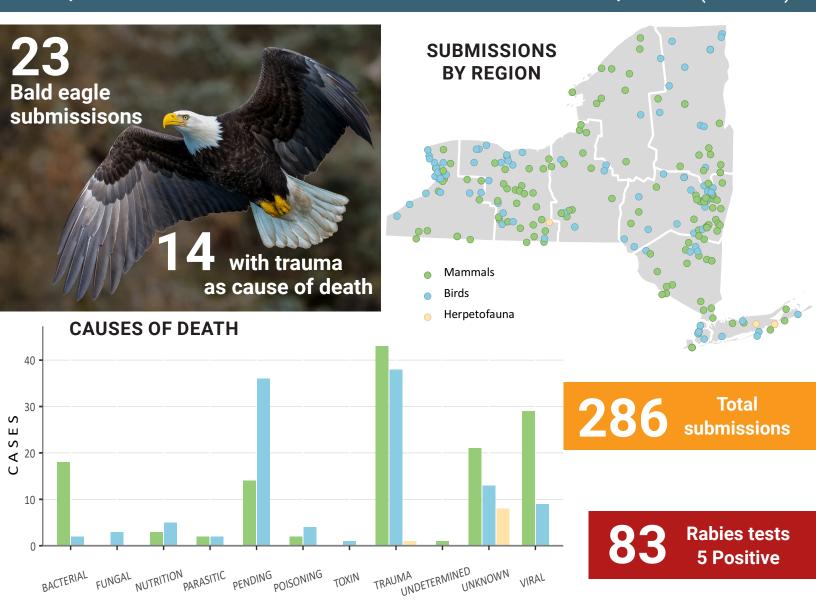


WHP QUARTERLY REPORT

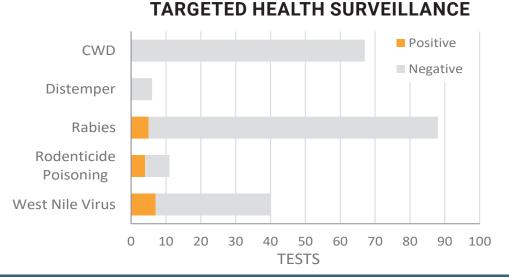
**Q4 - 2021** (OCT-DEC)



Bird species
116 submissions

Herp species 9 submissions

Mammal species 149 submissions





# Waterfowl Contaminant Conservation Project

This fall, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania collected waterfowl (mallards, wood ducks, black ducks, green-wing teal, and Canada geese) as part of a Multistate Conservation Grant research project to identify contaminants, such as Hg, PCBs, and PFAs, that might be present in these species most likely to be consumed by hunters. Present Dept. of Health consumption advisories may be outdated and based on other species.

This large-scale collection effort required randomly collected adult birds, which necessitated an online system where hunters could submit photos of wings for aging by agency waterfowl biologists. Tissues will be sent to laboratories in 2022 for chemical analysis. We appreciate all the samples that have been submitted for this important project!

# Program happenings in the field and in the lab

### Keeping an Eye Out - Surveillance Reminders

\*High Path Avian Influenza detected in Canada, South & North Carolina; report respiratory & neurologic signs or unusual numbers of mortality in waterfowl or raptors.

\*RHDV2 confirmed in domestic rabbits in Montgomery County; report wild rabbits with bloody faces or large numbers of mortality.

### **Fact Sheets Library Growing**

We've added more disease guides to the <u>CWHL</u> <u>Resource Library</u> - check them out!

#### Publications & Software and more

The WHP team has two publications in press and seven new <u>software apps</u> on wildlife disease & management.

# Under the **scope...**

# Moose with Brainworm, Liver Fluke, and Abscesses

A 2½ year old female moose came to the WHU in November after being euthanized in the field due to emaciation and inability to stand. Upon examination, a healing fracture of the left hind leg and multiple abscesses, including a large one enveloping the spleen, were observed. The liver contained several abscesses and scar tissue consistent with liver fluke damage; evidence of fluke migration through other tissues, including the abdominal wall, was also found. A thorough brain dissection revealed one *Parelaphostrongylus tenuis* (deer brainworm).

Diagnostic testing identified *Trueperella pyogenes* from the spleen abscess; the moose was negative for CWD and EHD. Brainworm infection in moose is often fatal as it causes altered behavior resulting in reduced foraging, poor body condition, and predisposition to traumatic injury. Giant liver fluke (*Fascioloides magna*) infection is common in NY moose and can result in extensive liver damage, but in this case the damage may not have been severe enough to be a significant contributing factor in the condition of this moose.

## 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.