

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT
January 1989 to March 1989

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Atlantic Flyway</u>					
Indian River	FL	03/17/89-03/17/89	American white pelicans	39	Open
Porterville Road	GA	05/02/88-05/03/88	Mourning doves	11 (e)	Toxin suspect
Brunswick	GA	11/10/88-02/10/89	Unidentified gulls	35 (e)	Toxin suspect
Brunswick	GA	01/05/89-01/12/89	Herring gulls	6 (e)	Aspergillosis suspect
Gordon Co.	GA	01/29/89-01/30/89	Crows Bluejays Common grackles Red-winged blackbirds	200 (e)	Toxin: Famphur
Walpole	MA	01/07/89-01/14/89	Unidentified ducks Unidentified geese Unidentified gulls	35 (e)	Toxin suspect
Outer Barrier Island	NC	03/01/89-03/22/89	Common loons Gannets Skuas	50 (e)	Open
Outer Banks	NC	03/05/89-ongoing	Common loons Gannets	325 (e)	Open
Schuylerville	NY	03/12/89-03/16-89	Canada geese	50 (e)	Sphaeridiotrema Spiridiotrema
LaPaquera	PR	01/10/89-01/24/89	Brown pelicans	15 (e)	Toxin suspect
Charleston	SC	03/06/89-03/20/89	Brown pelicans	15 (e)	Toxin suspect
<u>Central Flyway</u>					
Great Falls	MT	02/21/89-03/01/89	Mallards Canada geese	55	Emaciation/lead poisoning

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT - Cont.
January 1989 to March 1989

2

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Central Flyway (cont.)</u>					
Rainwater Basin	NE	03/05/89-ongoing	Snow geese Canada geese White-fronted geese Unidentified ducks	1,089	Avian cholera
Kearney Co.	NE	03/30/89-03/30/89	Sandhill cranes	3	Toxin suspect
Weatherford	OK	01/01/89-01/02/89	Sandhill cranes	2	Mycotoxin suspect
Laguna Atascosa	TX	01/09/89-01/13/89	Snow geese Canada geese White-fronted geese	5	Open
Springer WMA	WY	03/12/89-03/13/89	Snow geese	5	Avian cholera suspect
Laramie	WY	03/20/89-3/20/89	Redheads	75	Trauma
<u>Mississippi Flyway</u>					
Daphne	AL	12/29/88-12/29/88	Red-tailed hawks Red-winged blackbirds Killdeer	31 (e)	Toxin: organophosphate or carbamate
Wapanocca NWR	AR	01/07/89-01/08/89	Mallards Black ducks Wood ducks	2	Open
Logan and Yell Co.	AR	03/23/89-03/23/89	White pelicans	9	Open
Desoto NWR	IA	01/23/89-01/30/89	Snow geese Mallards	24	Avian cholera
Union Co. Area	IL	01/09/89-03/09/89	Canada geese Bald eagles	1,653	Avian cholera
Horseshoe Lake	IL	01/11/89-02/08/89	Canada geese	1,500 (e)	Avian cholera

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT - Cont.
January 1989 to March 1989

3

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Mississippi Flyway (cont.)</u>					
Springfield	IL	03/08/89-03/10/89	Canada geese	36 (e)	Open
Shiawassee River	MI	01/05/89-01/11/89	Mallards Black ducks	125 (e)	Lead poisoning
Twin Cities	MN	01/05/89-01/10/89	Mallards	49	Open
Twin Cities	MN	03/08/89-03/10/89	Mallards	70	Salt toxicosis suspect
Reelfoot NWR	TN	03/20/89-03/27/89	Mallards Pintails Bald eagles Red-tailed hawks Northern harriers	110 (e)	Toxin suspect
Appleton	WI	02/15/89-03/03/89	Red-tailed hawks Great-horned owls Screech owls	2	Toxin suspect
<u>Pacific Flyway</u>					
Prince William Sound	AK	03/24/89-ongoing	Sea otters Various seabirds	4,000 (e)	Oiling suspect
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta	CA	11/28/89-02/03/89	Tundra swans Coots Pintails Mallards Ruddy ducks Snow geese	676	Avian cholera
SE Colusa County	CA	12/03/88-01/10/89	Snow geese Pintails Ross' geese Cackling Canada geese White-fronted geese Wigeons	638	Avian cholera

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT - Cont.
January 1989 to March 1989

4

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Pacific Flyway (cont.)</u>					
Gray Lodge WMA	CA	12/23/88-03/06/89	Wigeons Snow geese Pintails Coots Mallards Ruddy ducks	1,552	Avian cholera
Doctors Pond	CA	01/02/89-03/01/89	Aleutian Canada geese Canada geese Cackling Canada geese Coots	20 (e)	Avian cholera
Modesto Oxidation Ponds	CA	01/03/89-03/06/89	Coots Ruddy ducks Canada geese	169	Avian cholera
Point San Pablo Harbor	CA	01/22/89-01/22/89	Herring gulls	60 (e)	Emaciation, aspergillosis
Lower Klamath NWR	CA	01/30/89-01/31/89	Shovelers Pintails	189	Emaciation/starvation
Salton Sea NWR	CA	02/10/89-02/20/89	Black-necked stilts Ring-billed gulls Shovelers Coots American avocets	56	Avian cholera
Newell	CA	02/10/89-02/17/89	Mallards Wigeons Unidentified geese	750	Avian cholera
Ceres Waste Water Rx Plant	CA	02/22/89-03/01/89	Coots Ruddy ducks Mallards Canvasbacks Unidentified gulls	20	Avian cholera

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT - Cont.
January 1989 to March 1989

5

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Pacific Flyway (cont.)</u>					
Sutter Flood Plain; Sutter Co.	CA	02/22/89-02/28/89	Tundra swans	100 (e)	Avian cholera
Butte Valley WMA	CA	02/24/89-04/04/89	Pintails Snow geese Wigeons Ross' geese Tundra swans	685	Avian cholera
Salton Sea NWR	CA	03/01/89-03/01/89	Snow geese Ross' geese	6	Toxin: carbamate
Camp Pendleton	CA	03/10/89-03/15/89	Tricolored blackbirds Crows	50 (e)	Toxin suspect
Salton Sea	CA	03/13/89-03/13/89	Pintails	4	Lead poisoning
Colusa NWR	CA	12/01/89-02/22/89	Snow geese White-fronted geese Ross' geese Pintails Shovelers Wigeons	359	Avian cholera
Stillwater NWR	NV	01/22/89-02/05/89	Canada geese Unidentified hawks Mallards	130	Aspergillosis
6 Man Gun Club	NV	02/28/89-03/10/89	Pintails Green-winged teals	20 (e)	Open

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT - Cont.
January 1989 to March 1989

6

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Pacific Flyway (cont.)</u>					
Salt Lake Co.	UT	09/01/88-10/08/88	Shovelers Pintails Green-winged teals Cinnamon teals Gadwalls Redheads	8,000 (e)	Botulism type C
Powell Slough WMA	UT	09/14-88-10/03/88	Green-winged teals Pintails Gadwalls Shovelers Wigeons Mallards	1,500 (e)	Botulism type C
Washington Coast	WA	12/23/88-01/26/89	Common murre Surf scoters Common scoters White-winged scoters Western grebes Cassin's auklets	10,336	Toxin: oil
<u>Update</u>					
Sacramento NWR	CA	09/12/88-02/24/89	Wigeons Coots Snow geese White-fronted geese	1,161	Avian cholera/lead poisoning
Klamath Basin NWR	CA	11/29/88-03/25/89	Snow geese Ross' Geese Wigeons White-fronted geese Mallards	3,218	Avian cholera

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT - Cont.
January 1989 to March 1989

7

Location	State	Date	Species	Mortality	Diagnosis
<u>Update (cont.)</u>					
Butte Sink NWR	CA	12/01/88-02/01/89	Snow geese Ross' geese White-fronted geese Mallards Pintails Wigeons	386	Avian cholera/lead poisoning
Sutter NWR	CA	12/15/88-02/22/89	Snow geese Pintails Ring-necked ducks	359	Avian cholera/lead poisoning
Delevan NWR	CA	12/13/88-03/11/89	Snow geese White-fronted geese	1,404	Avian cholera/lead poisoning
Merced NWR	CA	12/18/88-01/05/89	Snow geese Mallards Sandhill cranes	25	Avian cholera suspect
Monte Vista	CO	11/29/88-01/25/89	Unidentified ducks Canada geese Sandhill cranes Mallards	3,000 (e)	Avian cholera
Fort Sill	OK	12/29/88-12/30/88	Ring-necked ducks	50 (e)	Open
Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR	TX	12/05/88-12/30/88	Snow geese Unidentified ducks	10,000 (e)	Avian cholera

Prepared by the NWHRC. For specific information, contact the following Resource Health Team members: Pacific Flyway, Kathryn Converse; Central Flyway, Ronald Windingstad; Mississippi Flyway, Karen Roertgen; Atlantic Flyway, Thomas Roffe.

This information was submitted to NWHRC by the following groups: National Wildlife Health Research Center (NWHRC); Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS); other Federal agencies; State conservation organizations; Canadian Wildlife Service; and private organizations.

(e) = estimated mortality

National Wildlife Health Research Center Quarterly Mortality Report. The following summarizes bird mortalities reported by the NWHR for January-March, 1989.

NWHR received reports of 53 wildlife disease die-offs; the primary cause of mortality was avian cholera (30%). Many cases remain open as of this time.

Mortality from avian cholera occurred in the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska again this spring. The pattern of mortality this year was atypical. In many areas the die-off ended soon after detection of initial mortality. The total number of carcasses picked up by the end of March was just over 1,000 waterfowl, an unexpectedly low number considering that more than 1.1 million ducks and geese were concentrated on the limited number of wetlands that had water.

The December outbreak of avian cholera in waterfowl using the rice belt in eastern Texas has ended: 7,332 birds were picked up. Highest losses occurred in snow (4,393) and white-fronted geese (1,287). Mortality was also reported in Canada and Ross' geese, 13 species of ducks, 8 species of other waterbirds, and 13 other birds.

A sudden die-off of 124 Canada geese and six mallards occurred in late January at the Fort Churchill Power Plant cooling pond, Fallon, Nevada. Canada geese submitted to NWHR, Nevada State Diagnostic Laboratory, and California Fish and Game were diagnosed as acute aspergillosis. A field investigation revealed that residues of chopped corn left on a nearby field after harvest were moldy. The waste corn had been covered by snow for 3 weeks and then exposed to 3 weeks of warm temperatures. It is very unusual for this area to have this long a period of snow cover. Aspergillosis was also diagnosed by California Fish and Game as the cause of death for five swans on Bolin Island and an estimated 60 immature herring gulls at the San Pablo Yacht Harbor.

The final mortality for the oil spill involving the barge "Nestucca" off the coast of Washington, December 23, 1988, was 10,336 birds collected between Newport, Oregon, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca through January 26, 1989. Most commonly recovered species were common murres (85%), surf, common and white-winged scoters (8-10%); the remaining 5-7% were western grebes, auklets, murrelets, and gulls. Several oiled bald eagles were observed in the area; toxicology and histology are pending on the one eagle found dead and submitted to us.