

Natural. Valued. Protected.

The rabies reporter

MNR Publication 51709 Volume 23, Number 1

January - March 2012

The Rabies Reporter, a scientific newsletter about current issues in rabies research and control, is a joint effort of the Rabies Research Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; the Rabies Laboratory at the Ottawa Laboratory (Fallowfield) of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency; and the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Articles for future issues will be welcomed by the editor. The Rabies Reporter is not refereed, and should not be cited in papers intended for refereed journals. Send contributions, letters and inquiries to:

The Rabies Reporter
Rabies Research &
Development Unit
Ontario Ministry of
Natural Resources
Trent University—DNA Bldg.
2140 East Bank Drive
Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8

Visit: Ontario.ca/rabies
ISSN (print): 1186-8961
ISSN (pdf): 1705-2106

Recap of rabies (or lack thereof) during the past three months

Beverly Stevenson, Ministry of Natural Resources

It was another quiet quarter on the rabies front with only two rabid bats reported during this period.

This is the same number as reported during the first quarter of 2011. This is good news given the mild winter conditions that southern Ontario experienced; the mild weather allowed wildlife to be much more active and mobile than is typical during harsh winters which could have resulted in an increase in rabies.

The bats were from Elgin and Peterborough counties; both were big brown bats.

Although there are eight species of bats found in Ontario, the little brown bat and the big brown bat are the most populous species. The less common species are the eastern pipistrelle, silver-haired, hoary, red, small-footed, and northern long-eared. The big brown bat is the species most commonly diagnosed with rabies, accounting for over 90% of all bats diagnosed.

Since the discovery of white nose syndrome in Ontario in March 2010, the disease has caused catastrophic die-offs. The impact has been so significant across Canada that the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada did an emergency review of the status of three species of bats. The little brown, tri-coloured, and the northern long-eared bats all received emergency endangered designation in February 2012. The Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario will also be reviewing the status of bats in Ontario in May 2012. This massive decline in bat populations could significantly impact the incidence of rabid bats in Ontario. For more information on white nose syndrome, visit <http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/2ColumnSubPage/278166.html>.

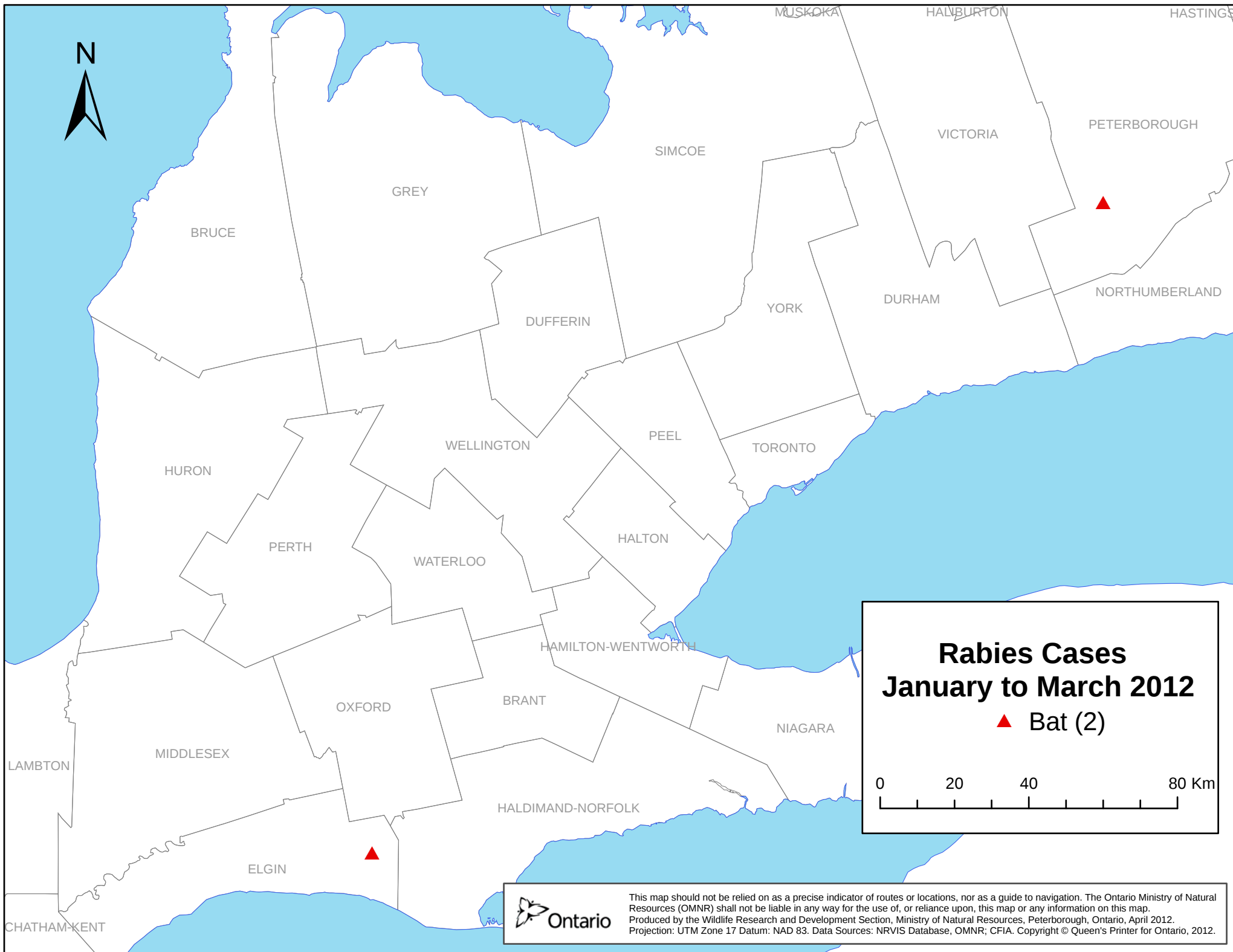
Stay tuned for the next issue of the Rabies Reporter for news on the latest case of human rabies in Canada – the first in Ontario since 1967.

Animal Rabies Report: January to March 2012

[illegible]

Animal Rabies Report: January to March 2012

Animal Type	Fox			Raccoon			Skunk			Other Wildlife			Bat			Dog			Cat			Livestock			Totals		
County or Region	Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative			Cumulative		
	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11	#	12	11
Southern																											
Wentworth																									0	0	0
Haldimand-Norfolk																									0	0	0
Brant																									0	0	0
Niagara																									0	0	0
Elgin													1	1											1	1	0
Oxford																									0	0	0
Middlesex																									0	0	0
Lambton																									0	0	0
Kent																									0	0	0
Essex																									0	0	0
Northern																											
Muskoka																									0	0	0
Parry Sound																									0	0	0
Nipissing																									0	0	0
Sudbury																									0	0	0
Cochrane																									0	0	0
Timiskaming																									0	0	0
Algoma																									0	0	0
Thunder Bay																									0	0	0
Rainy River																									0	0	0
Kenora																									0	0	0
Regional Totals																											
Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Western	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2



This map should not be relied on as a precise indicator of routes or locations, nor as a guide to navigation. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) shall not be liable in any way for the use of, or reliance upon, this map or any information on this map. Produced by the Wildlife Research and Development Section, Ministry of Natural Resources, Peterborough, Ontario, April 2012. Projection: UTM Zone 17 Datum: NAD 83. Data Sources: NRVIS Database, OMNR; CFIA. Copyright © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2012.