Health of wildlife, domestic species and human beings, and the environments that support them (One Health), has been a focus of the Wildlife Disease Association for more than 55 years. The Journal of Wildlife Diseases (JWD) issue 54(3) has several articles with particular conservation and wildlife management significance that we would like to make you aware of.

The fungal infection known as ‘White-nose Syndrome’ has killed millions of bats across North America. Melissa Meierhofer and co-authors from four Midwestern institutions report that Bats Recovering From White-Nose Syndrome Elevate Metabolic Rate During Wing Healing In Spring. After surviving the energetic constraints of winter, temperate hibernating bats emerging from hibernation with WNS face a second energetic bottleneck that may affect their reproductive success.

An alarming trend worldwide is the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Detection of Multi-Drug-Resistant Escherichia coli in a Giant Panda (Ailuropoda melanoleuca) with Extraintestinal Polyinfection is reported by Wei Zhou and eight colleagues from Institute of Military Veterinary Key Laboratory of Jilin Province for Zoonosis Prevention and Control, Republic of China.

Whether the prion of ‘Chronic Wasting Disease’ can be transmitted from cervids to cattle has been a great concern for several decades. Elizabeth Williams (deceased) and four Wyoming co-workers report Cattle (Bos taurus) Resist Chronic Wasting Disease Following Oral Inoculation Challenge or Ten Years' Natural Exposure in Contaminated Environments.

Sylvatic plague poses a substantial risk to black-tailed prairie dogs and their obligate predator, the black-footed ferret. A standard treatment is the application of a deltamethrin pulicide dust to reduce the spread of plague by killing fleas. But David Eads and nine co-authors from six institutions report Resistance to Deltamethrin in Prairie Dogs (Cynomys ludovicianus) Fleas in the Field and in the Laboratory. Restoration of black-footed ferrets and prairie dogs will need to rely on an adaptive, integrative approach to plague management, such as the use of vaccines and rotating applications of insecticidal products with different active ingredients.

Chlamydia infections in koalas are considered a sexually-transmitted infection and have been the cause of serious local declines in some populations. In Prevalence of Chlamydia pecorum in Juvenile Koalas (Phascolarctos cinereus) and Evidence for Protection from Infection via Maternal Immunization, Isabelle Russell and five colleagues report that samples from koala joeys suggest that mother-to-young direct transmission occurs. Further, evidence suggests that joeys from vaccinated mothers are less likely to contract infections than joeys with unvaccinated mothers.
Corinne Gibble and eight co-authors from seven institutions report an Investigation of a Largescale Common Murre (Uria aalge) Mortality Event in California in 2015. Coastal wildlife rehabilitation centers received more than 1,000 stranded, and debilitated murres from Sonoma County to San Luis Obispo County during August–October. Birds had detectable levels of domoic acid, and no indication of infectious disease was found. Emaciation is thought to be the cause of death for most birds, with a large warm water anomaly and harmful algal bloom a secondary contributor. Learn more about this paper on WDA’s YouTube page: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUr9s1EMDoSDeMf82-P6Qg

Abstracts of these and other articles in JWD 54(3) are available at: http://www.wildlifedisease.org/wda/PUBLICATIONS/JournalofWildlifeDiseases/OnlineJournal.aspx.
If you are interested in getting access to the full article, contact wda.manager@gmail.com