



ANIMALS SUBMITTED by region

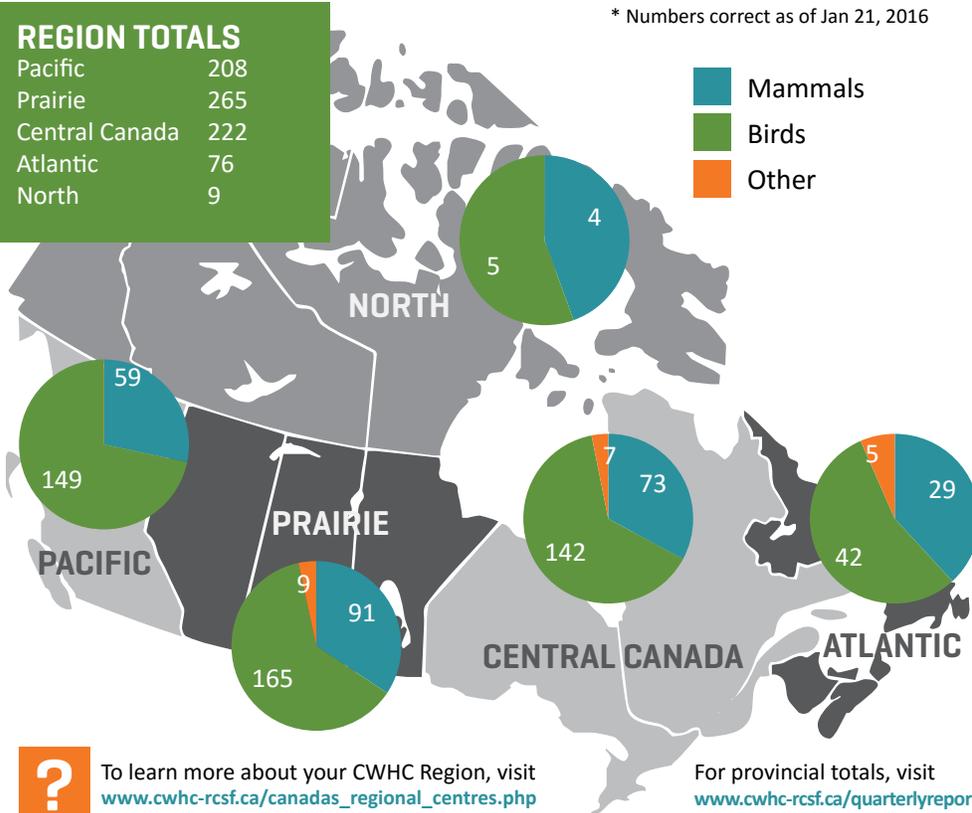
780 ANIMALS TOTAL

* Numbers correct as of Jan 21, 2016

REGION TOTALS

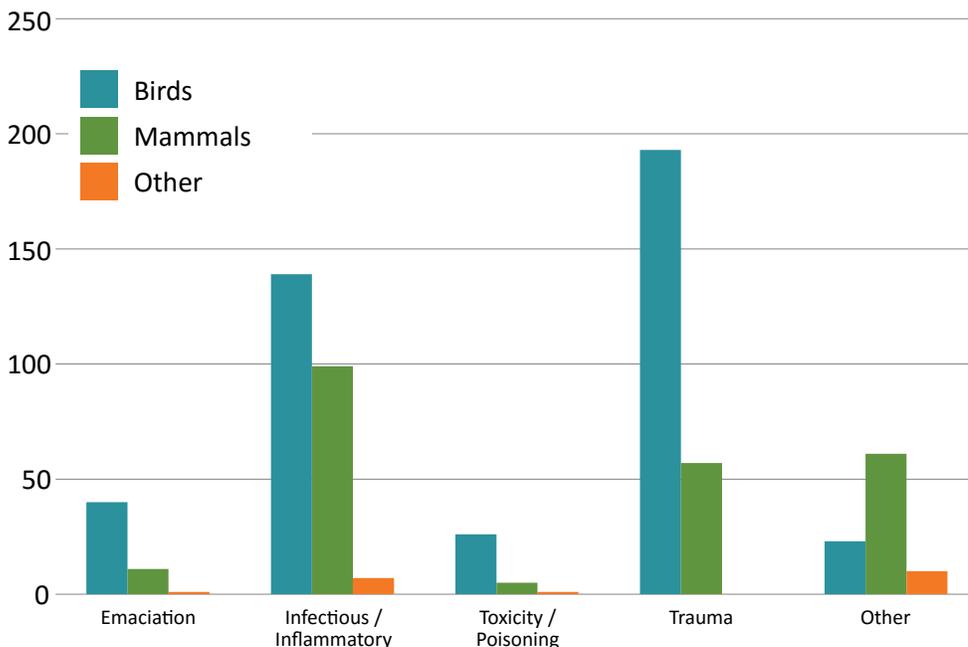
Pacific	208
Prairie	265
Central Canada	222
Atlantic	76
North	9

■ 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 107 cases submitted to CWHC in this quarter are still pending cause of death determination; 82 birds, 23 mammals, and 2 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	236
Positive	4

WHITE NOSE SYNDROME

Examined	21
Positive	0

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Examined	850
Positive	104

PLEASE NOTE:

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

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Examined	198
Positive	15

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Examined	65
Positive	0

AVIAN CHOLERA

Examined	206
Positive	79

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 January 21, 2016.

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



HIGHLIGHTS

Chronic wasting disease 2014/2015 season update

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) surveillance recommenced this year in Saskatchewan with CWHC Western/Northern testing a number of hunter-harvested deer for the disease. Although a small number of heads were tested across the province, results showed a higher proportion of positives than found in previous years, including positive cases in four new Wildlife Management Zones. These results suggest that CWD is continuing to increase and spread in SK deer populations.

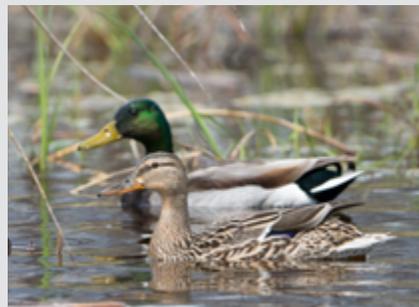
Raccoon rabies in Ontario

A case of raccoon strain rabies was detected in Hamilton, ON in December; the first case in the province since 2005, prompting Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) to ramp up vaccination and surveillance efforts. Several additional cases were subsequently detected within and outside of the original area. OMNRF is urging pet owners to ensure that their pets are up to date with vaccinations.

FEATURED project

ANALYSIS OF WETLAND SEDIMENT FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

The avian influenza (AI) outbreaks of 2014/2015 on poultry farms highlighted the need for a seasonal early warning system for the presence/absence of AI viruses in wild waterfowl. This would allow producers and government to implement biosecurity and surveillance measures appropriate for the level of risk. CWHC BC developed a new approach to this problem based on genomic analysis of wetland sediments.



Given that waterfowl congregate on wetlands, the BC team recognized the potential of testing wetland sediments to efficiently screen a large number of waterfowl encompassing a wide range of potential reservoir species. So far, the technique appears quite promising, as they were able to detect AI virus in up to 37% of sediment samples. They are further analyzing PCR-positive samples to characterize the AI viruses, and conducting analysis in conjunction with a waterfowl ecology study to better understand the dynamics of AI in the environment. The next step is to meet with local, provincial, and national stakeholders to share results and discuss the next steps for validating and implementing AI sediment surveillance. Ultimately, the goal is to use sediment surveillance as the cornerstone for developing an effective provincial AI early warning system.

For more information on avian influenza, visit our AI Portal:
www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/aiv

WILDLIFE HEALTH tracker



Snowy Owl deaths across Canada

An increase in Snowy Owl deaths during fall 2015 was seen by multiple CWHC regions. The majority of the birds were juveniles and were found to have died of either starvation or trauma.



Orca Baby Boom

Two orca calves were born off the BC coast during this quarter, bringing the total number of calves to eight during 2015. This 'baby boom' brought hope that the endangered southern resident population may be rebounding.



Alberta grizzly bear population increase

Foothills Research Institute reported higher than expected increases in AB foothills grizzly bear population over the past decade. Increases may be due in part to bears being relocated into the area.



Avian Cholera outbreak in SK

An outbreak of avian cholera occurred near Rosetown, Saskatchewan in November. CWHC Western/Northern confirmed the diagnosis after receiving 78 geese from the outbreak.

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

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