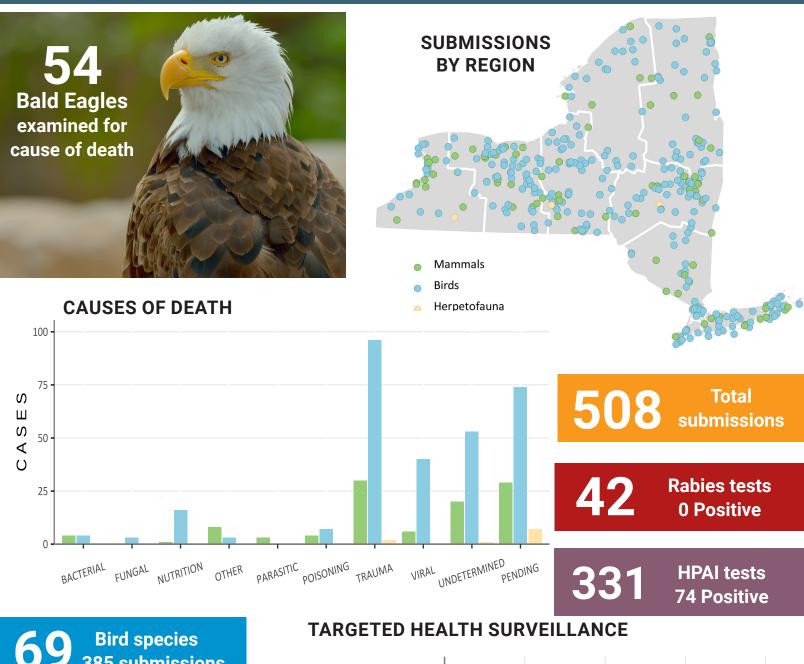


WHP QUARTERLY REPORT

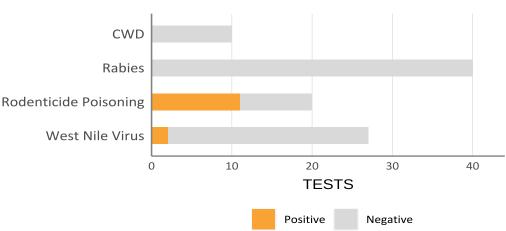
Q2 - 2022 (APR-JUN)



385 submissions

**Herp species** 10 submissions

**Mammal species** 134 submissions





## Back in-person for Regional Wildlife Health Workshops

The WHP team hit the road in May and June for regional training workshops across the state with participation from over 125 professionals within the DEC, NYS Parks, and Division of Law Enforcement. The workshops included a 10-year review of the Wildlife Health Program, along with herpetofauna and research project updates, emerging risks to wildlife, and a highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) field exercise.

Over the 5 workshops, WHP personnel covered a range of topics. Most important was the training on personal protective equipment (PPE) and basic handling precautions for wildlife cases. We also discussed the recent outbreaks of SARS-CoV-2 in wildlife, HPAI in birds and mammals, and rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus 2. DEC staff got updates on projects studying population impacts of lead ammunition on bald eagles, epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus in deer, moose health research and distribution of anticoagulant rodenticides in furbearers.

Kevin Hynes demonstrating avian swabbing techniques for HPAI submission during an outbreak investigation (above left) and discussing the importance of handling and packaging specimens (left).

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

#### **Publications**

We've been busy. Here are some of the latest publications by the WHP team:

Informing surveillance through the characterization of outbreak potential of chronic wasting disease in white-tailed deer

Aquatic eDNA can advance monitoring of a small-bodied terrestrial salamander and amphibian pathogen

Survival and release of 5 American crows (Corvus brachyrhynchos) naturally infected with West Nile Virus

# Under the **scope...**

### Fox Kits and HPAI

In early April 2022, several reports of fox kits with strange symptoms were reported to the WHU. Wildlife rehabbers reported lethargy, depression, seizures/tremors, fever, excessive salivation, chewing, and falling unconscious.

Upon examination, the kits were in good body condition but overall pale. In all of the 6 cases, the kits had bloody congested lungs, blood in the brain and brain stem, and blood in the body cavity without associated trauma. Most of the kits had watery intestinal contents or diarrhea. Preliminary testing detected highly-pathogenic avian influenza virus and were confirmed by NVSL.

### Keeping YOU in the loop!

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

