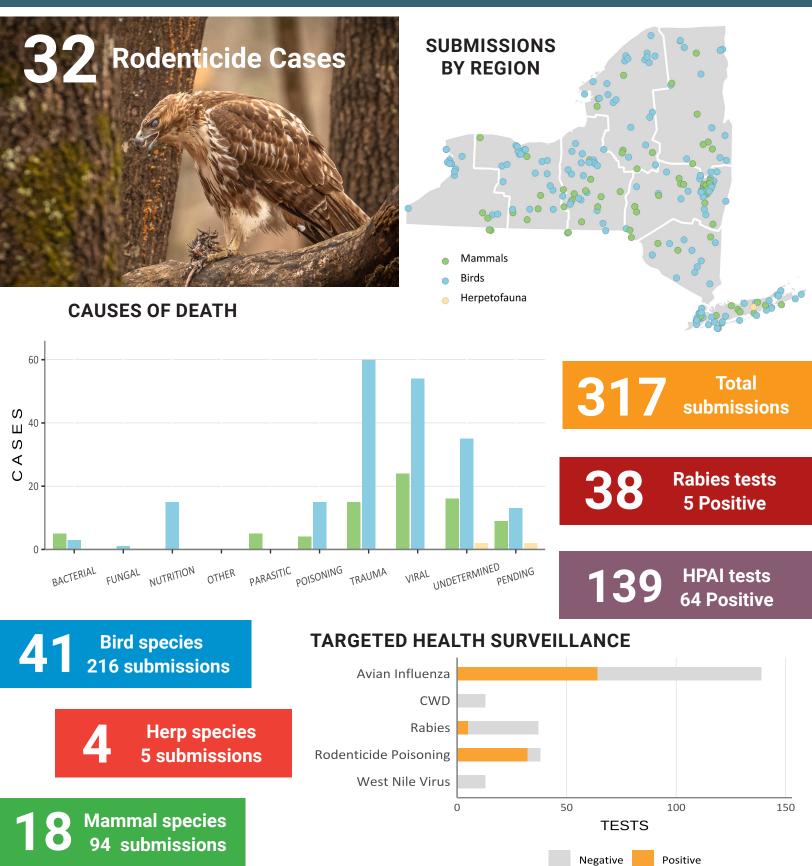
New York State Wildlife Health Program (WHP)



QUARTERLY REPORT





The New York State Cooperative Wildlife Health Program (WHP) is a partnership between the DEC Bureau of Wildlife and Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine that works to safeguard the long-term health of the wildlife populations of New York.







New York Chapter of The Wildlife Society's Outstanding Professional - Kevin Hynes

For nearly 30 years, Kevin Hynes has been invested in wildlife health in New York, working his way upwards to eventually lead one of the best wildlife health programs in the country. He has championed a collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach to wildlife health, recognizing the importance of emerging infectious diseases in wildlife, as well as the interconnectedness of animal, human, and environmental well-being. He has a depth of knowledge that can only be gained by years in the "trenches" examining wildlife carcasses to determine their cause of death. He has been on the front lines of outbreaks of <u>West Nile virus</u>, chronic wasting disease, and white-nose syndrome.

Kevin has probably examined every species New York has to offer. His deep interest in iconic species, like bald eagles and moose, has led to productive research efforts to assess the impacts of toxins, parasites, and pathogens. He also has vast experience with forensic cases, helping law enforcement close cases on wildlife-related infractions for decades. **Congratulations on a well-deserved award!**

Program **happenings** in the **field** and in the **lab**

Updates & Highlights

- Upcoming Wildlife Health Team Workshops
 - May 10 DEC Law Enforcement Training Center, Pulaski for Regions 5, 6, & 7
 - June 3 Bronx Zoo for Regions 1 & 2
 - July 10 Letchworth State Park, Humphrey Nature Center, Castille for Regions 8 & 9
 - July 16 Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar for Regions 3, 4, 5, & Central Office staff
- WAMC Radio interview: <u>Outdoors with</u> Jeremy Hurst and Kevin Hynes

Under the **scope**...

First HPAI-positive Raccoon in NY

An adult raccoon was found deceased near a dead bald eagle, and both were submitted to the Wildlife Health Unit in Delmar for examination. The eagle tested positive for HPAI. The raccoon had an unusual haircoat, as if it had overgroomed itself. Puncture wounds were found in various spots on its body, leading to a suspicion of rabies. However, testing revealed it was negative for rabies.

The raccoon's cause of death was not clear from the gross necropsy and additional testing at the Cornell Diagnostic Lab revealed the raccoon was HPAI-positive, making it the presumptive cause of death and the first detection in raccoons in NYS. Fixed tissues with various sections of skin and brain have been submitted for histopathology and dermatological evaluation;

results are pending.



Keeping YOU in the loop!

- Interested in getting the "WHP Weekly Case Reports"? Email us at <u>cwhl@cornell.edu</u> 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 <u>cwhl.vet.cornell.edu</u>.



Promoting the health and long-term sustainability of wildlife populations by advancing scientific tools and sharing knowledge to protect and improve the health of native wildlife populations

Cornell Animal Health Diagnostic Center