

New York State Wildlife Health Program (WHP)



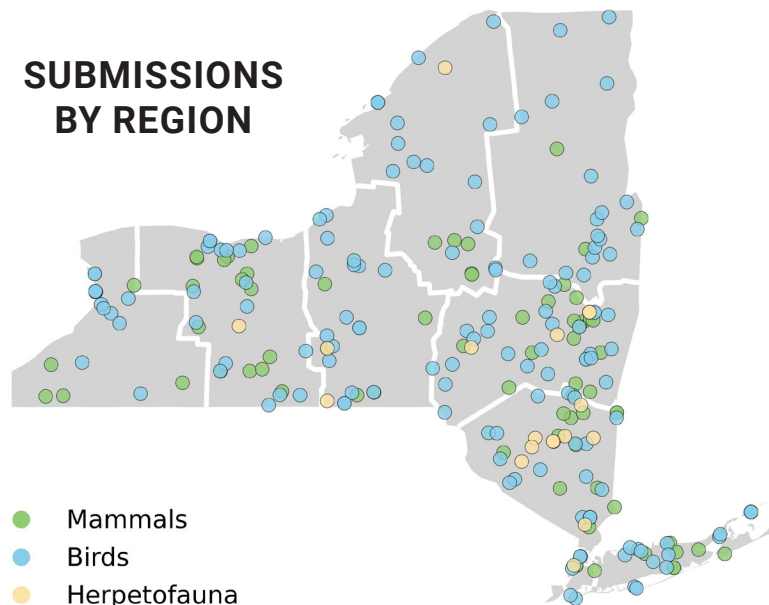
Department of Environmental Conservation

QUARTERLY REPORT

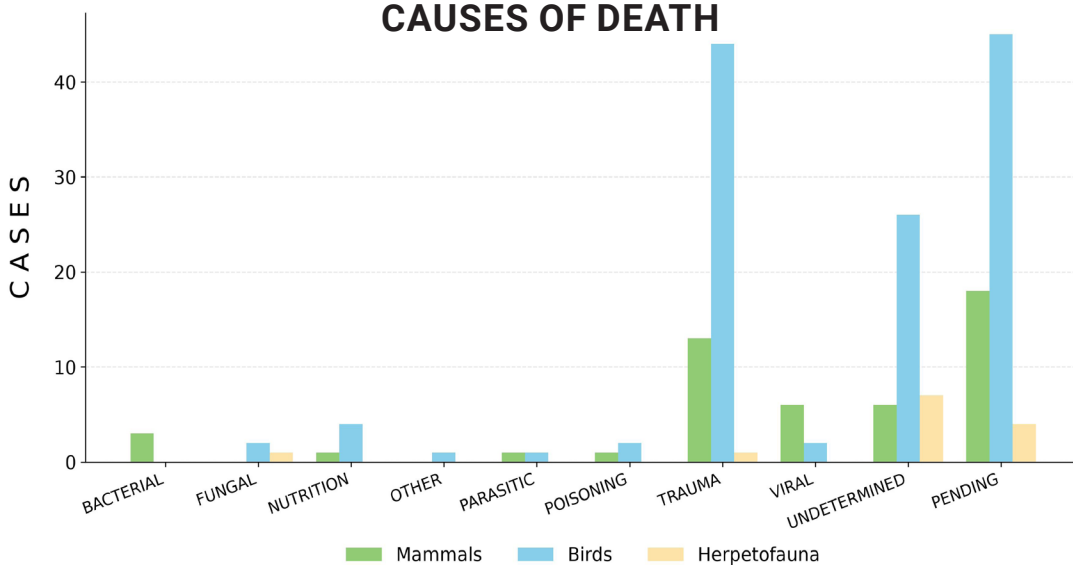
Q2- 2026 (APR-JUN)



SUBMISSIONS BY REGION



CAUSES OF DEATH



252 Total submissions

12 Rabies tests
2 Positive

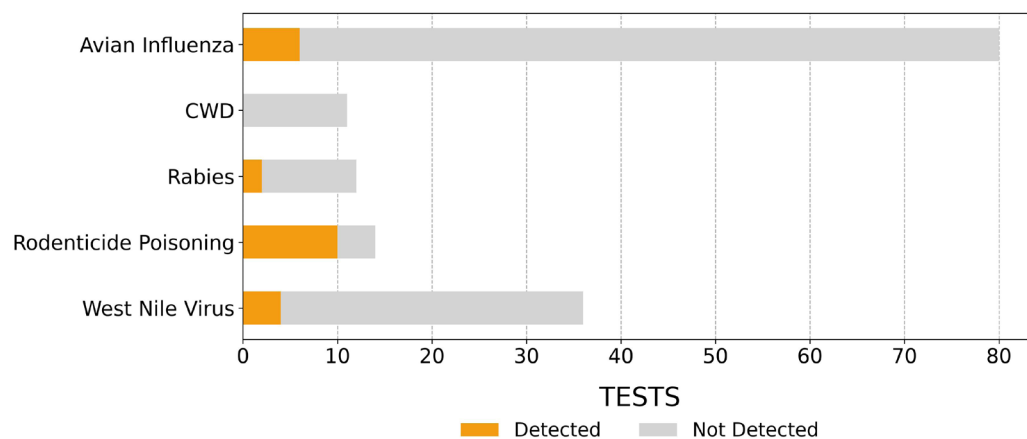
80 HPAI tests
6 Positive

34 Bird species
159 submissions

9 Herp species
19 submissions

20 Mammal species
73 submissions

TARGETED HEALTH SURVEILLANCE





Wildlife Health Workshops - Euthanasia & Safe Handling

With an emphasis on animal handling and euthanasia, this summer's WHP Wildlife Health Region Workshops involved a mix of lectures on staff safety with PPE, CWD and emerging diseases, and an introduction to new equipment when euthanasia is part of the outcome.

Dr. Jenny Bloodgood led a hands-on demonstration on euthanasia, utilizing different tools designed for quick and humane dispatch when required. DEC staff were able to practice appropriate euthanasia procedures on various bird carcasses across devices.

Kevin Hynes demonstrated appropriate handling practices when staff encounter a live animal, including catchpole techniques, containment, and CO₂ chamber use. Participants also received step-by-step guidance on staying safe in the field and minimizing animal stress.



Program happenings in the field and in the lab

Latest Presentations

North American Moose Conference

- Brenda Hanley "Surveillance optimization project for chronic wasting disease (SOP4CWD)"
- Jen Grauer "Habitat-associated risk of endoparasitism and survival in New York moose"

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society Conference

- NYS Wildlife Health Program booth -Jennifer, Melissa & Therese
- Brenda Hanley "Surveillance optimization project for chronic wasting disease (SOP4CWD)"

Training Events & Outreach

Camp DEC with Therese McNamee

- » Wildlife Health Program Intro

ECO Academy with Kevin Hynes

- » Training on Wildlife Disease, PPE, & Forensic Training

Forest Ranger Academy with Therese McNamee

- » Sessions on Wildlife Diseases & PPE

More News

Research Projects

[Uncovering the Origin of CWD in a New York Red Deer Herd](#)

[Herpesvirus in Diamondback Terrapins-Update](#)

[Range-wide Standardization of Moose Health Information](#)

Articles

[April: A Day in the Life of a DEC...Colby Plant](#)

New Additions

Data Engineer-[Hunter Kindlin](#)

Under the scope... Sky High Rodenticide

In mid-April, a member of the public in Monroe County reported a red fox that was unable to stand appropriately. Animal Control and a licensed wildlife rehabilitator met and captured the fox. It died on the way to the rehabilitation facility. DEC accepted the fox and sent it to CWHL for necropsy and additional diagnostics.

On necropsy, the adult male fox was in excellent body condition and did not display any signs of trauma. Mucous membranes were pale, and there were areas of unclotted blood in the abdominal and pleural cavities. Testing for [rabies](#) and [avian influenza](#) (both causes of neurologic issues in foxes) were negative.

Testing for anticoagulant rodenticides returned both trace amounts of Brodifacoum, and extraordinary amounts of Bromadiolone (1.56 ppm). The cause of death was exsanguination, secondary to the anticoagulant rodenticide. Lethal dose in canines is 2.38+ ppm (parts per million).

Keeping **YOU** in the loop!

- Interested in getting the "WHP Weekly Case Reports"? Email us at cwhl@cornell.edu to get registered & keep up to date on all WHP cases! Access to the case reporting system is available to agency staff.
- Check out the latest WHP disease watch alerts, Wildlife 411, or Lab news impacting wildlife health at cwhl.vet.cornell.edu.