

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE IN BC WILDLIFE



**NICOLA VALLEY AREA:
BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!**



OBSERVE



REPORT



SUBMIT

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
BC Wildlife Health Program**

Email: cait.nelson@gov.bc.ca | www.gov.bc.ca/bovinetuberculosis

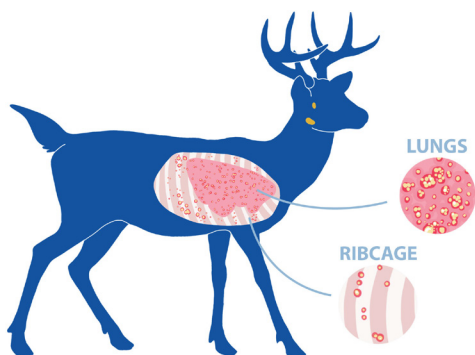


Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

WHAT IS BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS?

Bovine Tuberculosis (BTb) is a contagious disease caused by the bacteria, *Mycobacterium bovis*. The disease takes a long time to develop and can affect domestic and wild animals, as well as people. In Canada, it has occurred in bison, moose, deer, elk and cattle. Bacteria are transmitted by close contact between animals, including sharing feed and water.

BTb is challenging to control, has significant effects on agricultural economies, wildlife management and public health, therefore early detection is critical.



IS THERE A RISK TO HUMANS?

Mycobacterium bovis can infect humans but it is rare. It is different than the human disease from *M. tuberculosis*. Human infections resulting from eating or handling infected wildlife **are very rare**.

Please follow these basic principles:

- Thoroughly cook your food
- Routinely wash your hands
- Wear gloves when handling animals

HOW CAN YOU HELP?



Observe:

- Multiple pale (tan or yellow) lumps in lymph nodes, lungs and ribs.
- Animals are thin and may be coughing in late-stage disease.



Report:

If you see lumps in lungs or lymph nodes please photograph and save samples. Contact the BC Wildlife Health Program or the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277. You may be asked to submit the entire carcass for further testing.



Submit:

Hunters are requested to submit the head of any deer harvested in **MUs 3-12, 3-19, and 3-20** for BTb testing. Please remove the head with 3" of neck. Submit for sampling at a drop off location.

***Hunter samples are critical for wildlife health monitoring.
Thank you for supporting the program.***