

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT

January 1992 to March 1992

PAGE: 1

LOCATION	STATE	DATES	SPECIES	MORTALITY	DIAGNOSIS	*REPORTED BY
<u>Atlantic Flyway</u>						
Easton	CT	03/10/92-03/10/92	Canada Goose	9	Toxicosis: zinc phosphide	NW;CT
Dover	DE	01/21/92-01/30/92	Northern Cardinal House Sparrow	6 (e)	Salmonellosis	NW
Jacksonville	FL	02/04/92-02/15/92	Brown Pelican	91	Toxicosis: oil	FL;NW
Moss Bluff	FL	12/24/91-12/25/91	Common Grackle	35 (e)	Open	SC
Banks Lake NWR	GA	01/27/92-02/10/92	Sandhill Crane	14	Mycotoxycosis suspect	NW
Fulton County	GA	01/11/92-01/12/92	European Starling Brown-headed Cowbird	25 (e)	Toxicosis suspect	SC
Easthampton	MA	02/03/92-02/15/92	Mallard American Wigeon Hybrid Duck	20 (e)	Lead poisoning suspect	NW
Snowhill	MD	01/21/92-01/21/92	Herring Gull	30	Toxicosis: carbamate	NW
Mattamuskeet NWR	NC	11/30/91-12/10/91	Tundra Swan	3	Lead poisoning	NW
Alligator River NWR	NC	01/23/92-02/04/92	Tundra Swan	18	Renal/visceral gout	NW
Fairfield County	SC	03/14/91-12/31/91	Ring-necked Duck American Robin Brown-headed Cowbird Red-winged Blackbird Bobolink	25	Toxicosis: cyanide	SC;NW
St. Thomas/St. John	USVI	02/14/92-04/15/92	Brown Pelican	21	Emaciation	NW
<u>Mississippi Flyway</u>						
Quad Cities	IL	01/26/92-04/01/92	Red-tailed Hawk Great-horned Owl	7	Toxicosis suspect	NW
Jonesville	LA	02/11/92-02/11/92	Snow Goose	20	Open	NW
Fish Point WMA; Saginaw Bay	MI	03/29/92-04/06/92	Tundra Swan	30 (e)	<i>Sphaeridiotrema globulus</i>	RLW
Minneapolis-St. Paul	MN	01/24/92-01/25/92	Mallard	21	Open	NW
Sandusky	OH	01/01/92-01/01/92	Mallard Domestic Goose	15	Open	NW

continued.....

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT

January 1992 to March 1992

PAGE: 2

LOCATION	STATE	DATES	SPECIES	MORTALITY	DIAGNOSIS	*REPORTED BY
<i>Mississippi Flyway cont.</i>						
Finley	OH	01/26/92-02/07/92	Canada Goose	50	Lead poisoning	NW
Cedar Point	OH	02/08/92-02/09/92	Mallard	6	Trauma	NW
Lake Geneva	WI	01/17/92-02/06/92	Canada Goose	218	Lead poisoning	NW
Okauchee	WI	01/29/92-01/29/92	Mallard	11	Trauma	NW
<i>Central Flyway</i>						
Emporia	KS	02/14/92-02/28/92	House Sparrow	10	Salmonellosis	NW
Sterling	KS	03/13/92-03/16/92	Mallard American Wigeon Unidentified Duck Canada Goose	11	Open	NW
Rainwater Basin WMD	NE	02/03/92-03/23/92	Snow Goose Canada Goose White-fronted Goose	4,693	Avian cholera	NW
Doniphan	NE	03/19/92-03/24/92	House Sparrow	12 (e)	Salmonellosis	NW
Grand Island Heritage Zoo	NE	01/07/92-03/15/92	Great-Horned Owl Screech Owl Merlin	4	Viremia suspect/trauma	NW
Aurora	NE	03/05/92-03/23/92	American Robin Blue Jay Unidentified Sparrow	10 (e)	Open	NW
Albuquerque	NM	01/23/92-03/01/92	European Starling	1,000 (e)	Nephrosis/renal gout	NW
Saskatchewan River	SAS	10/20/91-10/25/91	White-fronted Goose Snow Goose Canada Goose Mallard American Coot	1,000 (e)	Avian cholera	SAS
Gaines County	TX	01/01/92-03/14/92	Sandhill Crane	200 (e)	Mycotoxycosis suspect	NW
Anahuac NWR	TX	01/12/92-01/14/92	Snow Goose	26	Avian cholera	NW
San Bernard NWR	TX	11/15/91-11/16/91	Snow Goose	30	Avian cholera	NW
J.D. Murphree WMA	TX	01/20/92-02/16/92	Snow Goose	267	Lead poisoning	NW

continued.....

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT

January 1992 to March 1992

PAGE: 3

LOCATION	STATE	DATES	SPECIES	MORTALITY	DIAGNOSIS	*REPORTED BY
<u>Central Flyway cont.</u>						
Haskell County	TX	02/16/92-02/16/92	Sandhill Crane Canada Goose White-fronted Goose	100 (e)	Mycotoxycosis suspect/ avian cholera suspect	NW
<u>Pacific Flyway</u>						
Abbotsford	BC	03/01/92-03/08/92	Trumpeter Swan	30 (e)	Lead poisoning	BC
Modesto Oxidation Ponds	CA	01/06/92-03/30/92	Ruddy Duck American Coot Unidentified Gull Northern Shoveler Gadwall	4,839	Avian cholera	NW
Salton Sea NWR	CA	02/23/92-04/21/92	Eared Grebe Ruddy Duck Herring Gull American Coot Ring-billed Gull	155,000 (e)	Open/avian cholera	NW
San Luis NWR	CA	01/06/92-01/06/92	Snow Goose	2	Avian cholera	NW
Klamath Basin NWR	CA	03/15/92-04/20/92	Snow Goose Ross' Goose White-fronted Goose Ruddy Duck American Wigeon	1,388 (e)	Avian cholera	NW
Springfield Lake	ID	01/25/92-01/27/92	Mallard	50 (e)	Toxicosis: Famphur	NW; ID
Ninepipe NWR	MT	10/01/91-12/01/91	Ring-billed Gull California Gull	100 (e)	Open	NW
Finley NWR	OR	02/24/92-02/25/92	Tundra Swan Lesser Scaup	4	Open	NW
Marysville	WA	03/11/92-ongoing	Northern Goshawk Mallard Ring-necked Duck Greater Scaup	100 (e)	Botulism suspect	NW
<u>Update</u>						
Virginia Beach	VA	03/01/91-03/01/92	Mallard American Coot Muscovy Duck Black-necked Cormorant Pekin Duck	455	Open/aspergillosis/trauma	NW

continued.....

QUARTERLY WILDLIFE MORTALITY REPORT

January 1992 to March 1992

PAGE: 4

LOCATION	STATE	DATES	SPECIES	MORTALITY	DIAGNOSIS	*REPORTED BY
<i>Update cont.</i>						
Lac qui Parle	MN	10/17/91-02/10/92	Canada Goose Mallard Green-winged Teal American Coot Northern Pintail	5,374	Avian cholera	NW
Alamosa/Monte Vista NWR	CO	12/04/91-03/13/92	Mallard Canada Goose	400 (e)	Avian cholera/trauma/aspergillosis	NW
Salton Sea NWR	CA	12/15/91-12/17/91	Eared Grebe	60 (e)	Open	NW

(e) = estimated mortality

*National Wildlife Health Research Center (NW); Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station (CT); Laboratory of Wildlife Disease Research-Gainesville (FL); Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SC); Rose Lake Wildlife Disease Laboratory-Michigan (RLW); University of Saskatchewan Department of Pathology (SAS); British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Animal Health Center (BC); Idaho Fish and Game (ID).

Written and compiled by Gregory Kidd, NWHRC. For specific information on these mortalities, contact the following NWHRC Resource Health Team Members: Pacific Flyway - Lynn Hayes; Central Flyway - Linda Glaser; Mississippi Flyway - Ron Windingstad; Atlantic Flyway - Kathy Converse. (608) 271-4640, (608) 264-5411 National Wildlife Health Research Center, 6006 Schroeder Road, Madison, WI 53711



printed on recycled paper

Quarterly Wildlife Mortality Report. The following highlights mortality reported to the National Wildlife Health Research Center (NWHRC) from January to March 1992.

Salton Sea NWR in southern California reported large scale mortality during the latter part of February. An estimated 150,000 eared grebes died from a population of over one million. Extensive diagnostic analyses for infectious agents, toxins, and contaminants have been inconclusive. Avian cholera mortality occurred concurrently on the Salton Sea in approximately 5,000 waterfowl, shorebirds and a small percentage of the eared grebes.

In the Pacific Flyway, avian cholera caused mortality at Klamath Basin NWR Complex. Approximately 1,400 birds, primarily snow, Ross' and white-fronted geese, died on an area that has avian cholera annually. Mortality also occurred in early January on Modesto Sewage Oxidation Ponds. San Luis NWR personnel reported that ruddy ducks and coots were the primary species affected, and approximately 4,300 birds were collected from the area over a three month period. This year, only one Aleutian Canada goose was found dead in the area. This may be a result of hazing the Aleutians from the ponds to prevent losses that have been typical of past years. In the Central Flyway, The Rainwater Basin Wildlife Management District in Nebraska reported mortality in migrating geese in early February; snow geese were 90-95% of the 6,300 carcasses collected. Avian cholera occurred for the first time in two new western wetland areas. A possible explanation for the mortality may be the gradual expansion of habitat utilized by snow geese.

In early January, mortality was reported in sandhill cranes on the Cedar Lake roost site in Gaines County, Texas. An estimated 200 cranes were found dead, and many more displayed abnormal behavior, including neck droop observed in previous outbreaks of mycotoxicosis in sandhill cranes. Necropsy examination showed three cranes had ingested peanuts, and there were lesions consistent with mycotoxicosis. Mycotoxicosis is also the suspected cause of mortality in sandhill cranes at Banks Lake NWR, Georgia; at least 14 cranes died, and sick cranes were observed. Mycotoxins were not isolated by NWHRC from the stomach contents of the cranes.

Mortality occurred in tundra swans at Alligator Ridge NWR, North Carolina. Visceral and/or renal gout, secondary to kidney degeneration, was the cause of death in four of five tundra swans submitted. The lack of inflammation in the kidneys suggest exposure to a toxin. Crop and gizzard contents have been submitted for evaluation of ochratoxins.

Lead poisoning caused the death of Canada geese at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and in Canada geese from Findley, Ohio. In both instances, the ingested lead consisted of smaller pellets such as those used for skeet shooting. Lead poisoning was also confirmed in snow geese from J.D Murphree Waterfowl Management Area in Texas from an area that has a history of lead poisoning.

The University of Florida in Gainesville reported losses of brown pelicans in Florida following rehabilitation for oiling. Erysipelothrix was isolated from two pelicans submitted to the Gainesville laboratory. In the Virgin Islands, more than a dozen brown pelicans were found sick or dead during the beginning of March. Carcasses were emaciated but the cause of death was not determined. Dinoflagellate poisoning is suspected because field personnel noted red algae in the area of mortality.

The Roselake Wildlife Disease Laboratory in East Lansing, Michigan, reported 30 tundra swans died of verminous hemorrhagic ulcerative enteritis (Sphaeridiotrema globulus) during March. All of the swans were in good physical condition. One mute swan died of this same disease in Michigan in October 1991.