



Newsletter of the Wildlife Disease Association



Members' Corner

At our recent meeting in Estes Park, Colorado, it was truly an honor to assume from Scott Wright the gavel and presidency of the Wildlife Disease Association. Having been a member of the WDA since my days in graduate school, I have observed and admired the legacy of outstanding past WDA presidents, and marvel at how much each of those people has accomplished and contributed to our professional society. I hope to continue the legacy of those past presidents, and over the next 2-years pledge to work closely with the Council and our other elected officers to continue the WDA tradition. During the tenure of my presidency, I will work on keeping up the momentum that our past officers have provided WDA. Beyond the general maintenance of day-to-day society business, there are

Inside this issue

<i>WDA News</i>	3
<i>In Memoriam</i>	4
<i>WDA Students</i>	5
<i>News From the Field</i>	9
<i>WDA Sections</i>	16
<i>Training and Education</i>	21
<i>Meetings and Conferences</i>	23

three specific areas where I plan to focus additional efforts. These areas are: 1) the publication products of the Wildlife Disease Association, 2) enhancing student involvement in WDA, and 3) expanding the financial base of our professional organization.

First focus area: It is exciting to see

the progress that WDA is making in moving into the electronic publishing arena. Dave Stallknecht and Buffy Howerth have made tremendous progress in the electronic aspects of the review process and publication of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases.



At Estes Park, your WDA Council approved changing our previously printed supplement into an electronic "WDA Newsletter." This volume that you are reading is the first truly electronic version of our new WDA Newsletter. Pauline Nol is to be commended on the outstanding job that she has done with past Supplements and in handling the transition to our new electronic Newsletter. You will also notice that I have asked Pauline to change the previous "President's Corner" into a "Members' Corner." The WDA President will still be a regular contributor, but this change will hopefully open up this section of the newsletter to a wider contributor base. You will also see in the future that WDA Committee chairs will use the "Members' Corner" to update the WDA membership on highlights of their progress.

Second focus area: With the assistance of our Vice President Lynn Creekmore, each of the present WDA committees now has a student member. It is our hope that this effort will allow enhancement of student participation in all aspects of the Wildlife Disease Association. Having a student on every standing committee (except Student Awards) will also provide ac-

Members' Corner

tive voices for student concerns, interests and desires for all WDA activities. The Student Activities Committee has been greatly expanded. Along with Leslie Reperant, our student representative to Council, and two other student members Sarah Coburn and Amada Jo Williams, regular members Frances Gulland, Jen Owen, Michael Yabsley, Collin Gillin and Claire Jardine are planning exciting new activities for students at our next annual meeting in (yes) Edmonton.

Third focus area: The Wildlife Disease Association is presently in a healthy financial situation. We have adequate funding to cover our annual expenses and a sizeable operating buffer. We also have several funds (e.g., The Carlton Herman Fund; Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Fund) but these have been established for specific purposes. For example, the Herman fund is to bring in keynote speakers to our annual meetings. In an effort to expand the WDA financial base, Billy Karesh has agreed to chair the new "Endowment and New Funds Committee." Assisting Billy on this important ad hoc committee will be Tom Yuill, Paul Barrows, Dave Hunter, Michael Yabsley, and Thierry Work will be the Council Representative. The charge of this committee will be to provide the WDA Council with new avenues and opportunities to expand the financial base upon which our professional organization operates.

The Wildlife Disease Association and its members are presently in very exciting times. We are all rapidly being drawn into, and becoming part of an upsurge in public interest surrounding connections between the environment, wildlife diseases and human health issues. We are being thrust into this spotlight because of worldwide growing concerns about Public health conditions caused by emerging zoonotic diseases (e.g., Chronic Wasting Disease, West Nile Virus, and more recently Avian Influenza).

When I first started working on avian diseases in Hawaii, the impact of introduced diseases on the native birds was not considered a common situation in

other areas of the world. Most wildlife hosts and their diseases were assumed to have had a long period of co-evolution. Now, the impact of introduced diseases on wildlife seems to be happening more frequently, with wildlife diseases being rapidly dispersed and moving quickly across the globe. Coupled with alterations in environmental, and ecosystem processes, we find the pattern that was heretofore primarily confined to remote islands, now common throughout the world. As towns and cities expand, the wildland-urban interface broadens and human associations with wildlife become increasingly frequent. This is especially true in countries where people and wildlife increasingly share the same space. We also need to recognize that the globalization of wildlife disease issues brings a need to understand the roles and complexities that the environmental, ecosystem, and natural sciences play on a global scale relative to wildlife diseases and public health. We, as members of the Wildlife Disease Association, must do everything that we can to meet the needs of wildlife, their diseases and human society.

Health problems caused by zoonotic and emerging wildlife diseases are not just another crisis of the moment that will soon be over and allow society to move on to other issues. Instead, we can expect problems from wildlife related diseases to significantly increase in the years ahead. With geographic distance and isolation no longer meaningful barriers, the opportunities have never been greater for once isolated wildlife diseases to rapidly spread across the globe. The emergence of many new diseases in humans in recent years is a result of our densely populated, highly mobilized, and environmentally disrupted world.

Dealing with the many emerging wildlife diseases requires the ability to recognize wildlife pathogens when they first appear and to act appropriately. Since outbreaks often are evident in the wildlife components of the environment before humans are af-

Members' Corner

ected, understanding our environment and 'sentinel' wildlife associated with that environment is a prerequisite to protecting human health around the world. With the increased visibility of wildlife diseases throughout the world, it is important that the Wildlife Disease Association remain

relevant to all members, other wildlife professionals, and the general public.

Charles van Riper III, WDA President

charles_van_riper@usgs.gov

WDA News

WDA 2008Call for Papers !!!



Those wishing to contribute a paper or poster for consideration as a presentation at the 2008 WDA conference in Edmonton, August 3-8 should submit an abstract no later than May 1, 2008 via the online submission process provided at

<http://>

www2.biology.ualberta.ca/parasites/WDA08/index.html.

Each abstract will be limited to no more than 225 words (including names and addresses!) and will be accepted only in the format identified in the abstract submission form. In particular, abstracts for student competition must be suitably identified **and must also be submitted to the Chair of the Student Awards Committee**. Working through the online form you will be asked to provide the name and email of the presenter, name and address of all authors, underline the name of the presenter, indicate which topic area and session (oral or poster) you prefer, and whether the abstract is for consideration in student competition.

Those actually presenting the paper or poster must register for the conference no later than May 25, 2008

before the abstract will be considered for inclusion in the program. A maximum of 2 (two) abstracts will be accepted from any one individual, only one of which can be an oral presentation. Oral presentations will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes, including time for questions and discussion. Presentations should be compatible with an LCD projector connected to an IBM computer with PowerPoint software and displayed on one screen. Additional visual aids must be requested when the abstract is submitted. See page 24 of this newsletter for more Conference details.

Call for Nominations for the WDA Distinguished Service Award and the WDA Emeritus Award!!

The WDA awards committee is seeking nominations for the Distinguished Service Award and the Emeritus Award. This is your opportunity help us provide recognition to deserving WDA members. Below is some information about these awards. This information as well as a list of past recipients also is posted on our website (<http://www.wildlifedisease.org>). Just click on the "About Us" tab and look under WDA Recognition and Awards.

Please take a few minutes from your busy schedule to consider potential nominees. Nominations, including a CV, should be sent to Terry Creekmore

WDA News

(Terry.Creekmore@wgf.state.wy.us) or to any of the other committee members (Lynn Creekmore, Catherine Soos, Kay Mehren, Elliott Jacobson or Dave Edmunds) by March 15, 2005.

The **Distinguished Service (DS) Award** is the highest award of the Wildlife Disease Association. The purpose of the DS Award is to honor a WDA member of long standing who, by his/her outstanding accomplishments in research, teaching and other activities, including participation in WDA affairs, has made a noteworthy contribution furthering the aims of the Wildlife Disease Association.

The **Emeritus Award** confers Emeritus status, an honorary category of membership, to members of the WDA who have retired from their profession and who in the opinion of Council have contributed significantly to the study of wildlife diseases. Emeritus Award recipients will be considered full voting members who receive the Journal of Wildlife Diseases without further payment of dues.

Request for Data

Meta-analysis seeking data on group size and parasitism. A National Evolutionary Synthesis Cen-

ter (NESCent: www.nescent.org) working group is exploring ways to enhance meta-analyses and syntheses through broader requests for data. Here, we present one pilot request for data for a proposed synthetic work. Charles Nunn and Laszlo Garamszegi seek unpublished results and "pointers" to published results involving the association between group size and parasitism in vertebrates. The data will be used in a meta-analysis to investigate the links between sociality and parasitism. All published studies will be cited in resultant publications, and unpublished work may be given credit through consortium coauthorship for the person providing the data. For more information, please see: <http://www.biology.duke.edu/noorlab/Nunn.html>. If you have questions about the broader NESCent project of enhancing synthetic works, or have an idea for a synthetic work that you'd like to pursue that also would benefit from broader requests for data, please contact Mohamed Noor (Duke) or Maria Servedio (UNC-Chapel Hill), or see: <http://www.biology.duke.edu/noorlab/SEED.pdf>

In Memoriam

Daniel O. Trainer died on 8 December 2007 at his home in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. He was 81 years old. In the words of his friend and colleague Tom Yuill, "The WDA owes a lot to Dan". Indeed he was a core member and contributor for many years. Within the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA), Dan served as editor of the



Newsletter (1962-1964), the first editor of the Bulletin of the Wildlife Disease Association (name later changed to Journal of Wildlife Diseases), secretary (1962-1965), vice president (1967-1969) and president (1969-1971).

Following service in the U.S. Navy, Dan graduated from Ripon College, Wisconsin in biology and general science. He worked as a bacteriologist with Fromm Laboratories in Madison, WI before returning to complete his M.S. in Bacteriology at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Working as a wildlife pathologist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources from 1956-1962, Dan completed his

In Memoriam

doctoral research on leptospirosis in Wisconsin deer. He did this work in the lab of Bob Hanson working jointly with the Departments of Veterinary Science and Bacteriology at UW-Madison. Other WDA leaders who worked with Hanson over the years included Joan Budd, Lars Karstad and Tom Yuill. In the words of Lars Karstad, "Dan and I were best friends, hunting buddies and research collaborators....He will be greatly missed."

Dan joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1962. Dan's early research and continuing focus were on arboviral diseases but he also published on occurrence and impact of salt poisoning, protozoa, helminths, ectoparasites, and environmental contaminants in and on a wide variety of wildlife. Typical of a person who believes in working with others, Dan's scores of papers were published with many people including numerous publications with each of Bob Hanson, Lars Karstad, R.P. Cook, C.J. Issel, Milt Friend, Gerald Hoff, and Bill Samuel. In addition, Dan was a co-editor of the books "Infectious Diseases of Wild Mammals" and "Infectious and Parasitic Diseases of Wild Birds" first published in 1970 and 1971 respectively. Dan's accomplishments in wildlife health were acknowledged with him receiving the WDA Distinguished Service Award in 1973 and the status as a WDA Emeritus Member in 1997.

For those of us with a focus largely on wildlife diseases, this is a truly exceptional set of accomplishments. However, this relates to only some of Dan's

professional contributions. In addition to being a scientist, Dan was a conservationist, naturalist, hunter, and educator. It was with these collective interests, particularly as an educator, that Dan, along with his wife Betty and two children, was attracted in 1971 to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) to establish a natural resources program. From his arrival to his retirement 17 years later, Dan served as Dean of the College of Natural Resources at UWSP, developing it into one of the leading such schools in the United States.

In Wisconsin, Dan Trainer is best known as a conservationist and educator. Dan received recognitions in environmental education from many organizations including the Wisconsin Environmental Council, Wisconsin Soil Conservation Society, the Izaak Walton League, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, and the University of Wisconsin to name a few. In 1988, Dan received a special commendation by the President of the United States for "outstanding achievements in environmental protection services."

It is only fitting that the legacy of Dan Trainer remains large and 'tangible' on many fronts: advancement in research through publications; training of students positioned widely through the research and resource management sector in the U.S., and preservation of many wonderful natural areas within Wisconsin. We are indeed fortunate that a part of the legacy of this wonderful man included the Wildlife Disease Association!

-Ed Addison

WDA Students

Create a Student Chapter of the WDA!

Student Chapters of the WDA aim at:

Educating students interested in wildlife health and disease about the profession, career opportunities,

job qualifications and education, and externships, volunteer, and research opportunities.

Enhancing the skills of students interested in wildlife health and disease through lectures, workshops, conferences, and field trips.

WDA Students

Connecting students interested in wildlife health and disease to mentors in WDA through the faculty advisor and guest lecturers.

Student Chapters are run by student officers, including a president and a vice-president, and if filled, a secretary and a treasurer, under the supervision of a faculty advisor.

Become a WDA Student Ambassador!

We have created a special power point slide show to introduce wildlife health students to the WDA. This presentation includes information on how to start a WDA student chapter. Become a WDA student ambassador by presenting the power point slide show to students at your University and actively take part in the promotion of the Wildlife Disease Association!

Visit our website at <http://www.wildlifedisease.org> or please contact Leslie Reperant, WDA Student Representative on Council, with any questions or ideas at reperant@princeton.edu.

2008 WDA Student Awards!!

http://www.wildlifedisease.org/Student_Awards.htm

Each year the Wildlife Disease Association sponsors student awards competitions. These awards are the Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award, the WDA Poster Presentation Award, the Graduate Student Research Recognition Award, and the WDA Scholarship Award. The WDA Student Awards Committee (comprised of 8 members from around the globe) judge the Graduate Student Research Recognition Award and Scholarship Award. Members of the audience attending the annual WDA meeting judge the Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award and Student Poster Award. Criteria for judging of the awards are available on the WDA website.

Wildlife Disease Association Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award

DEADLINE: TBA (deadline for abstract submission will correspond with the deadline for general abstract submissions for the annual WDA conference)

This award acknowledges outstanding oral presentation of research findings. The winner receives \$250 US and a plaque. To be considered, the student must give an oral presentation (usually 12 minutes with 3 minutes for questions) on their research project to the WDA conference audience in the student presentation session. Students wishing to be considered for the award **must** submit a presentation abstract following



the guidelines in the "Call for Abstracts/Papers" to **both** the Scientific Program Chair for the annual conference **and** to the Chair of the Student Awards Committee (contact information above), clearly identifying the abstract as a student submission for consideration for this award.

Abstracts may be scored on a competitive basis to determine which will be chosen for the conference and for consideration for this award. Abstracts describing completed research projects with conclusions based upon the data generated are more likely to be selected.

Evaluation of Presentations: Candidates will be scored on the following criteria:

WDA Students

- Quality, innovation and impact of science
- Quality of visual aids
- Delivery and style
- Relevance to management of wildlife health

WDA Student Poster Award

DEADLINE: TBA (deadline for abstract submission will correspond with the deadline for general abstract submissions for the annual WDA conference)

This award acknowledges the best student poster detailing a wildlife disease or wildlife health research project presented at the annual WDA conference. This award is not presented every year, but will be presented at the 2007 WDA conference in Estes Park, Colorado. The winner receives \$250 US and a plaque. To be considered the student must submit a poster abstract following the guidelines in the "Call for Abstracts/Papers" to **both** the Scientific Program Chair for the annual conference and to the Chair of the Student Awards Committee (contact information above), clearly identifying the abstract as a student submission to be considered for the poster award.

Evaluation: Candidates will be scored on the following criteria:

- Quality, innovation, and impact of science
- Organization and layout of poster
- Quality and style of text, figures, and images
- Relevance to management of wildlife and ecosystem health

Wildlife Disease Association Graduate Student Research Recognition Award

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Received no later than Friday April 18, 2008

This award is given to the student judged to have the

best research project in the field of wildlife health/disease, based on written communication and scientific achievement. The winner receives a plaque and up to \$5000 US to cover travel, housing, registration, etc. related to the annual WDA conference. The student will be the featured presenter during the Student Presentation Session at the conference.

For consideration, applicants must submit 1 copy of the following documents (electronic submission as email attachment only, formatted as MS Word or PDF files):

1. A summary of their research (maximum of 10 pages double-spaced, typeface font 10 or larger, and 1" margins) structured as follows: Title, abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, references, tables, and figures. The title page should be separate, and the 10-page limit applies only the title, abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, and discussion.
2. A cover letter written by the applicant stating how the research relates to WDA objectives (see inside back cover of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases or the WDA website).
3. One letter of support from the faculty advisor indicating degree of student involvement in planning and execution of the research project.

Grounds for disqualification include:

- Items missing.
- Submissions postmarked beyond deadline date.

WDA Graduate Student Scholarship Award

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Received no later than Friday April 18, 2008

This award acknowledges outstanding academic and research accomplishment, productivity, and future

WDA Students

potential in pursuit of new knowledge in wildlife disease or health. The scholarship has a value of \$2000 US and is awarded annually to an outstanding student pursuing Master's or doctoral degrees specializing in research on wildlife disease. To be considered, the candidate must have completed a four-year baccalaureate degree. Candidates with an overall grade point average of 3.5 or above in 4.0 systems or 80% or better in percentile systems will receive priority – students not scored on the 4.0 grade point system must include an official explanation of the grade point or grade score system used at their institution and preferably provide a conversion to a 4.0 or percentile grade point average. The candidate should be committed to leadership, scholarship, and service in the wildlife health profession.

To be considered, applicants must submit 1 copy of the following documents (electronic submissions as email attachment only, formatted as MS Word or PDF files):

1. All relevant collegiate transcripts. Transcripts can be official (i.e., with the imprint or official seal of the institution and signature of the responsible university officer) or copies signed by the student's faculty advisor.
2. Up to 2 letters of support, including a letter from the student's faculty advisor, that directly address the following specific abilities of the applicant: academic achievement, scholarly promise, research ability, oral and written communications skills, industriousness, leadership abilities, judgment, and potential for contribution to the field of wildlife diseases. Additional letters (> 2) will not be read or evaluated, and

letters not directly addressing the above qualities will not score well.

3. A curriculum vitae demonstrating evidence of superior scholastic achievement and productivity (specifically list and describe coursework and all scholarships, awards, publications, and presentations).

Grounds for disqualification include:

- items missing.
- Submissions postmarked beyond deadline date.

Applicants for all awards **MUST** be Student Members of the WDA at the time applications or abstracts are received. Applicants for the Graduate Student Research Recognition and Scholarship Awards also **MUST** be pursuing an advanced (graduate) degree at the time of application.

All four awards are non-renewable and each award may be received only once by a given candidate. Submit applications electronically as email attachments to:

Dr. Kevin Keel

Chair, WDA Student Awards Committee,
kkeel@vet.uga.edu

College of Veterinary Medicine, SCWDS

The University of Georgia

Athens, GA 30602

Phone: (706) 542-1741

FAX: (706) 542-5865

Mail address and telephone number for inquiries only

News from the Field



National Wildlife Health Center's Quarterly Wildlife Mortality Report

Second year of high American coot mortality in Montana

In mid-September and for the second consecutive year, significant mortality due to exotic parasites has been observed in American coots on Georgetown Lake (Deer Lodge County; mortality ~200) and Smith Lake (Flathead County; mortality ~1500). The estimated mortality on Georgetown Lake is higher than the mortality estimates in 2006. American coots examined at the National Wildlife Health Center had intestinal impactions and were found to be infected with *Cyathocotyle bushiensis* and coccidia parasites. The intermediate host of the parasites is the exotic *Bithynia tentaculata* snail which was identified in the lakes in 2006.



www.fws.gov

West Nile virus in American white pelican chicks

West Nile virus outbreaks have occurred in American white pelicans in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Some locations have had ongoing botulism events. The events have resulted in total mortality estimates of over 1500 hatch-year pelican chicks. Birds were exhibiting signs of weakness: unable to stand, falling over, and inability to hold their head up. Mortality events appear to have ended around mid to late September. Biologists are encouraged to report morbidity/mortality and submit samples for diagnostics to determine cause-of-death because of the coincident outbreaks.



Photo by Bruce Gill

Avian cholera and Newcastle disease virus outbreak at atypical time and location

In northern Minnesota in early September, an avian cholera mortality event affected ring-billed gulls, herring gulls, American white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and Caspian terns. An estimated 400 birds were affected. There is no previous record of avian cholera in this area. Herring gulls exhibited enlarged livers and spleen, as well as pericarditis which is characteristic of Chlamydiosis, a potentially zoonotic bacteria. Subsequent bacterial cultures in herring gull and cormorant tissues were positive for *Pasteurella multocida*, the causative bacterial agent of avian cholera. Non-virulent Newcastle disease virus (nvNDV*) also was found in the cormorant, leading to the question of which infection developed first, and whether dual infection exacerbated the effects of either agent. This outbreak demonstrates the complexities of dual infections in a location frequented by multiple species.



Photo by Bruce Gill

News from the Field

Newcastle disease virus and botulism type C outbreak in Minnesota involving American white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and ring-billed gulls

During July, American white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and ring-billed gulls died as part of a mortality event in southwest Minnesota that claimed an estimated 3,850 birds. Between 2002 and 2006, West Nile virus was identified as the cause of American white pelican mortality in this area, primarily in hatch-year birds. Although this mortality event was suspected as a continuation of this process, WNV was not detected. Instead, American white pelicans and ring-billed gulls died from botulism type C and double-crested cormorants were infected with non-virulent Newcastle disease virus (nvNDV*). It has not yet been determined whether nvNDV acted as the principal cause of death in these cormorants.

* The non-virulent (nvNDV) designation is determined by PCR test and refers to the virus' pathogenicity in poultry.

Quarterly Wildlife Mortality Report July 2007 to September 2007

State	Location	Dates	Species	Reported Mortality	Diagnosis	Lab
CA	Redwood State/ National Parks	07/14/07-09/15/07	Rhinoceros Auklet Common Murre	300 (e)	Emaciation: starvation suspect	NW
CA	Tule Lake NWR	07/22/07-09/18/07	Mallard Northern Pintail American Coot Gadwall Northern Shoveler	1,115	Botulism type C	NW
CA	Sacramento NWR Complex	08/14/07-09/10/07	Mallard American White Pelican White-Faced Ibis Green-Winged Teal Sandpiper, NOS	35	Botulism type C Electrocution, Trauma, Predation	NW
DC	Various Metro Stations	07/29/07-07/29/07	European Starling House Sparrow	60 (e)	Toxicosis suspect	UNK
DE	Silver Lake	07/03/07-09/20/07	Mallard	12	Botulism type C	NW, PAD
FL	Lake Monroe	06/15/07-07/09/07	Mallard, Hybrid	75 (e)	Botulism type C	KDL,NW SCW
FL	Alachua County	07/26/07-07/27/07	Muscovy Pekin duck Mallard	10 (e)	Botulism type C	KDL, NW

News from the Field

State	Location	Dates	Species	Reported Mortality	Diagnosis	Lab
IL	Cook County	07/04/07-07/08/07	Mallard Bufflehead	12 (e)	Botulism type C	NW, UIL
IL	Lake County	07/15/07-08/01/07	Common Tern	48 (e)	Undetermined	NW
IL	Cook County	08/10/07-09/10/07	Mallard Canada Goose, (Giant, Interior, Lesser)	50 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
KY	Lake Cumberland	06/30/07-07/16/07	Canada Goose, (Giant, Interior, Lesser) Mallard, Domestic	32	Botulism type C	KY, NW
MA	Monomoy NWR	07/22/07-07/26/07	Common Tern	15 (e)	Trauma, Salmonellosis	NW
MA	Great Island	08/27/07-09/20/07	Common Eider	500 (e)	Open	NW
MD	Culler Lake	07/07/07-07/10/07	Mallard, Hybrid Green Heron	12 (e)	Botulism type C, Undetermined	MD, NW
MD	Whittier Lake	07/20/07-07/24/07	Mallard	6	Botulism type C	NW
MD	Taylor's Island	09/06/07-09/10/07	Mallard	6	Open	NW
MN	Lac qui Parle State Park	06/15/07-09/15/07	American White Pelican Ring-Billed Gull Double-Crested Cormorant Unidentified Goose Mallard	3,850 (e)	Botulism type C, Newcastle Disease Virus, Open	NW
MN	Cass County	09/01/07-09/27/07	Ring-Billed Gull Double-Crested Cormorant Herring Gull Caspian Tern American White Pelican	400 (e)	Avian Cholera, Newcastle Disease Virus	NW
MO	St. Louis County	08/27/07-09/01/07	House Finch	10 (e)	Viral Infection: West Nile, Parasitism: Trichomoniasis	NW
MT	Bowdoin NWR	07/14/07-10/01/07	Gadwall American Wigeon Northern Pintail Blue-Winged Teal Mallard	500 (e)	Viral Infection: West Nile, Botulism type C	NW

News from the Field

State	Location	Dates	Species	Reported	Diagnosis	Lab
				Mortality		
MT	Eyraud Lakes	07/25/07-08/06/07	Ring-Billed Gull California Gull	35 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
MT	Multiple Counties	08/01/07-10/25/07	Pronghorn Antelope White-Tailed Deer	**	Bluetongue virus	MT, SCW, WY
MT	Lincoln County	08/05/07-08/07/07	American Robin Pine Siskin	5	Undetermined	NW
MT	Gallatin County	08/15/07-08/31/07	Gray Catbird	12	Aflatoxicosis	NW
MT	Georgetown Lake	09/19/07-ongoing	American Coot	1,650	Parasitism: <i>Cyathocotyle bushiensis</i>	NW
ND	Chase Lake	07/07/07-09/15/07	American White Pelican	200 (e)	Viral Infection: West Nile, Salmonellosis, Botulism type C	NW
ND	Upper Souris NWR	07/18/07-08/02/07	Duck, unidentified Mallard Gadwall Blue-Winged Teal American Coot	520 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
ND	Grand Forks County	07/25/07-09/01/07	Mallard Gadwall Blue-Winged Teal Shorebird, unidentified Yellowlegs, unidentified	300 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
ND	Williams County	08/01/07-09/17/07	Ring-Billed Gull Blue-Winged Teal Gadwall Mallard	75	Viral Infection: West Nile	NW
ND	Cass County	08/16/07-09/27/07	Ring-Billed Gull Duck, unidentified Western Grebe Canada Goose, (Giant, Interior, Lesser) American White Pelican	24	Botulism type C	NW
NM	Sandoval County	06/24/07-07/20/07	American Coot Duck or Goose, unidentified	10 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
NM	Santa Fe County	09/23/07-09/25/07	Mountain Chickadee	30	Undetermined	NW

News from the Field

State	Location	Dates	Species	Reported	Diagnosis	Lab
				Mortality		
NV	NYE County	07/16/07-07/26/07	Horse, Feral	71	Toxicosis: Nitrate	UCD
NY	Lake Erie	07/01/07-07/23/07	Ring-Billed Gull	3,000 (e)	Undetermined	NY
OR	Baker County	07/30/07-10/21/07	Western Toad	180 (e)	Fungal infection: Chytrid	NW
OR	Clatsop Cty Beaches – Pacific Cty Beaches	08/01/07-09/01/07	Double-Crested Cormorant	47 (e)	Newcastle Disease Virus	NW
OR	Willamette River	08/04/07-08/09/07	Canada Goose, (Giant, Interior, Lesser)	14	Toxicosis: Rodenticide	NW, OR
SD	Waubay NWR	07/09/07-09/15/07	American White Pelican	1,300 (e)	Viral Infection: West Nile	NW
SD	Sand Lake NWR	07/18/07-08/20/07	Franklin's Gull Ring-Billed Gull Mallard Eared Grebe Wood duck	61 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
TX	Galveston County Beaches, Aransas and Nueces Counties	06/07/07-6/30/07	Northern Gannet	100 (e)	Emaciation: Starvation suspect	HZ, NW
UT	Davis County	06/04/07-08/01/07	American Avocet Franklin's Gull Black-Necked Stilt Northern Shoveler Gadwall	230 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
UT	Salt Lake County	09/15/07-10/02/07	Mallard	75 (e)	Botulism type C	NW
WA	Okanogan County	07/01/07-07/01/07	Cliff Swallow	70 (e)	Trauma	NW
WA	Gray Harbor and Clallam Counties	07/24/07-08/01/07	Little Gull Mew Gull California Gull	30 (e)	Emaciation: Starvation suspect	NW
WI	Little Lake Butte Des Morts	07/18/07-08/15/07	Mallard American White Pelican Wood duck Ring-Billed Gull Kingfisher, unidentified	300 (e)	Botulism type C	NW, WI

News from the Field

State	Location	Dates	Species	Reported Mortality	Diagnosis	Lab
WI	Upper Mississippi River NWFR	09/26/07-ongoing	American Coot Lesser Scaup Ruddy duck Mallard Gadwall Ring-necked duck	**	Parasitism: Trematodiasis	NW
WY	Multiple Counties	08/01/07-11/01/07	Pronghorn Antelope White-Tailed Deer	**	Bluetongue virus	MT, SCW, WY
WY	Yellowstone National Park	08/22/07-10/11/07	Columbia Spotted Frog	75 (e)	Viral Infection: Ranavirus	NW
—	Multiple States	08/01/07-ongoing	White-Tailed Deer	**	Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease	OT, PSU,
Update:						
CO	Denver, Jefferson and Arapahoe Counties	05/01/07-07/19/07	Fox Squirrel Rabbit, unidentified Domestic Cat Coyote	50	Sylvatic Plague	CPH

(e) = estimate, ** Mortality estimate not available at this time.

Houston Zoo (HZ), Kentucky State Diagnostic Laboratory (KY), Kissimmee Animal Diagnostic Laboratory (KDL), Maryland Diagnostic Laboratory (MD), Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Diagnostic Lab (MT), New York State, DEC, Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources (NY), Oregon State Diagnostic Laboratory (OR), Other (OT), Pennsylvania Animal Diagnostic Lab System (PAD), Pennsylvania State University Animal Diagnostics Lab (PSU), Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCW), UC Davis (UCD), University of Illinois Lab (UIL), Unknown lab site (UNK), USGS National Wildlife Health Laboratory (NW), Various state lab sites (ST), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Health Lab (WI), Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory (WY).

Species:

Avian

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*); American Coot (*Fulica americana*); American robin (*Turdus migratorus*); American Widgeon (*Anas Americana*); American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*); Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*); Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*); Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*); California Gull (*Larus californicus*); Canada Goose (*Branta Canadensis*); Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*); Cliff Swallow (*Hirundo pyrrhonota*); Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*); Common Murre (*Uria aalge*); Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*); Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*); Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*); European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*); Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*); Gadwall (*Anas strepera*); Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*); Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*); Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*); Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*); House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*); House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*); Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*); Little Gull (*Larus*



Photo by Bruce Gill

News from the Field

minutus); Mountain Chickadee (*Parus gambeli*); Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*); Mew Gull (*Larus canus*); Muscovy (*Cairina moschata*); Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*); Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*); Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*); Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*); Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*); Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*); Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*); Rhinoceros Auklet (*Cerorhinca monocerata*); Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*); White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*); Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*); Yellowlegs (*Tringa sp.*)

Amphibian

Columbia Spotted Frog (*Rana luteiventris*); Western Toad (*Bufo boreas*)

Mammalian

Coyote (*Canis latrans*); Fox Squirrel (*Sciurus niger*); Pronghorn Antelope (*Antilocapra americana*); White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*);

The Quarterly Wildlife Mortality Report is available at <http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov>.

Written and compiled by: **Mark Jankowski – Eastern US, Krysten Schuler – Western US, and Jennifer Bradsby – Technician.** To report mortality or receive information about this report, please contact the USGS National Wildlife Health Center, 6006 Schroeder Road, Madison, WI 53711



Photo by Bruce Gill

Eastern United States

Mark Jankowski
Wildlife Disease Ecologist
Phone: (608) 270-2443
FAX: (608) 270-2415
Email: mjankowski@usgs.gov

Western United States

Krysten Schuler
Wildlife Disease Ecologist
Phone: (608) 270-2447
FAX: (608) 270-2415
Email: kschuler@usgs.gov

Hawaiian Islands

Thierry Work
Wildlife Disease Ecologist
P.O. Box 50167
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 8-132
Honolulu, HI 96850
Phone: (808) 792-9520
FAX: (808) 792-9596
Email: thierry_work@usgs.gov



Photo by Bruce Gill



Photo by Bruce Gill

WDA Sections

NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN SECTION



Visit the EWDA website at www.ewda.org and find out about our activities, including conferences, workshops, courses and members' interests. The website is kindly provided free of charge by

the UK Central Science Laboratory. Please contact r.delahay@csl.gov.uk if you have any announcements or other material for submission to the site.

The EWDA Bulletin is now available! The first edition is in colour and has been sent to EWDA members by Email.

MedVetNet, Special Interest Group on WiREDZ (wildlife related emerging disease and zoonoses). First meeting Madrid 11-12th December 2007. Anyone investigating these diseases in wildlife anywhere in Europe please Email Paul Duff-p.duff@vla.defra.gsi.gov.uk.

8th Conference of the European Wildlife Disease Association, Rovinj, Croatia, October 2-5, 2008. The European Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA) will hold its biennial conference on the Adriatic coast, in Rovinj, Croatia. From the Pannonian lowlands in the east; divided by the Dinara mountain range where wildlife abounds; extending to the sapphire colored coast of the Adriatic Sea with an indented coastline and thousands of islands, and reefs; you will find as much as ten percent of the country's land area is protected as natural heritage territory, with eight national parks, and no less than almost eight hundred animal species under protection. Despite its modest size, in terms of its biodiversity Croatia ranks among the top five countries in Europe, with some of its localities being of global importance. As we invite you to Croatia, we want you to share with us

the taste, the feeling, and the spirit of "The Mediterranean as It Once Was". More information on the conference can be found in the Meeting and Conference Announcements section on page 25 of this Newsletter.

Serosurvey of wild ruminants for anti-bluetongue virus antibodies in Spain.

The background of our study was that bluetongue virus (BTV) serotype 4 entered the Iberian Peninsula in October 2004 and spread through south-western Spain until 2005. Several outbreaks affecting cattle, sheep and goats were reported in 2004 and 2005. Hence, we aimed to search for anti-BTV antibodies in wild ruminant sera from the affected area and surroundings, also considering the distribution of *Culicoides imicola* in Spain. We also aimed to look for the geographical and temporal patterns of BTV within wild ruminant populations in the study area.

We tested 2233 red deer, 106 fallow deer, 72 mouflon, 44 roe deer and 10 Barbary sheep sera for anti-BTV antibodies by means of a competitive ELISA test. We found all these species to have been in contact with the virus. None of the animals sampled in 03/04 or 04/05 had antibodies, while for the last two years of the study (05/06 and 06/07) we found that 35% of fallow deer, 22% of red deer, 13% of mouflon and 5% of roe deer to have antibodies against BTV.

Also 25% of Barbary sheep tested (only 4 for 05/06 and 06/07) had antibodies.

We analysed the geographic and temporal patterns of BTV in red deer in the study area and found higher seroprevalence rates in southern than in northern geographical areas, following a similar pattern to that observed in livestock. We also found an increasing seroprevalence through the study years following the first detection of antibodies in 05/06.

Later, in summer 2007, some 100 blood samples from a deer farm in southern Spain, with known BTV con-

WDA Sections

tact during the previous years, were tested by means of RT-PCR and BTV s4 nucleic acid was detected. More work is currently being done with wild ruminant samples. With regard to clinical cases of BTV disease in wild ruminants, no cases have been diagnosed by IREC, or reported elsewhere in Spain. This observation together with the current known BTV presence in wild ruminants led us to think that the BTV serotype 4 did not cause clinical disease in wild ruminants. However, more information is required in regard to serotype 1 which has recently entered Spain, in which virulence appears to be higher than that of s4.

From the results of our study, and the reports from Belgium and Germany, we are now sure that European wild ruminants are susceptible to BTV infection. Nevertheless, information on BTV pathogenicity is not available for European wild ruminants and much work is still required to elucidate the real role of wildlife in BTV epidemiology in Europe.

Francisco Ruiz-Fons, Instituto de Investigacion en Recursos Cinegeticos, IREC (CSIC-UCLM-JCCM), Ronda de Toledo, s/n, 13005 Ciudad Real, Spain

E-mail: f.ruiz-fonz@macaulay.ac.uk / josefrancisco.ruiz@uclm.es

Bluetongue serotype 8 in wildlife in Northern Europe.

The information below is associated with the developing BT8 situation in farmed ruminants, and has been compiled from various sources including web articles.

Germany: - 2006/2007 hunting season, 1016 red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), 419 roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), 53 moufflon (*Ovis musimon*), and 391 unidentified species from eight Federal States were sampled. The positive serological samples were only recorded in the Federal State of Northrhine-Westfalia, in the area where livestock was most severely affected. Also one bison (*Bison bonasus*) was shown to be

positive by ELISA and PCR.

Belgium: - 2005, 262 wild hunter-killed red and roe deer were sampled. In 2006, 684 hunter-killed deer had a seroprevalence of 0.58%. Samples were from 25 of the 37 Cantonnements where wild deer were known to be present. Veterinary surveillance of 102 wild deer, either found dead or culled due to malaise, identified one roe deer with lesions suggestive of BT but this was not confirmed by RT-PCR.

The Netherlands: - 2006, 60 hunted roe deer sampled in the south. All were seronegative.

**Alex Barlow, VLA Wildlife Group, VLA Langford.
a.barlow@vla.defra.gsi.gov.uk**

Summary of Current HPAI H5N1 Asian lineage Status in Wild Birds and Poultry.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 remains an ever present and evolving global animal and public health threat. In South East Asia, notably Indonesia where HPAI is generally endemic in bird populations, there has been a marked resurgence over recent months in reports of disease in both poultry and people. Reports of HPAI H5N1 continue in Burma, Bangladesh, the Middle East, West and North Africa (especially Egypt, also with linked human cases), southern parts of China and the Russian Federation. There is an apparent temporal trend of westward spread of these cases over the period March to September 2007 including confirmed reports in wild birds, but the majority in domestic poultry. This is indicative of both spread and persistence of the virus in backyard and commercial poultry populations, some of which are vaccinated, as well as in wild birds. However the true extent of infection is not known.

In the European Union there have been 306 wild bird reports of Asian lineage HPAI H5N1 since mid June 2007 (European Commission, 2007). These cases were in three member states, Germany (298), France (7), and the Czech Republic (1). No additional member states have been affected during the period July

WDA Sections

to September 2007. Cases were confirmed in Mute swan (*Cygnus olor*), Pochard (*Aythya ferina*), Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*), Greylag geese (*Anser anser*), with the majority in Black-necked Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*). Molecular and epidemiological studies indicated that these incidents were due to a new independent introduction of H5N1 HPAI virus into the EU. The phylogenetic group of this virus comprises a lineage originating from the Middle East and some Russian Federation isolates. It is considered a possibility that it may have been introduced into wild bird populations in a number of discrete pockets and maintained at a very low level that remained unnoticed.

References

European Commission, (2007). DG Health and Consumer Protection. Animal Disease Notification System: See Highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 cases in wild birds in the Community reported to the Animal Disease Information System (ADNS) in 2007 (as of 30 October 2007).

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/adns/adns_wildbirds2007.pdf

Richard Irvine, EU/ OIE/ FAO International Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease, VLA Weybridge, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB.

Population explosion of voles in Northern Spain.

This short summary has been compiled from press articles and web articles from conservation groups, however in the European context it was unusual and therefore noteworthy.

During the summer of 2007, a population explosion of common voles (*Microtus arvalis*) in Castilla-Leon region, in North Spain, has led to severe damage in agriculture crops. Measures to control it have included burning and ploughing fields, and poisoning with chlorofacinone and bromadiolone. Conservation groups and scientists believe that these measures are

not sufficient, and have particularly criticised poisoning because of the severe consequences for the ecosystem. At the same time, more than 300 cases of tularemia in humans have been diagnosed in the region, and are believed to be associated with the vole explosion.

<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/071108.asp#1>

http://www.abc.es/hemeroteca/historico-16-09-2007/abc/Sociedad/matar-topillos-a-ca%C3%B1onazos_164834100659.html

Compiled by Ignasi Marco, Servei d'Ecopatologia de Fauna Salvatge, Facultat de Veterinària, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193-Bellaterra. Spain

To all students interested in wildlife diseases research:

Have you always wanted to do more with your passion for wildlife diseases? Are you interested in wildlife research and do you want to meet people with the same interest? Working with others, do you have the talent to organize activities for students all over Europe and abroad? Then apply for a position in the EWDA Student Chapter Board! Being an officer of the Student Chapter will enable you to share all your interests in research and wildlife diseases with other students and researchers from all over Europe. The student chapter, an active and growing part of the European Wildlife Disease Association, is the ideal way to realize all your creative ideas how to let people share their knowledge with each other. You will meet students from all over Europe and beyond, and will get "a look into the world of research". It is the ideal starting point for students that are interested in a career in wildlife diseases.

To apply for a position in the EWDA Student Chapter Board, please visit the student website at www.ewda.org, and send the requested information to ewdastudent@gmail.com. You can also send questions about the board to this address.

The EWDA Student Chapter Board '06-'08 looks for-

WDA Sections

ward to hearing from you!

Miriam Maas, EWDA Student Representative-

Submission to News from Europe. Material for publication in News from Europe can include recent wildlife disease outbreaks and new diseases in Europe, short case and meeting reports; job and scholarship announcements. We encourage submissions, and will help with the English language if required. The deadline for the next issue is February 2007.

Please mail, fax or e-mail submissions to, Paul Duff, VLA Diseases of Wildlife Scheme, VLA Penrith, Mer-rythought, Calthwaite, PENRITH, Cumbria, CA11 9RR, United Kingdom, *e-mail* p.duff@vla.defra.gsi.gov.uk. Fax ++44(0)-1768-885314 /phone ++44(0)-1768-885295.

NEWS FROM THE NORDIC SECTION

Sweden

Avian Influenza

The passive surveillance for avian influenza continues, with all submitted dead birds (approximately 330 so far in 2007) examined at the National Veterinary Institute being negative for H5N1 virus.

During the fall of 2006 a number of alopecic moose (*Alces alces*) were sighted or found dead in the border area of south-west Sweden and south-east Norway. Numerous Deer ked (*Lipoptena cervi*) were found on the animals, and an eosinophilic dermatitis pointed to ectoparasites as a possible cause of the alopecia. During 2007 only single animals have been reported with alopecia, and alopecic moose radio-transmitter collared in early 2007 have later during the year re-grown their pelage. Further studies on the cause of the alopecia are ongoing.

A second case of the French heart worm, *Angiostrongylus vasorum*, with accompanying granulomatous pneumonia has been diagnosed during 2007 in a Red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*). The first case was diagnosed in 2003, and these foxes are from an isolated island on the west coast of Sweden. The parasite has a snail as intermediate host and single cases of angiostrongylosis have also been found in dogs from the island. There has been no cases in wildlife found on the Swedish mainland, so far.

During 2007 a European Union surveillance program for Chronic Wasting Disease is ongoing. All species of deer are being screened, both wild and farmed deer. The focus is on testing animals put down due to symptoms of clinical disease, as well as deer found dead, especially road kills.

Erik Ågren, Section Chair of Wildlife Diseases, National Veterinary Institute, Uppsala, Sweden

Norway

A necrobacillosis-like condition in wild reindeer

In the wild reindeer population in the mountain area of Rondane, Eastern Norway, about 50 severely lame animals were detected during the 2007 autumn hunt. Most of the affected animals were calves, and the lameness was normally restricted to one foot. Pathologically, there was a panaritium-condition comprising an area from the coronary band up the fetlock. The condition was further characterized by a wound in the skin with a necrotic-purulent surface, and cellulitis, pus formation and proliferation of granulation tissue in deeper structures. The joints and synovial sheaths were variably involved. *Fusobacterium sp.* was isolated from the lesions of several animals. Further investigations will be carried out.

Kjell Handeland, Section of Wildlife Diseases, National Veterinary Institute, Oslo, Norway

WDA Sections

Finland

Dermatitis in Baltic ringed seals

An outbreak of dermatitis in Baltic ringed seals (*Phoca hispida botnica*) was seen on the coast of the Bothnian Bay in Finland in the summer and autumn of 2007. Dermatitis was found in fishing by-catch, but otherwise apparently healthy seals in normal body condition. Three seals were examined at Evira (Finnish Food Safety Authority). Lesions were situated on the trunk, and they were small, approximately 10 mm in diameter, rounded flat areas of disrupted skin with small amounts of purulent, or sometimes bloody discharge. Early lesions were slightly raised nodules with a diameter of approximately 3-5 mm. Histologically, a deep, diffuse, necrotizing inflammation of dermis and epidermis was seen. In bacterial cultures, isolated bacteria included *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* ssp. *equisimilis*, and *Corynebacterium* sp. From two seals, a so far unidentified gram-positive rod-shaped bacterium was also isolated.

The largest subpopulation of Baltic ringed seals (4 500 individuals) lives in the Bothnian Bay, the northernmost part of the Baltic Sea. There were a few incidental observations about skin lesions in Bothnian Bay ringed seals two years ago, but no written reports nor pathological examinations were done at the time. Any comments on the possible etiology of the disease or similar kind of findings elsewhere in the Baltic Sea or at other locations would be very welcome!

Marja Isomursu, Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira, Department of animal disease and food safety research. marja.isomursu@evira.fi

NEWS FROM THE AUSTRALASIAN SECTION

WDA Australasian conference, September 2008

The 2008 Australasian conference will be held at the

Australian National University field station campus at Kioloa, September 20 – 26, 2008. For more details on the conference go to page 25 of this newsletter. Further information will be posted on the Australasian site <http://www.wda-aust.org/> or contact Chris Bunn at chris_b@webone.com.au. Information about the Kioloa site can be viewed at <http://kioloa.anu.edu.au/>

WDA SECTION CHAIRS

African Section. Vacant

Australasian Section. For information regarding the Australasian Section, contact Pam Whiteley, 1 Brinsley Road, Camberwell, VIC 3124, Australia; Ph: 61-3-98825608; FAX: 61-3-98823054; Email: pwhitele@bigpond.net.au

European Section . For information regarding the European Section, contact Dolores Gavier-Widén; Division of Wildlife Fish and Environment, SVA (National Veterinary Institute), SE 751 89 Uppsala, Sweden; Ph: 46-18-674-215; FAX: 46-18-30-91-62; Email: dolores@sva.se

Nordic Section. For information regarding the Nordic Section, contact Erik Agren, Department of Wildlife, National Veterinary Institute, SE-751 89 Uppsala, SWEDEN, Telephone +46 18 67 40 00 Fax +46 18 30 91 62 or E-mail: Erik.Agren@sva.se.

Wildlife Veterinarian Section. For information regarding the Wildlife Veterinarian Section, contact Kirsten Gilardi, Wildlife Health Center, University of California Davis, CA 95616 USA. Telephone: 530-752-4896, FAX: 530-752-3318, email kvgilardi@ucdavis.edu

Training and Education

Visit the JWD website at <http://www.wildlifedisease.org> for more information on training opportunities

MSc in Wild Animal Health and MSc in Wild Animal Biology

The Institute of Zoology at the Zoological Society of London and the Royal Veterinary College at the University of London offer Master's of Science in wild animal health and wild animal biology. Experience required: For MSc in Wild Animal Health, applicants will be expected to have a degree from a recognised veterinary school. For MSc Wild Animal Biology, applications will be invited from candidates with a biology / zoology degree with preference being given to those that have received, *inter alia*, training in the paraclinical subjects (microbiology, parasitology and pathology). Applicants from overseas will be required to provide evidence of proficiency in spoken and written English, including scientific usage and comprehension. Length of commitment is one year course (full-time, September to September, inclusive). There is no application deadline. Applications are processed in the order they are received. Since the course is regularly several times over-subscribed, early application is recommended. Further information on the course may be obtained from the following websites: <http://www.rvc.ac.uk/postgrad> and <http://www.zoo.cam.ac.uk/ioz/postgrad.htm>. Course Directors: Tony Sainsbury and Michael Waters. Email: tony.sainsbury@ioz.ac.uk and mwaters@rvc.ac.uk. Enquiries and applications: Lisa Shaw, Graduate School, The Royal Veterinary College. Email: graduateschool@rvc.ac.uk

Dallas Zoo and Dallas Aquarium Veterinary Student Preceptorship

A four to eight-week preceptorship offers exposure to clinical zoo and aquarium veterinary practice at a large metropolitan zoo. The student will work closely with the veterinary and keeper staff and receive an introduction to husbandry, restraint/immobilization,

basic medical procedure techniques, and necropsies of zoo animals, the unique aspects of veterinary management of animals in a zoo setting, and the MedARKS recordkeeping system. An onsite library is available for use. Responsibilities will be assigned based on the student's areas of interest and experience level. The student is expected to complete a project and present results to the veterinary staff, and will be responsible for local transportation, housing, and food. Applicants should be a fourth year veterinary student (or in final year of non-U.S. veterinary program) and have completed four weeks of a clinical medicine or surgery rotation before the start of the preceptorship. Negative tuberculin skin test within 60 days of the start of the preceptorship, current tetanus vaccination, and personal health insurance are required. Applicants should send a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, contact information for three references, and the name of their Zoo/Exotic Animal advisor to: Tim Storms, Associate Veterinarian at Dallas Zoo and Dallas Aquarium, 650 South R.L. Thornton Hwy., Dallas, Texas 75203-2996.

Training Available in Fish Diagnostics, Inspections, and Laboratory Methods

The US Fish and Wildlife Service Fish Health Centers provide laboratory and field examination services to the National Fish Hatcheries. Our main emphasis is to assist the hatcheries in producing quality fish that will contribute to the enhancement and restoration of aquatic ecosystems. At the Olympia and Idaho Fish Health Centers, the work may involve travel to field sites to perform diagnostic examinations and collect samples that are then evaluated in our laboratories. Routine testing procedures include bacteriology

Training and Education

(biochemical, ELISA, and PCR methods), virology (cell culture, serological, and PCR methods), parasitology (microscopic and PCR methods), histology,



oregonstate.edu

and clinical chemistry. Training may be arranged for one day or several weeks at one or both of these laboratories depending on the interests and availability of

the individual. In general, most broodstock inspections are performed from September through November, juvenile inspections are performed from January through April, and wild fish surveys are conducted from March through September. Routine diagnostic examinations are performed year round and special projects are conducted as time and necessity permit. For more information, please contact Joy Evered DVM, at the Olympia Fish Health Center; email joy_evered@fws.gov or Marilyn Blair DVM, at the Idaho Fish Health Center; email marilyn_j_blair@fws.gov.

Sr. Veterinary Student Preceptorship in Avian and Conservation Medicine

A four to six-week preceptorship in Avian and Conservation Medicine is being offered to a senior-year veterinary student by the International Crane Foundation (ICF) in Baraboo, Wisconsin. The preceptor will train with the Veterinary Services Unit of the Conservation Services Department in all phases of the clinical practice, but have opportunities for interaction with the Crane Conservation Department to learn captive propagation, husbandry, and management of this unique family of birds. The preceptor can expect to gain practical experience in crane capture, transport,

anesthesia, preventive medicine, disease surveillance, and the contribution of veterinary medicine to crane conservation including field project support and professional consultations. Preceptors are encouraged to complete and report on a research or laboratory project during their stay. Opportunities for visiting the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, WI will be made available to interested preceptors. No stipend is available for this position; however, on-site housing in the ICF Guesthouse will be provided depending on availability at the time the preceptorship is scheduled. Applicants should send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, or resume and one letter of recommendation from a faculty member of their home institution to: Barry Hartup, DVM, Director of Veterinary Services, International Crane Foundation, E-11376 Shady Lane Road, Baraboo, WI 53913, email hartup@savingcranes.org. Please view our website at www.savingcranes.org.



fws.gov

Directory of Post-Graduate Educational Opportunities in Zoo and Wildlife Medicine

The World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians has recently produced a Directory of Post-Graduate Educational Opportunities in Zoo and Wildlife Medicine. The Directory covers opportunities in over fifty countries and is a must for veterinary students or graduates interested in furthering their careers in the field of wildlife medicine. For further information, please contact the Secretary of the WAWV at: F.Scullion@zoo.co.uk.

Meetings and Conferences

Visit the JWD website at <http://www.wildlifedisease.org> for more information on training opportunities

Avian Diseases and Conservation Conference. College of Veterinary Medicine-Western University of Health Sciences. Pomona, California May 29-31, 2008

The first **Avian Diseases and Conservation Conference** will be held at the College of Veterinary Medicine-Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, California on May 29-31, 2008. The aim of this conference is to provide in-depth information on selected avian diseases and hands-on training to veterinarians, ornithologists, conservationists, zookeepers, rehabilitators, aviculturists, wildlife managers and park rangers that have a special interest in avian conservation and diseases. The main goal of this conference is to provide updated information on infectious, toxicological and nutritional diseases in free-ranging and captive at zoos birds as it relates to their conservation and provide networking opportunities for avian health professionals. Topics that will be presented include avian diseases and conservation; the impact of diseases in avian populations; updates on avian influenza, West Nile, and avian tuberculosis; the role of birds as biosentinels; avian zoonoses, including psittacosis; molecular diagnosis of avian diseases; lead poisoning impacts on birds; and nutritional and genetic disorders in Californian Condors. The conference includes intensive didactic lectures along with interactive avian necropsy/ sample collection hands-on laboratory sessions. In addition, an oiled sea-bird rehabilitation laboratory will be offered. A certificate of completion and CE credits will be awarded participants successfully completing this 2-day conference. Additional activities include a Welcome Dinner, a visit and dinner at the San Bernardino County Museum, which holds one of the largest egg collections in the world, and a visit to San Pedro's International Bird Rescue Center. Western University of Health Sciences is located in Pomona, 30 minutes east of Los Angeles and is surrounded by mountains. Los Ange-

les and Ontario airports are conveniently located close to the Conference Venue. This will be a great opportunity to spend some time enjoying Southern California, its exceptional birding opportunities, visits to the world famous Californian beaches and sea-coast as well some of the most beautiful North American National Parks such as Sequoia, Joshua Tree and Channel Islands. The registration fee for the course is \$200 if made before April 31st. After this date, the conference fee will be \$250. Student fee is \$150. **Lodging:** A block of rooms are reserved at the **Shilo Suites Hotel in Pomona** (800) 320-6291 or (909) 598-7666. When making a reservation, please mention that you are with the "**Avian Diseases and Conservation Conference**". Registration forms, conference program and additional information can be found at www.westernu.edu/avianconference. For more information, please, feel free to contact **Dr. Miguel Saggese** at avianconference@westernu.edu or by phone at 909-706-3532.

29th World Veterinary Congress (WVC 2008), Vancouver, Canada, July 27 - 31, 2008

The 29th World Veterinary Congress will be held in Vancouver, CA from July 27 to 31, 2008. It will be one of the premier events of the Veterinary Profession worldwide with attendance expected to reach over 2,500. Participants will include veterinarians, para-veterinarians, veterinary technicians and others who partner with us in animal care. While the program is designed to "Celebrate our Diversity" it is also intended to bring veterinarians from all fields together in recognizing that, despite our diversity, we professionally have a common goal. For further information please visit the website at: <http://www.worldveterinarycongress2008.com>.

Meetings and Conferences

2008

Wildlife Disease
Association
Edmonton



57th Annual Meeting of the Wildlife Disease Association. August 3-8, 2008; Edmonton, Alberta Canada

Make tracks for Edmonton and gather with wildlife disease folks from far and wide. The University of Alberta and the Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division proudly host the 2008 annual meeting of the Wildlife Disease Association. Local organizers are tweaking the traditional template for WDA meetings. For example, the wildlife management agencies of British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Yukon are participating as Regional Partner Hosts. The meeting also is held in conjunction with the American Association of Wildlife

Veterinarians and the Canadian Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians. Given our location and the makeup of our host group, the meeting will focus on western and northern aspects of wildlife diseases and parasites, including a symposium entitled *Wildlife Health in a Changing North*.

Traditional elements of successful WDA meetings will of course not be tampered with – the auction, picnic, banquet, and student presentations are embedded in the program. A hospitality poster session, and field trips ending in an outdoor picnic in a venue steeped in wildlife disease history, also are being planned. All information regarding the meeting can be found at <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/parasites/WDA08/> It's a work in progress so check the web site for new information as the pieces of the puzzle come together.

Bring your data, bring your appetite, bring your stories, bring your friends.

Bring your heart and bring your mind.

Edmonton is the place to be in early August 2008.

Oh yes, and don't forget your auction items!

Meetings and Conferences

8th Conference of the European Wildlife Disease Association, Rovinj, Croatia, October 2-5, 2008

The 8th Conference of the European Wildlife Disease Association, Rovinj, Croatia, October 2-5, 2008. The European Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA) will hold its biennial Conference on the Adriatic coast, in



Rovinj, Croatia. The EWDA invites members and others interested in all aspects of wildlife diseases and in promoting wildlife health to submit papers and attend the Conference. Through the quality and the content of presentations we strive to make the EWDA Conference the leading event for the



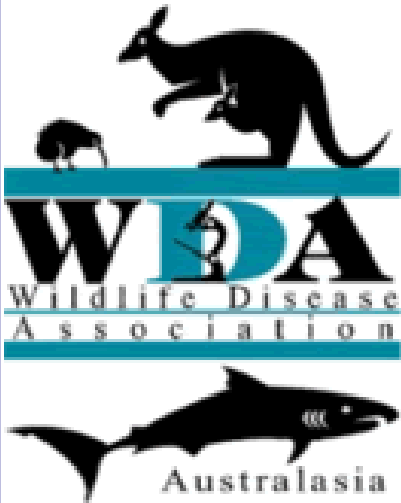
dissemination of important scientific information, as well as an enjoyable one. Veterinarians, pathologists, zoologists, wildlife biologists, epidemiologists, ecologists, and any person interested in wildlife health should attend and join together in what will be a challenging opportunity to discuss the imminent issues surrounding wildlife diseases. Associates from an array of animal and human health fields will also attend, promoting and sharing professional knowledge and discussing topics of

mutual interest. As we invite you to Croatia, we want you to share with us the feeling, and the spirit of “The Mediterranean as It Once Was”. The Croatian Veterinary Institute will host the event. The town of Rovinj is one of the most popular seaside resorts in Croatia. It is located on the west coast of the Istrian peninsula and as such is a focal point in the Northern Adriatic, offering a wide range of interests for visitors in a picturesque ancient town, surrounded by beautiful pine forests.



Registration for the conference opens on May 2nd 2008. The deadline for abstract submissions is June 16th 2008. For more information on the conference program and important dates please visit the conference website at <http://www.ewda2008.org>.

Meetings and Conferences



WDA Australasian Conference, September 20—26, 2008

A highlight of the Australasian section is its Annual Conference.

These are typically held away from capital cities, at natural locations of major interest to members. Biologists and conservationists working in the local area are invited to share in the meeting.

In addition to the scientific programme there are field trips, bush walks, and a friendly atmosphere that encourages the sharing of knowledge and ideas. The catering by Shirley is outstanding, so you never have to last more than a few hours without eating something.

The 2008 Australasian conference will be held at the Australian National University field station campus at Kioloa, September 20–26, 2008. Kioloa is situated on the coast in South Eastern New South Wales in easy driving distance from Sydney (3 hours) and Canberra (2 hours).

Kioloa has a range of sleeping accommodation including bunkhouses and self-contained cottages. The bunks have mattresses and pillows. Users need to take their own pillowcases, sheets and blankets or sleeping bags. Alternatively, a bedding kit can be provided with a small charge. A range of other accommodation, including camping is available close by.

Further information will be posted on the Australasian site <http://www.wda-aust.org/> or contact Chris Bunn at chris_b@webone.com.au. Information about the Kioloa site can be viewed at <http://kioloa.anu.edu.au/>

WDA Council

Officers

President

Charles van Riper III
USGS/SBSC/SDRS
Tuscon, Arizona, USA
(520) 626-7027
charles_van_riper@usgs.gov

Vice President

Lynn Creekmore
USDA/APHIS/VS/WRO
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA
(970) 494-7354
lynn.h.creekmore@aphis.usda.gov

Secretary

Margaret Wild
National Park Service
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA
(970) 270-2462
Margaret_wild@nps.gov

Treasurer

Carol Meteyer
USGS/Nat'l Wildlife Health Center
Madison, Wisconsin, USA
(608) 270-2462
carol_meteayer@usgs.gov

Past President

Scott Wright
USGS/Nat'l Wildlife Health Center
Madison, Wisconsin, USA
(608) 270-2460
swright@usgs.gov

Council Members at Large

Brett Elkin

Wildlife Division, Govt of the NWT
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, CANADA
(867) 873-7761
brett_elkin@gov.nt.ca

Marguerite Pappaioanou

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
(612) 624-7554
pappa046@umn.edu

Dolores Gavier-Widen

Division of Wildlife, Fish and Environment
SVA (National Veterinary Institute)
Uppsala, Sweden
46-18-674-215
dolores@sva.se

Marcela Uhart

Wildlife Conservation Society
Puerto Madryn, Chubut, Argentina
54 2965 475110
muhart@wcs.org

Samantha Gibbs

Australian Animal Health Laboratory, CSIRO-LI
East Geelong, Victoria, Australia
61 3 5227 5279
samantha.gibbs@csiro.au

Thierry Work

USGS
Honolulu, HI, USA
(808) 792-9520
thierry_work@usgs.gov

Student Representative

Leslie Reperant

Dept of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey, USA
(609) 258-2119
reperant@princeton.edu

WDA Council

Section Chairs

European Section
Dolores Gavier-Widen
Div of Wildlife,
Fish and Environment
National Veterinary Institute
Uppsala, Sweden
46-18-674-215
dolores@sva.se

Nordic Section
Erik Agren
Department of Wildlife
National Veterinary Institute
Uppsala, Sweden
46 18 67 42 78
erik.agren@sva.se

Australasian Section
Pam Whitely
Camberwell Victoria, Australia
61-3-98825608
pwhitele@bigpond.net.au

WDA Editors and Managers

Editors

Journal of Wildlife Diseases

Elizabeth Howerth (Co-editor)
Department of Veterinary Pathology
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia, USA
(706) 542-5833
ehowerth@vet.uga.edu

David Stallknecht (Co-editor)
Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia, USA
(706) 542-1741
dstall@calc.vet.uga.edu

Website

Bridget Schuler (Web Editor)
College of Veterinary Medicine
Colorado State University
bridgetschuler@hotmail.com

Damien Joly (Assistant Web Editor)
Field Veterinary Program
Wildlife Conservation Society
djoly@wcs.org

Newsletter

Pauline Nol
USDA/APHIS/VS
Nat'l Wildlife Research Center
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA
(970) 266-6126
pauline.nol@aphis.usda.gov

Executive Manager

Ed Addison
Ecolink Science
Aurora, Ontario, Canada
(905) 727-4476
ecolink@aci.on.ca

Business Manager

Kay Rose
Allen Press
Lawrence, Kansas, USA
(800) 627-0326 Ext 289
krose@allenpress.com