

Canada's Inter-Agency Wild Bird Influenza Survey — 2006

Species Data Sheet: Ross's Goose

Canada's Inter-Agency Wild Bird Influenza Survey — 2006

The goal of the survey is twofold: to characterize the strains of avian influenza viruses and to ensure early detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza strains in wild birds in Canada. Expanding on the 2005 nation-wide survey of influenza virus strains of wild ducks, this survey places a greater focus on birds that migrate regularly between Canada's North Atlantic region and Europe or that spend some part of their year in close proximity to birds that winter in Europe. The expansion of the survey complements work being carried out in the United States, which is surveying western (Pacific Flyway) populations.



Species: *Chen rossii* Ross's Goose

Photograph © Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada (K.M. Dickson, Environment Canada).

Dates in Canada

Ross's Goose is in Canada, either on the breeding grounds or in migration, from mid-April to late October. At the beginning and end of this period it is generally on staging grounds in the prairies.

Canada's Inter-Agency Wild Bird Influenza Survey Partners

The survey is coordinated by the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre. Partners include the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Environment Canada, provincial/territorial representatives of public health, animal health, and wildlife, the Centre for Coastal Health, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and the government of Iceland.

Reason for inclusion in the Wild Bird Influenza Survey

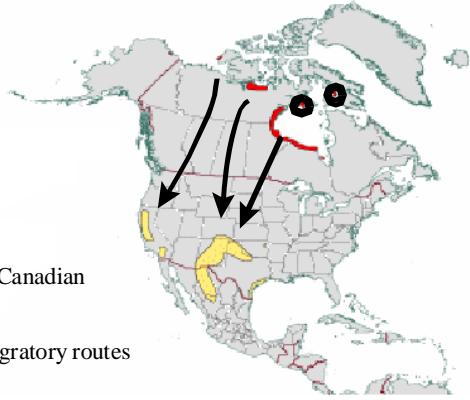
Ross's Goose is a secondary survey target. It breeds in colonies that are mixed with those of Snow Geese, which are also a secondary survey target because of their associations with Canada Geese elsewhere in their range.

Migratory range

Ross's Goose breeds in a relatively restricted area, though its range is currently expanding. It overwinters in the southern and western United States and in northern Mexico.

Species Range

- Breeding Only
- Wintering Only
- Approximate location of Canadian sampling sites
- ➔ General post-breeding migratory routes



Contacts

Survey Director:
Dr. Ted Leighton
Room 1622, Veterinary Medicine Building
52 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5B4
Telephone: 306-966-7281
Ted.Leighton@usask.ca

Migratory Birds:
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
70 Cremazie St.
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3
Telephone: 819-997-2800
or 1-800-668-6767
Fax : 819-994-1412
enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

Ross's Goose is protected in Canada under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, administered by the Canadian Wildlife Service.