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The rabies reporter

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Rabies cases in the third quarter

Beverly Stevenson, Ministry of Natural Resources

The dry summer weather coincided with a drought in terrestrial rabies cases. Although there were 15 reported rabies cases in Ontario from July to September, all of those were bats.

The rabid bats were dispersed throughout southern Ontario occurring in the counties of Elgin (1), Frontenac (2), Kent (2), Niagara (2), Ottawa-Carleton (1), Perth (1), Peterborough (3), Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry (1), and York (1). There was also a rabid bat from Manitoulin Island. This is only the third confirmed rabies case on Manitoulin Island in the past 25 years.

All of the infected bats were big brown bats except for a little brown bat from Manitoulin, and two eastern red bats – one from Peterborough County and one from Niagara Region. This brings the total number of rabid bats for the year to 24 – one higher than during the same time frame in 2011.

Since the successful impact of the rabies control program in Ontario, which was implemented in 1989 to target foxes, skunks and raccoons, bats have become the dominant rabies vector in Ontario. In recent years, bats have accounted for the majority of all reported rabies cases in Ontario (Figure 1).

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:

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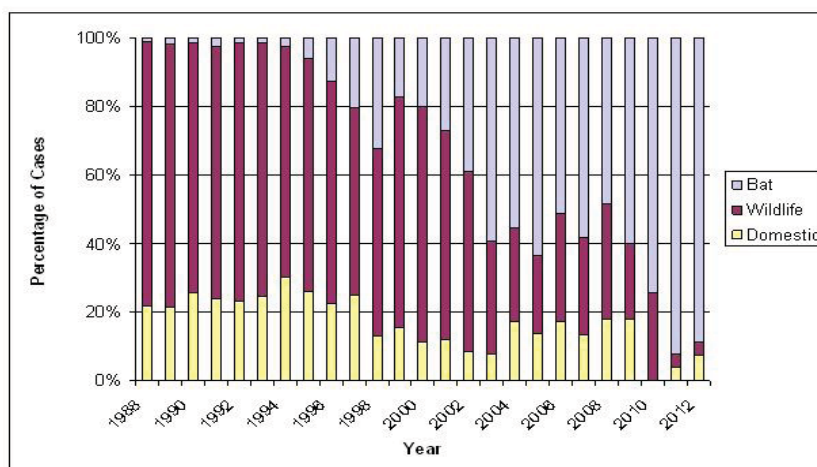


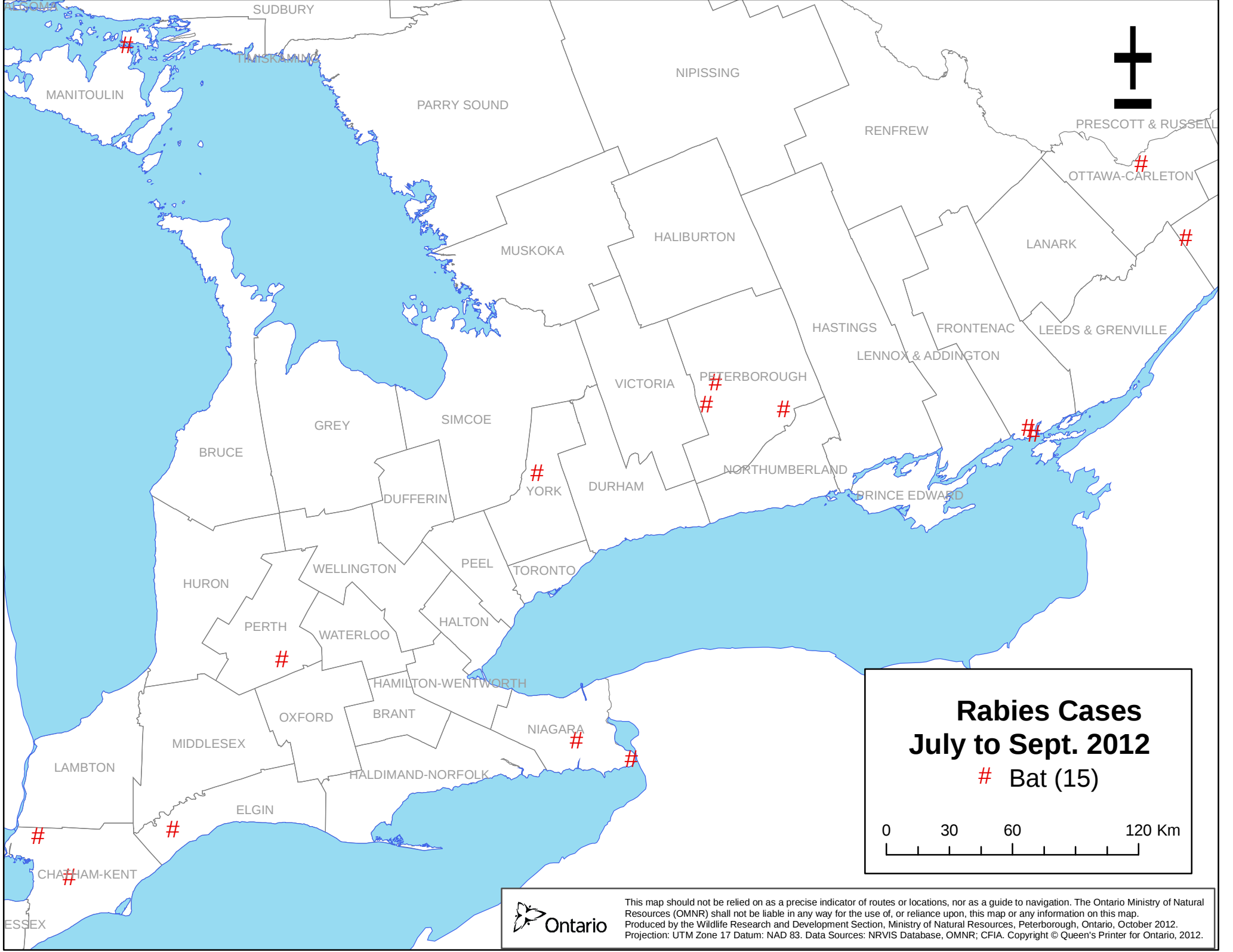
Figure 1. Annual breakdown of rabies cases by animal type since the implementation of large-scale rabies control programs.

Animal Rabies Report: July to September 2012

[illegible]

Animal Rabies Report: July to September 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														4											0	0	4
Haldimand-Norfolk																									0	0	0
Brant													2												0	2	0
Niagara												2	2	2											2	2	2
Elgin												1	2	1											1	2	1
Oxford														1											0	0	1
Middlesex													1	1											0	1	1
Lambton														1											0	0	1
Kent												2	2												2	2	0
Essex																									0	0	0
Northern																											
Muskoka																									0	0	0
Parry Sound																									0	0	0
Nipissing																									0	0	0
Sudbury and Manitoulin												1	1	3											1	1	3
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	4	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	2
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	5
Western	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	4	4
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	9	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	9	10
Northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	15	24	23	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	15	27	24



Rabies Cases
July to Sept. 2012
Bat (15)

0 30 60 120 Km



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