



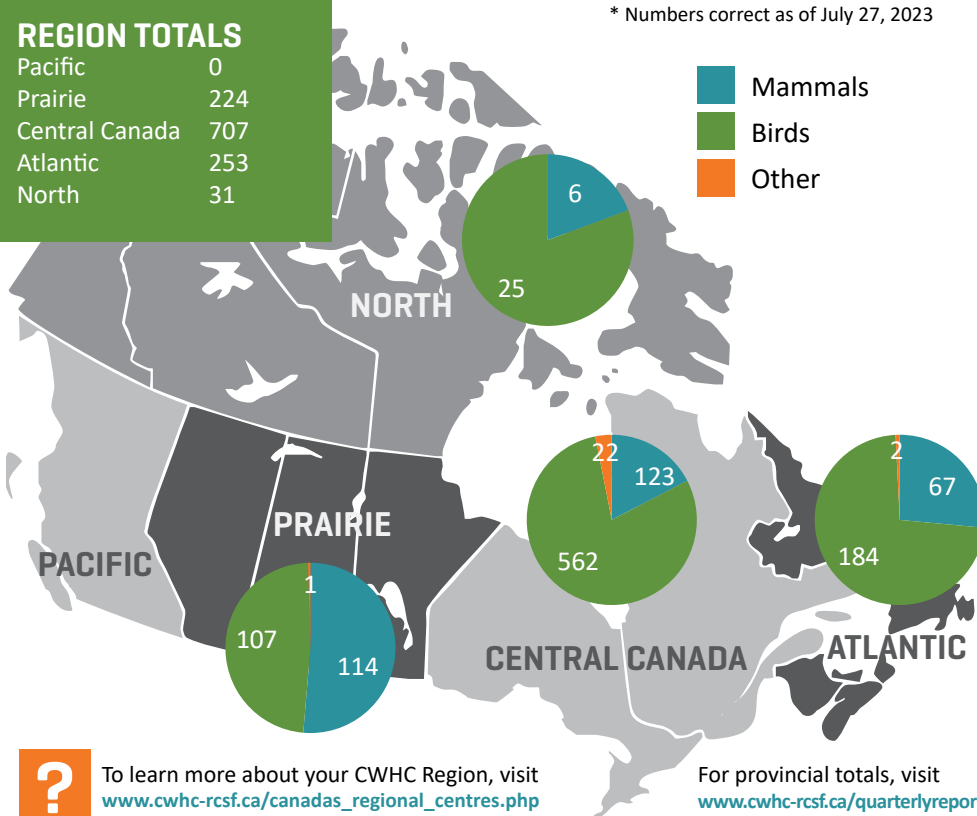
## ANIMALS SUBMITTED by region

1215 ANIMALS TOTAL

\* Numbers correct as of July 27, 2023

### REGION TOTALS

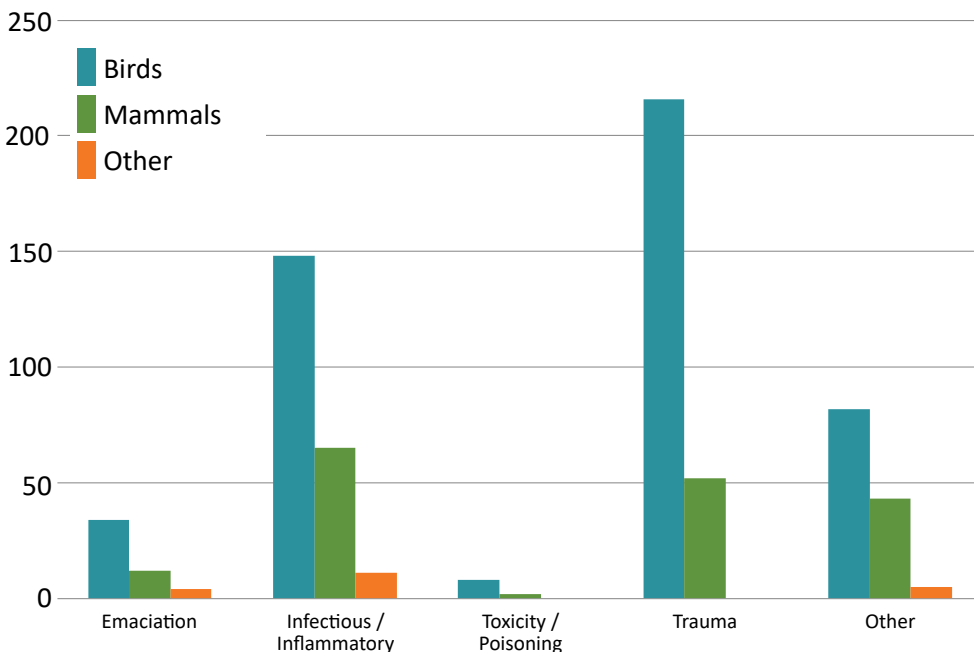
Pacific	0
Prairie	224
Central Canada	707
Atlantic	253
North	31



To learn more about your CWHC Region, visit [www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/canadas\\_regional\\_centres.php](http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/canadas_regional_centres.php)

For provincial totals, visit [www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport](http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport)

## CAUSE OF DEATH category



**PLEASE NOTE:** An additional 515 cases submitted to CWHC in this quarter are still pending cause of death determination; 377 birds, 133 mammals, and 5 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	449
Positive	8

### WHITE NOSE SYNDROME

Examined	61
Positive	0

### AVIAN INFLUENZA

Examined	661
Positive	121

**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	1
Positive	0

### NEWCASTLE DISEASE

Examined	324
Positive	0

### WEST NILE VIRUS

Examined	878
Positive	9

**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, 2023.

For more information visit [www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport](http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport)



## HIGHLIGHTS

### A rare find in our lab after Hurricane Fiona – a White-tailed Tropicbird

As part of the ongoing National Avian Influenza Virus Surveillance Program, CWHC-Atlantic received a large shipment of birds recently from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables. However sad this is, as a birder I'm also curious about the species that are found in the region. All gowned up and ready to start testing, I read on the one of the submission sheets that the bird in the package was a White-tailed Tropicbird. I thought it was a joke. Surely a tropic bird or bird from the tropics must be a mistake or a wild guess. What was I was going to find in the package?

For infectious control reasons, avian influenza suspect birds are packaged in three layers, so the suspense was building while unpacking this bird. After finally opening the third layer I saw a bird with an enormous orange bill, beautiful long white feathers with black wing bars.

Needless to say, I was puzzled and consulted our birding guide, but none of the birds in the book was fitting the bill (no pun intended). The bill colour and the weight of the bird weren't fitting with anything in the book. I took photos and consulted with local bird expert Dwaine Oakley. Here was his reply: "This is a White-tailed tropicbird, extremely rare for Nova Scotia and our region. They feed at sea and rarely come to land, except for the breeding season. They prefer warmer waters. Sadly, some of these birds were found dead in Cape Breton Island after hurricane Fiona last fall."

Fiona passed over White-tailed tropicbird breeding sites in Puerto Rico and Bermuda, and the species is common well offshore in the western Atlantic north to North Carolina. There is ongoing intensive management to improve conditions for tropicbird breeding success in the Castle Harbour Islands Nature Reserve in Bermuda.

The tropicbird was negative for avian influenza and we are exploring the possibility of sending this bird, which is rare for our region, to a Maritime Museum for their collection.

## WILDLIFE HEALTH tracker



### Bat Acoustic Monitoring Workshop

The Atlantic Region partnered with the NCPEI to host a bat acoustic monitoring workshop specifically designed for Indigenous groups from the Canadian Maritime provinces.



### Beluga Symposium 2023

This symposium brought together leading researchers working on different aspects of the conservation of belugas in the St. Lawrence Estuary, a population threatened with extinction.

## HPAI tracker

For the most up-to-date information on HPAI in Canada, please visit the [Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza - Wildlife Dashboard](#).



For more information, visit [www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport](http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/quarterlyreport)

## FEATURED project

### CWHC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In June of this year, the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative had its first annual general meeting since the pandemic. Staff travelled to the Atlantic regional centre in Charlottetown for three days of meetings. The first day featured presentations by the regional and national offices with an emphasis on finding ways to collaborate. The second day included topics of concern for the CWHC with discussions on avian influenza and data management. The final day included presentations on building relationships with Indigenous partners in the work that we do.

At this meeting the first ever Innovation in Research award was presented to Dr. Laura Bourque. Dr. Bourque created the monthly CWHC Wildlife Rounds, which can be attended virtually by members of the CWHC network, including federal and provincial wildlife health professionals as well as CWHC staff. The wildlife rounds were initially created at a time when the pandemic had shut things down and were a way for the staff to stay connected.

In addition to the meetings, staff were given the opportunity to socialize outside of office hours. The CWHC staff were treated to a lobster supper in New Glasgow, they participated in a trivia night at Upstreet Brewing and toured PEI national park, Greenwich.

It was important for the staff to get together and rebuild relationships after not having the opportunity to meet face to face for so long. For many this was the first time they were able to meet in person. Thank you to the CWHC Atlantic staff for hosting this great event.



CREATING A WORLD  
THAT IS SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE  
FOR WILDLIFE AND SOCIETY

