

Latin American Section



First Biennial Conference of the WDA Latin American Section!

Many will remember the WDA Annual International Conference of 2010 at Puerto Iguazú, Argentina, when many Latin American students and professionals involved in wildlife health joined WDA colleagues from all parts of the world for the first time. At that meeting, the spark to create a WDA Latin American Section emerged and, one year later, the WDA Latin American Section was officially established during the International Conference in Québec,

Canada.

From 19 to 22 September 2013, a new step was taken to strengthen the newest section of the WDA: the First Biennial Conference of the Latin American WDA Section! The event took place at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences of the University of São Paulo, in São Paulo, Brazil. One hundred and ten professionals and students, from ten nationalities (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, Spain and the USA) were represented.

The meeting's program included 5 reputed keynote speakers (Drs. Thierry Work, Marcia Chame, Javier Millán, Jean Carlos Ramos Silva and Marcela Uhart), 33 oral presentations and 65 posters. In addition, during the Section's business meeting Colombia and Mexico were elected to host the 2015 and 2017 Latin American Section meetings, respectively. The full conference program together with photographs of the conference can be found at <http://www.wdaamericalatina.com.br/home-english.html>

We are certain that this first meeting of the LA WDA was an historic event for all those working with wildlife health in Latin America, and look forward to the 2015 meeting in Colombia!

New WDA-LA Section Officers

During the first Biennial meeting, recently elected Section officers took over for the next two years (2013-2015). They are Jose Luiz Catão-Dias (chair), Ezequiel Hermoso Hidalgo (co-chair), Eliana Matushima and Elmer Alexander Genoy (secretaries), Katia Groch (treasurer) and Marcelo Carvalho (student representative). We would like to thank outgoing officers, Marcela Uhart, Maria Forzan and Ralph Vanstreels. Their work and dedication made the first steps of the Latin America Section possible!



First WDA Latin America Section Biennial Conference participants. Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2013.

Nordic Section



Red Fox illustration:
Robert Farkas

An outbreak of canine distemper virus in free-ranging terrestrial carnivores in Denmark associated with unusually high numbers of distemper outbreaks on mink farms
Albrechtsen, L, Andresen, L., Nielsen, L., Struve, T., Pagh, S., Olesen, C.R., Bilk, S., Hammer. A.S., Institute for Veterinary Disease Biology, Copenhagen University, hammer@sund.ku.dk

Due to unusually high numbers of canine distemper outbreaks on mink farms in 2012, Copenhagen University has initiated an investigation to identify a possible reservoir of canine distemper virus (CDV) in Danish wildlife via real-time PCR analysis of actively collected

material, phylogenetic analysis and investigations into biosecurity measures. Until now 266 animals have been sampled, including red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Eurasian badger (*Meles meles*), beech marten (*Martes foina*) and free ranging American mink (*Neovison vison*). Seven foxes tested positive, which translates into a prevalence of CDV in the red fox population of Jutland of approximately 3.5%. CDV-positive animals originated mostly from southern Jutland. Landeslabor Berlin Brandenburg has provided positive samples from foxes in 3 areas of Germany in order to investigate linkage between CDV outbreaks in the two countries. Preliminary sequencing showed a high degree of similarity between CDV sequences from Danish foxes and a farmed mink from outbreaks in 2012, and a high likeness to German and other European strains from domestic and wildlife species. A questionnaire-based biosecurity survey among CDV-positive and CDV-free fur farms was also performed. Preliminary results supports the hypothesis that the virus causing unusually high numbers of CDV outbreaks in the Danish fur production in 2012 was introduced onto farms by free-ranging red foxes and originates from outbreaks in wildlife populations.



Causes of mortality in Swedish moose (*Alces alces*), fall and winter 2012-2013
The Wildlife Section, Department of Pathology and Wildlife Diseases, National Veterinary Institute. vilt@sva.se

In response to reports of dead and emaciated moose (*Alces alces*) and media speculations of a new disease entity southern Sweden in the summer and early autumn of 2012, 52 moose (30 females and 22 males) from the southern half of Sweden found dead or euthanized were submitted for necropsy in fall and winter 2012-2013. The majority of the animals were in poor body condition; 48% were emaciated. Results revealed a spectrum of infections (primarily bacterial and parasitic) as the main underlying cause of death or poor condition, followed by trauma. Eight percent of the animals suffered from degenerative changes associated with advanced age. In 8% of the cases, death had resulted from emaciation of undetermined origin. Results were comparable to historical data from Swedish wildlife disease surveillance with a notable increase in the number of moose with parasitic abomasitis (ostertagiosis) and parasitic enteritis (trichuriasis). The present findings do not support the presence of a new disease entity in Swedish moose.



Fallow Deer photo:
Manav Gupta

Summer outbreak of pasteurellosis in Fallow deer (*Dama dama*) in central Sweden
The Wildlife Section, Department of Pathology and Wildlife Diseases, National Veterinary Institute. vilt@sva.se

In central Sweden an unusual mortality event was registered at the end of the summer. Multiple carcasses of free-ranging fallow deer (*Dama dama*) were found in a few neighboring areas in central Sweden (Örebro and Södermanland counties). The dead animals were almost exclusively males. A few intact carcasses and tissues from some other cases were submitted to the National Veterinary Institute for post mortem examination. All deer were in a good body condition. In the majority of cases, an acute fibrinous pleuritis and pneumonia were observed and *Pasteurella multocida* was cultured from lung and

spleen. The underlying causes of these outbreaks of pasteurellosis during late summer are unclear. Very dense local deer populations, a long hot and dry summer with congregation of animals, and other underlying infections are being considered. Further studies are ongoing.



Photo of Atlantic Puffin: Mary Myers

Unusual Winter Mortality Events in Multiple Atlantic Seabird Species

Sarah Courchesne (Tufts U.), Tony Diamond (ALAR), Doug McNair (ALAR), Samuel Jennings (Tufts U.), Mark Pokras (Tufts U.), Justin Brown (SCWDS), Jennifer Ballard (SCWDS), Craig Harms (CMAST), Emily Christiansen (CMAST), Sara Schweitzer (NCWRC), Anne Ballmann (NWHC), D. Earl Green (NWHC), Megan Hines (WDIN), Joseph Okoniewski (NYSDEC), Mike P. Harris (CEH, Scotland), Daniel M. Turner (NEBBS, England), John Gallegos (USFWS), John Stanton (USFWS), Richard R. Veit (CSI/CUNY), Julie C. Ellis (Tufts U.)

In December 2012, an irruption (an incursion of birds that don't normally winter in a given area) of live Razorbills (*Alca torda*) extended from southern New England to Florida and the Gulf Coast, including first records for Louisiana. Razorbills typically winter throughout the Atlantic coast from eastern Canada to North Carolina, with a handful of records as far south as Florida. In winter 2012-2013, Razorbills were largely absent from the northern end of their winter range and were seen in larger numbers than usual from Massachusetts to Florida, and they were observed for the first time in the Gulf of Mexico. During the same period, reports of dead Razorbills came in from several east coast states, and the number dead would ultimately rise to several hundred individuals. Hundreds of Dovekies (*Alle alle*), murre (*Uria* spp.) and common loons (*Gavia immer*) were also found dead along the east coast, and the worst mortality event affecting Atlantic Puffins (*Fratercula arctica*) in decades began in the northeastern U.S. and in the U.K. Multiple diagnostic laboratories in North America including the Northeast Wildlife Disease Cooperative (NWDC), USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC), North Carolina State University (NCSU), and the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS) conducted necropsies of dead birds finding that emaciation appeared to be the main cause of death in all the affected species. However, three Razorbills found at the VA/NC border were necropsied by the NWHC and were in good body condition with fish in their GI tracts, suggesting these birds had died of another cause such as bycatch, toxic algal bloom, or overeating.

A sea surface temperature anomaly and strong winter storms may have contributed to the Razorbill irruption and multi-species mortality event. In January 2013, sea surface temperatures were higher than normal throughout the north-west Atlantic, especially from North Carolina north to eastern Canada. Warmer waters in the north may have driven Razorbills to more southern waters, very likely by influencing the abundance and distribution of their prey. Razorbills have been steadily increasing in abundance and extending their winter range farther south, and these changes are correlated with changes in oceanographic conditions as indexed by the North Atlantic Oscillation. Last winter, however, was the first in which major mortality was recorded. The timing and location of severe winter storms may have coincided with nearshore movements of some birds, thereby contributing to the die-off. In North America, numbers of dead Razorbills exceeded numbers of puffins by at least an order of magnitude. However, on colonies in the Gulf of Maine, subsequent breeding was affected much more in puffins than Razorbills. On Machias Seal Island (where most local puffins breed) puffins were 2-3 weeks later than usual and had their worst breeding season in 19 years of records, while Razorbills had a much more normal year. In contrast, in eastern Scotland and Northeast England, the numbers of dead puffins exceeded numbers of Razorbills and guillemots by at least an order of magnitude, but with little negative effect on adult survival or numbers of breeding birds.

Members of the public reported the irruption (via eBird.org) and mortalities [via the Seabird Ecological Assessment Network (<http://seanetters.wordpress.com/>) and the Wildlife Health Event Reporter: <http://www.wher.org/>], highlighting the critical role of citizen scientists in wildlife disease investigations.



Photo of Atlantic Puffin: Eric Christensen



Photo of Razorbill: Per Harald Olsen



Photo of Dovekie: Amanda Graham



Student Small Travel Grants Program

The Student Activities Committee of the WDA would like to announce the Student Small Travel Grants Program. The purpose of this fund is to provide small travel scholarships (\$500-\$600) to individual WDA student members who plan to attend the annual WDA conference, especially to those who may not be eligible to apply for the competitive WDA student awards (details below). Students who reside near the conference location are NOT eligible to apply for this travel grant, as funds are intended to offset travel and lodging fees. A total of \$2,500 is available this year for this program and will be disbursed at the annual conference upon confirmation of student conference registration. Please look for further information about application deadlines in upcoming newsletters.



2014 WDA Student Awards Competition

The Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) annually offers four student awards. Students are encouraged to compete for the following awards:

WDA Graduate Student Research Recognition Award:

This award is given to the student judged to have the best research project in the field of wildlife health or disease. The winner receives up to \$5,000 US to cover travel, housing, registration, and similar expenses related to the conference. The student will be the keynote speaker during the student presentation session at the conference.

WDA Graduate Student Scholarship Award:

This award acknowledges outstanding academic and research accomplishment, productivity, and future potential in pursuit of new knowledge in wildlife health or disease. The scholarship has a value of \$2,000 US.

WDA Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award:

This award acknowledges outstanding oral presentation of research findings at the annual WDA conference. The winner receives \$250 US.

WDA Student Poster Award:

This award goes to the best student poster detailing a wildlife disease or wildlife health research project presented at the annual WDA conference. The winner receives \$250 US.

Additional information on each of these awards as well as detailed application instructions may be found on the WDA website. The deadlines for the applications or abstracts have not yet been established, but will take place in early Spring 2014. Official deadlines will be announced during Fall 2013.

Applicants for the WDA awards must be student members of the WDA at the time applications or abstracts are received. Information about WDA student membership can be found at: https://timssnet2.allenpress.com/ECOMWDAS/timssnet/memberships/tnt_membership.cfm. Also, applicants for the *WDA Graduate Student Research Recognition Award* and *WDA Graduate Student Scholarship Award* must be pursuing an advanced (graduate) degree at the time of application.

All four WDA awards are non-renewable, and each award may be received only once by a given candidate. Please direct inquiries to: Justin Brown, Chair, WDA Student Awards Committee, jubrown1@uga.edu

and the
winner is...

WDA Photo Contest Winners (but really a win-win for everyone!)

The first WDA photo contest, held at the 62nd annual WDA meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee, was a great success! The Student Activities Committee (SAC) organized and ran this event with the help of numerous volunteers. In addition to a popular choice voted upon by conference attendees, first, second, and third places were awarded in each of two categories, Wildlife and Landscape/Flora. Winners (see below) chose a prize from an assortment of items, ranging from a capture gun to various text books.

Most of the 65 registered photos were donated to the WDA for a special auction and sale at the annual banquet. After the top five bidders collected their favorite images, the remaining photos were sold for \$10 each. With so many beautiful matted pictures, nearly all of them were purchased before the end of the evening. The contest entry fees and photo sales raised more than \$1,300. These funds will be used to help support SAC programs, such as the brand-new student travel grant, implemented to help subsidize student costs of attending the annual WDA conference.

Photo contest winners

Wildlife

1st: Darryl Heard
2nd: Kevin Keel
3rd: Jennifer Ballard

Landscape/Flora

1st: Andrea Miller
2nd: Krista Jones
3rd: Steve Sweeney

Popular Choice

Nina Schoch

Thanks again to our judges: Erik Ågren, Brett Elkin, Alan Fedynich, Jane Harms, Dave Jessup, Nina Schoch, and Lisa Shender.



Some of the photo entries in the "wildlife" category



USGS National Wildlife Health Center Quarterly Mortality Report

Written and compiled by the U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center Field Investigations Team members: Anne Ballmann, LeAnn White, Barb Bodenstein, and Jennifer Buckner

Acanthocephaliasis mortality in Gull-billed terns (California)

Gull-billed terns (*Gelochelidon nilotica vanrossemei*) were submitted to the National Wildlife Health Center by refuge staff at the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge during the month of May 2013 as a result of a mortality event involving 70 breeding adults and chicks. Clinical signs included head tilt, difficulty breathing, and ataxia. No other birds, including waterfowl, skimmers, or other tern and gull species, using this nesting area appeared affected.

There was no evidence of trauma and birds were in fair body condition with mild to moderate lack of pectoral musculature, suggestive of poor nutritional status. All terns had shrimp-like crustaceans present in the proventriculus and gizzard which were later identified as mole crabs (*Emerita analoga*), one of the most abundant invertebrates living on sandy beaches along the Pacific coast from Alaska to Baja California. In addition, the birds had moderate to heavy presence of intestinal parasites, identified as the acanthocephalan *Profilicollis altmani*, within the intestines as well as protruding through the intestinal walls into the abdominal cavity causing associated peritonitis. Brain cholinesterase levels were within normal limits for common terns indicating these birds were not recently exposed to organophosphates or carbamates. Routine bacterial cultures of liver and lung revealed no pathogenic organisms.

Acanthocephalans can infect all vertebrates, with ducks, geese and swans most commonly affected. Epizootic mortality events involving this parasite may occur and usually correspond to food shortages and/or periods of high stress (migration and breeding). Mole crabs are a common intermediate host and can have very high concentrations of the parasite. *Contact:* Barbara Bodenstern, USGS National Wildlife Health Center, 608-270-2447, bbodenstern@usgs.gov

Suspected carbamate poisoning in songbirds (Wisconsin)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received reports of more than 60 dead songbirds at a private residence in Juneau County, Wisconsin in mid-April 2013. The primary affected species were fox sparrows (*Passerella iliaca*; FOSP) and dark-eyed juncos (*Junco hyemalis*; DEJU). Although there were bird feeders in the yard, the majority of the birds were observed under the resident's cedar trees. Four specimens (2 DEJU and 2 FOSP) from this event were examined at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center. All four had significant brain cholinesterase inhibition and results from follow-up tests were suggestive of carbamate poisoning as the cause of this mortality event.

Carbamate compounds are found in a variety of pesticides approved for application in agricultural and residential land uses. Although these chemicals are considered short-lived in the environment (lasting days instead of months or years) they have also been associated with wild bird deaths throughout the United States. The toxicity of carbamate compounds is due to their ability to disrupt the nervous system of invertebrates and vertebrates through inhibition of cholinesterase enzymes. Once an area contaminated by a pesticide is identified it is important to not only prevent access of the area by additional birds, but also to pick up and properly dispose of carcasses to prevent secondary toxicity in scavengers. *Contact:* LeAnn White, USGS National Wildlife Health Center, 608-270-2491, clwhite@usgs.gov

Eustrongylodes mortality in juvenile great egrets (Florida)

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission investigated mortality of juvenile great egrets at a large active urban rookery (>1000 birds) in Jacksonville, Florida. Mortality was first reported July 23, 2013 at which time biologists observed 71 great egrets (*Ardea alba*) and 5 juvenile black-crowned night-herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) dead; sick individuals were on the ground and exhibited incoordination. None of the adults on-site were affected. According to local residents, the die-off began approximately four weeks earlier and had occurred in previous years following harsh weather.

The USGS National Wildlife Health Center received three freshly dead egrets for evaluation; two were emaciated while the third bird was in good nutritional condition. All three juveniles had evidence of disseminated helminth parasite infection observed at necropsy. Various trematode, nematode, cestode and acanthocephalan parasites were identified; the most notable being nematodes of the genus *Eustrongylides*. Similar findings were reported in specimens examined by the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study. Mortality from *Eustrongylides* sp. infection occurs from penetration of the parasite through the stomach wall resulting in secondary peritonitis. Young wading birds are most commonly affected although infections have also been reported in birds of prey from consuming infected fish, amphibians, or snakes that serve as either secondary intermediate hosts or transport hosts in the parasite's complex life cycle. Major mortality events attributed to Eustrongylidosis have been reported sporadically in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Virginia, Delaware, South Carolina and Indiana over the past

three decades. *Contact:* Anne Ballmann, USGS National Wildlife Health Center, 608-270-2445, aballmann@usgs.gov

More information on eustrongylidosis can be found at:
http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/field_manual/chapter_29.pdf

Amphibian mortality surveillance in the northeastern United States

A regional, two-year surveillance project is underway in Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Virginia to better understand the geographic distribution and cause(s) of juvenile mortality among wild amphibians. Biologist Scott Smith, with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, is the study coordinator. Other collaborating partners include Towson University (Maryland), Montclair State University (New Jersey), USGS-Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Maryland), New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Conserve Wildlife Foundation (New Jersey), and the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (Washington, DC).

The USGS National Wildlife Health Center provides diagnostic evaluation of specimens associated with current or suspected amphibian die-offs at select study sites for the surveillance project. Thus far, ranavirus infections have been identified at 8 of 65 locations (2-Delaware; 6-Maryland) surveyed in 3 states. Evaluation of morbidity and mortality at two additional study sites in New Jersey is pending, as are some non-study sites in Maryland that also reported amphibian die-offs in 2013. Wood frog tadpoles (*Rana sylvatica*) are most frequently involved in the die-offs which can also include spring peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*), green frogs (*Rana clamitans*), American toads (*Bufo americanus*), eastern spadefoot toads (*Leptobrachium* sp.) and/or spotted salamanders (*Ambystoma maculatum*). Field signs include abnormal swimming behavior, hemorrhages on the ventral surface, swollen appearance, and mass mortality or lack of live amphibians. Mortality estimates range from a few individuals to thousands based on spring 2013 egg mass counts at some sites. Ranavirus-associated mortality among amphibians occurs rapidly, potentially decimating an entire season's recruits within 1-2 weeks at affected locations. This can be easily missed if sites are only visited once during the spring. Population level impacts at locations with recurrent seasonal mortality can be significant. *Contact:* Anne Ballmann, USGS National Wildlife Health Center, 608-270-2445, aballmann@usgs.gov

The Quarterly Wildlife Mortality Report is available at:
http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/quarterly_reports/index.jsp.

To view new and ongoing wildlife mortality events nationwide visit:
http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality_events/ongoing.jsp.

Journal of Wildlife Diseases Moves to Allen Press' Pinnacle Platform

Jim Mills, editor, Journal of Wildlife Diseases



We have some exciting news for authors and readers of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases. The electronic version of the Journal is now hosted on Allen Press' Pinnacle

web site. The URL is unchanged: www.jwildlifedis.org/; but the site is all new. Please take time to look at issue 49:4, which just posted today (7 October). The basic functions will feel familiar to you, but you will notice that there are several new features. Some of the most important are:

Open Access option: Click on "current issue" to see the table of contents. The orange open lock identifies articles that are open access (OA) for both members and nonmembers. Upon submission, authors may choose to have their articles OA upon

posting online (\$1,000 for members and \$1,500 for nonmembers). There are three OA articles in the current issue. Publish-ahead-of-Print: Beginning with issue 50:1, accepted articles will be posted online at least 8 weeks before they are published in the Journal and posted in their final format. These “preprints” will be the version that has been accepted and pre-copyedited (by the JWD Editor) but not typeset and edited for Journal format by Allen Press copyeditors. Posting as preprints should effectively cut the time from acceptance to posting of a citable manuscript by about half.

Online-only color plates: The online Journal should be much more colorful on the inside. We will continue to publish color in the print version on a cost-recovery basis (\$765 for one color plate and \$1,145 for two or more plates). However, authors now have the option of choosing black and white for the printed Journal and color for the online Journal. The price for each online color figure will be only \$100.

Supplementary materials: Authors may now submit (subject to reasonable limits) supplementary materials, such as large tables and appendices that will appear with the online version of the manuscript but may not appear in the print copy. There will be no extra charge for posting these materials.

If you click on “Available Issues” on the new website, you will notice that (as of today), our searchable issues online only go back to 2001 (13 years). The conversion and transfer of this “legacy content” to the new Pinnacle website is extremely time consuming. Allen Press personnel have been working on this for the last few months and plan to have all of our 50 years of legacy posted by the end of November 2013. Here are a few other recent changes that JWD readers and authors should know about:

CrossRef: JWD is now a member of CrossRef, a not-for-profit association of about 4,500 publishers. CrossRef provides linking, of millions of scientific documents and references across publishers by using unique digital object identifiers. This will significantly increase the discoverability of JWD articles.

Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs): For the past year, articles in JWD have been assigned DOIs to each published article. This string of characters is the unique identifier for an online document and links back to “metadata” describing that document, including the URL where it is found. This DOI permanently and unambiguously identifies a specific document, even when the article moves from the “publish-ahead-of-Print” to the final published version. The DOI facilitates linking of citations across publishers, increased visibility and accessibility, automatic linking to JWD content, and allows Open Access and Publish-ahead-of-Print.

CrossCheck: JWD’s new membership in CrossCheck allows editorial staff to use special software (iThenticate) designed to check for potential plagiarism in submitted articles. Use of plagiarism detection software is strongly encouraged by international publishers’ organizations, especially as scientific literature proliferates. At JWD, we are proud to be doing our part to help encourage ethical standards and scientific integrity in scholarly publishing. The Journal of Wildlife Diseases has seen substantive changes in the last few years. We, in the Editorial Office, including your Editorial Board, Assistant Editors, and Executive Manager are proud of what has been accomplished and look forward to providing future updates as your flagship journal continues to improve.



Call for Nominations for the 2014 WDA Council Election

Dolores Gavier-Widen, Past President

The WDA Nominations Committee is seeking nominees for two Council-Members-At-Large, one Student Member on the WDA Council, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Student Council member is 2 year term. The Treasurer, Secretary and Council Members-at-Large are 3 year terms. Newly elected members of Council assume office at the end of the next annual conference following the election. The 2014 Conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

Ideally Officers and Council Members have a good understanding of the Association through their previous volunteer contributions. While experience gives Officers and Council Members valuable perspectives that they can bring to the Council, less experienced members have also been nominated and elected and have brought new and different ideas to Council. The nominees have to be members of WDA.

If you have suggestions for WDA members as nominees for these positions, please submit your suggestions for consideration by the nominations committee to, Dolores Gavier-Widen (dolores@sva.se) **by November 15, 2013** and include the following:

- Name of possible candidate.
- Name of sponsoring member.
- Name of second sponsoring member.
- Degrees earned; place and date
- Former professional positions held; place and date
- Present Position; title and location
- Member of WDA since...
- Previous WDA activities
- Affiliations with relevant professional and scientific societies
- Interests associated with the mission of the WDA

Additionally, please have the nominee submit a personal agenda statement with an outline of personal goals for the WDA if elected.



Job Opportunity

The Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC) and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) invite applications for the position of Executive Director of the CCWHC. Responsibilities: The Executive Director provides leadership, foresight and direction to the CCWHC, its partners and its sponsors. The director links the CCWHC to the social, economic and ecological issues in Canada to which wild animal health and disease are relevant, and positions the CCWHC to best serve Canadian society through wildlife health management actions grounded in science. The director is the primary national public face and the spokesperson for the CCWHC and must have solid credibility as a wildlife health scientist; as an effective communicator to public, scientific and political audiences; as an organizational manager and decision-maker; as a collaborator and consensus-builder; as a fundraiser; and as a valued advisor on wildlife health issues in Canada and abroad.

We will begin reviewing applications in November. Interested persons should submit a letter of intent, which fully explains their interest in the position and their background relative to the position description criteria, together with an up-to-date *curriculum vitae*, and the names and contact information of three professional references to: Ms. Sherry Stuber, Office of the Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, 52 Campus Drive, Saskatoon SK S7N 5B4, Email: sherry.stuber@usask.ca; phone 306.966.7454. Visit www.ccwhc.ca and www.healthywildlife.ca for additional information.



Request for Information

Please follow the link below to see a recently posted Request for Information by the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Program. The RFI is entitled "*Wild Horse and Burro Sterilization or Contraception: Development of techniques and protocols*" and will

close December 1, 2013. This will be followed by a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on the interest and information received. <https://www.fbo.gov/spg/DOI/BLM/NCR/l13ps01214/listing.html>
