc-rscf.ca/quarterlyreport

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FOR WILDLIFE AND SOCIETY

