



October 1, 2015

All Wildlife Diseases, All Conservation, All One Health, All the Time!

NEWS ON ARTICLES FROM JOURNAL OF WILDLIFE DISEASES 51(4)

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 50 years. The October 2015 Journal of Wildlife Diseases (JWD) issue 51(4) has several articles with particular conservation and wildlife management significance that we would like to make you aware of.

Koala populations in the wild are in sharp decline in Australia due to deforestation, road accidents, dog attacks, and a sexually transmitted disease caused by *Chlamydia* spp. In **The Paradox of Euthanizing Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) to Save Populations from Elimination**, David P. Wilson and colleagues from several Australian institutions show the potential impact of systematically euthanizing diseased koalas using an individual-based computer simulation model applied to a well-studied koala population. It predicts that if terminally diseased and sterile koalas are euthanized and other infected captured koalas are given antibiotics, chlamydial infection could be eliminated and population growth observed after 4 yr., and a larger population of koalas would exist after 7 yr than without the program.

The emergence of antimicrobial resistance is arguably the most important threat to human and animal health. Sarah Jobbins of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Kathy Alexander of Centre for Conservation of African Resources tested 150 fecal samples from African animals and found 41.3% contained *Escherichia coli* resistant to one or two of 10 antibiotics, and 13.3% demonstrated multidrug resistance (three or more antibiotics). In **Whence They Came – Antibiotic-Resistant *E. Coli* in African Wildlife**, they conclude multidrug resistance was significantly higher in carnivores, water-associated species, and species inhabiting urban areas, suggesting that life history may be key to understanding exposure patterns and transmission dynamics.

Lead poisoning from ingestion of spent lead ammunition is one of the greatest threats to the recovery of California Condors in the wild. Myra Finkelstein and colleagues from several California agencies and institutions looked at **Lead Exposure Risk from Trash Ingestion by the Endangered California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*)** found only three of the 1,413 trash items (0.2%) collected containing lead were clearly not ammunition related.

Caitlin Lozano and a team from 5 US and Panamanian institutions investigated whether free-ranging ocelots and bobcats are infected with gammaherpes viruses (GHV's), a known cause of disease in many felid species. In **Identification of Novel Gammaherpesviruses in Ocelots (*Leopardus pardalis*) and Bobcats (*Lynx rufus*) in Panama and Colorado, USA** they showed evidence of 3 novel GHVs most closely related to those of domestic cats, bobcats and pumas.

Abstracts of these and other articles in JWD 51(4) are available at the WDA website under Publications. If are interested in getting access to the full article contact wda.manager@gmail.com

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