

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT

April 1991 to June 1991

LOCATION	STATE	DATES	SPECIES	MORTALITY	DIAGNOSIS	*REPORTED BY
<i>Atlantic Flyway</i>						
NE Florida coast	FL	04/01/91-05/01/91	Gannet Common Loon	10	Emaciation	NW
Destin	FL	04/11/91-05/02/91	Common Loon	6	Emaciation	SC
Daytona Beach	FL	04/19/91-04/22/91	Brown Pelican Ring-billed Gull	63	Open	SC
Monroe County	GA	04/15/91-05/24/91	Purple Finch Unidentified Blackbird Brown-headed Cowbird	9	Salmonellosis	SC
Wellfleet Harbor	MA	05/24/91-07/01/91	King Eider Unidentified Gull	124 (e)	Emaciation/open	NW
Stevensville, Kent Island	MD	04/28/91-05/10/91	Muscovy Duck	35	Duck plague	NW
Avenue	MD	05/09/91-05/10/91	Muscovy Duck	2	Duck plague suspect	NW
Hagerstown	MD	05/09/91-06/10/91	Muscovy Duck Mallard	30 (e)	Duck plague suspect	NW
Dundalk	MD	06/03/91-07/01/91	Mallard	76 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
Preston	MD	06/17/91-06/22/91	Muscovy Duck	10	Duck plague suspect	NW
Fort George Meade	MD	06/18/91-07/01/91	Canada Goose	5 (e)	Botulism suspect	NW
Forsyth and Richmond County	NC	03/28/91-05/19/91	Mourning Dove	14	Trichomoniasis	SC
Perkasie	PA	06/03/91-06/26/91	Muscovy Duck	10 (e)	Duck plague	UP/NW
Hampton	VA	04/01/91-04/18/91	Muscovy Duck	100 (e)	Duck plague	NW
Burrowsville	VA	04/19/91-04/24/91	Mallard	8	Emaciation	NW
Chesapeake	VA	05/13/91-06/03/91	Muscovy Duck	22	Duck plague suspect	NW
Isle of Wight County	VA	04/05/91-04/05/91	American Robin Eastern Bluebird	4	Toxicosis: Carbofuran, Phorate	SC
King George County	VA	04/09/91-04/28/91	Water Pipit Brown-headed Cowbird Rusty Blackbird Savannah Sparrow House Sparrow	34	Toxicosis: Carbofuran	SC

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<u>Atlantic Flyway cont.</u>						
Amburg	VA	04/05/91-04/07/91	Unidentified Cormorant Common Loon	22	Trauma: drowning-gill nets	SC
Triangle	VA	05/15/91-05/15/91	European Starling	13	Open	SC
<u>Mississippi Flyway</u>						
Birchnell	IA	06/14/91-06/20/91	American Goldfinch Starling	30 (e)	Open	NW
Corning	IA	05/21/91-05/21/91	Canada Goose	6	Open	NW
Wheeling	IL	06/03/91-06/10/91	Mallard	5	Botulism suspect	IL
Evansville	IN	04/30/91-06/01/91	Muscovy Duck	30	Duck plague	NW
Mt. Vernon	IN	06/15/91-06/20/91	Muscovy Duck	14	Duck plague suspect	NW
Cameron Prairie NWR	LA	03/03/91-03/07/91	White-fronted Goose	3	Lead poisoning	NW
Washington	MO	01/01/91-01/15/91	American Goldfinch	100 (e)	Salmonellosis	NW
North Royalton	OH	05/16/91-05/17/91	Canada Goose	29	Toxicosis: Organophosphorus compd.	NW
Toledo	OH	05/15/91-06/13/91	Ring-billed Gull (eggs)	1,750 (e)	Open	NW
Mead Wildlife Area	WI	06/08/91-06/15/91	Double-crested Cormorant Great Blue Heron	41 (e)	Open	NW
Green Bay	WI	06/14/91-06/21/91	Redhead Hooded Merganser Green-winged Teal	8	Open	NW
Neenah	WI	06/17/91-07/01/91	Mallard	50	Botulism type C	NW
Fond du Lac	WI	06/28/91-07/29/91	Mallard	75 (e)	Botulism type C	CAHL
<u>Central Flyway</u>						
Tewaukon NWR	ND	04/01/91-04/15/91	Snow Goose White-fronted Goose Lesser Scaup	94 (e)	Avian cholera	NW
Pheasant Lake	ND	04/04/91-04/15/91	Lesser Scaup	82	Coccidiosis	NW
Atkinson	NE	04/26/91-04/27/91	Sandhill Crane American White Pelican	60	Trauma: hailstorm	NW

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<i>Central Flyway cont.</i>						
Valentine NWR	NE	06/15/91-06/26/91	Double-crested Cormorant	750 (e)	Open	NW
Bridgewater	SD	03/29/91-04/01/91	Greater White-fronted Goose Snow Goose Green-winged Teal American Wigeon Gadwall	44	Avian cholera	SD
<i>Pacific Flyway</i>						
Kachemak Bay	AK	05/11/91-05/20/91	Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	3 (e)	Emaciation	NW
Port Graham	AK	05/11/91-05/20/91	Black-legged Kittiwake	100 (e)	Emaciation	NW
Sun City	AZ	03/24/91-03/27/91	Mourning Dove White-crowned Sparrow	14 (e)	Trichomoniasis suspect	NW
San Juan Capistrano	CA	12/01/90-04/15/91	Brown Pelican Western Grebe Double-crested Cormorant	10 (e)	Emaciation	NW
Mendota State Wildlife Refuge	CA	03/25/91-04/15/91	Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow	30 (e)	Open	NW
Pismo Beach	CA	03/31/91-04/15/91	Cliff Swallow	30 (e)	Open	NW
Yuba City	CA	01/25/91-02/28/91	Unidentified Waterfowl	1,500 (e)	Avian cholera	CFG
Sacramento	CA	04/11/91-04/12/91	Cliff Swallow Unidentified Swallow	400 (e)	Trauma/open	NW
Mono Lake	CA	04/30/91-05/15/91	Eared Grebe Northern Flicker	225 (e)	Emaciation	NW
Fremont	CA	04/01/91-07/01/91	Domestic/Hybrid Goose Canada Goose	65 (e)	Avian cholera	NW
San Diego	CA	06/15/91-08/01/91	Least California Tern Forester's Tern Western Gull	15 (e)	Open	NW
Market Lake, Roberts	ID	03/19/91-03/30/91	Snow Goose Northern Pintail Mallard California Gull	57 (e)	Avian cholera	ID
Steigerwald NWR	OR	04/12/91-05/02/91	Brown-headed Cowbird Unidentified Blackbird	12 (e)	Salmonellosis	NW

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<i>Pacific Flyway cont.</i>						
Dexter	OR	04/15/91-05/30/91	Mourning Dove English Sparrow	90 (e)	Trichomoniasis	NW
Delta	UT	04/15/91-05/10/91	Eared Grebe Goldeneye	120 (e)	Open	NW

(e) = estimated mortality

*National Wildlife Health Research Center (NW); Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SC); University of Pennsylvania-School of Veterinary Medicine (UP); Illinois Department of Conservation (IL); Wisconsin Central Animal Health Laboratory (CAHL); South Dakota State Diagnostic Laboratory-Brookings (SD); California Fish and Game (CFG); Idaho Fish and Game Department (ID).

Compiled and prepared by Gregory Kidd, NWHRC. For specific information on these mortalities contact the following NWHRC Resource Health Team members: Pacific and Central Flyways, Linda Glaser; Mississippi and Atlantic Flyways, Kathryn Converse; Endangered Species and Legal Cases, Ron Windingstad. 608-271-4640 FTS-364-5411 National Wildlife Health Research Center, 6006 Schroeder Road, Madison, WI 53711



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Quarterly Wildlife Mortality Report. The following highlights mortality reported to the National Wildlife Health Research Center (NWHRC) from April to June 1991. NWHRC received 53 epizootic reports this quarter.

Duck plague was confirmed as the cause of death in domestic waterfowl at six locations and was the suspected cause of death at five locations; outbreaks occurred in Indiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Diagnostic findings in all cases included a typical history and clinical signs, characteristic gross lesions present at necropsy, intranuclear inclusion bodies seen on histopathology, and, at four locations, a positive fluorescent antibody test. Cases were confirmed only upon isolation of the herpes virus. Control efforts carried out at five sites included depopulation of remaining birds and clean-up and decontamination of the area. All the birds died at one site prior to control measures. Options carried out at the remaining four sites included draining and filling temporary ponds, lifetime quarantine on the premises including penning the remaining birds, and placing a net over an existing pond to deter use by wild birds. Landowners at sites where duck plague virus was not isolated were instructed about the risk of duck plague spreading to other birds and how to monitor remaining birds. Disease surveillance and control efforts were coordinated in each state by USFWS, USDA, State Conservation Agencies, State Agriculture Departments; additional assistance was provided in Virginia by SCWDS, in Pennsylvania by the University of Pennsylvania, and in Indiana by the Mesker Zoo and Purdue University.

Coccidiosis caused mortality for the third consecutive year in lesser scaup using Pheasant Lake in southeastern North Dakota. NWHRC is working with personnel from the Kulm WMD and the North Dakota Public Health Department to gain more information about the epizootiological factors associated with these outbreaks.

Emaciation was the primary diagnosis in 225 eared grebes found dead at Mono Lake in California. The cause of the emaciation is unknown; however, both heavy metal toxicity and starvation are being considered as contributing factors.

Two epizootics involving seabirds occurred on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. No evidence of infectious disease has been found in carcasses submitted to NWHRC. Local biologists are concerned that warm surface water temperatures may have kept prey species in deeper water away from surface feeding seabirds.

Nebraska Game and Parks personnel investigated a report of sandhill crane and white pelican mortality near Atkinson, Nebraska. Strong winds and golfball size hail caused trauma in the birds including broken backs, legs, wings and bills.

Carbofuran toxicity was confirmed by SCWDS in birds collected during a recent carbofuran monitoring program in Virginia. Documentation of carbofuran toxicity in wildlife has led to removal of granular carbofuran from the market in several areas.

In Maumee Bay near Toledo, Ohio, a ring-billed gull colony, which produces about 2,000 young per year, experienced a drastic reduction in production. Many chicks died during pipping and the remainder of the eggs never hatched. The same area also lost 9 young-of-the-year eagles this year (60% of state total). Exposure to PCBs is suspected and contaminant analysis is pending.

Avian cholera caused losses of Canada geese and domestic geese from April through June in Freemont, California. This is NWHRC's first confirmed case of avian cholera occurring during June in the western states.