# Dozens of wild horses die of thirst in Australia's heat wave

(CNN)When Ralph Turner arrived at his usual swimming spot, Deep Hole, about 12 miles from the remote Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa) community in Australia's Northern Territory, he couldn't believe his eyes.

The 330-foot waterhole was dried up and the bodies of dozens of wild horses were strewn along its bed.

"I just couldn't believe it. I'd never seen anything like it. I didn't stop to count but there were lots and lots of them. It was devastating," Turner told CNN. "I just can't stop thinking of how they died, desperate for water in this heat wave. The horses used to be good and strong a couple of years ago."

Rohan Smyth, a media spokesperson for the local Aboriginal community, said the thirsty animals went looking for the water and, having found none, had nowhere to go.

"People in the local community take care of the feral horses. They are very concerned about the local wild animals' welfare," he told CNN.

The Central Land Council (CLC), a body that advocates for Aboriginal people in Central Australia, said in a statement Thursday that it had to euthanize more than 50 more horses near the waterhole because they were close to death.

"Horses and other feral animals are dying of thirst and hunger because many reliable water sources, such as Apwerte Uyerreme, have dried up in the current heatwave and areas overpopulated by feral animals suffer erosion and vegetation loss," the council said in the statement.

The CLC said it was planning to euthanize a further 120 camels, horses and donkeys dying from thirst in another remote community.

Since some residents are opposed to the cull, the council said, it is holding a community meeting with animal welfare officers to address the issue.

"Before a cull it is important to get the informed consent of the traditional owners of the Aboriginal land trusts we support," CLC director David Ross said.

"However in emergencies, such as last week in Ltyentye Apurte, we will go ahead without consent if necessary.

"With climate change well and truly upon us, we expect these emergencies to occur with increasing frequency and nobody is truly prepared and resourced to respond to them."

Record-breaking temperatures

Australia has been experiencing a record-breaking heat wave since the start of the year.

Temperatures in Alice Springs hit 42 degrees Celsius (107.6 Fahrenheit) for 14 consecutive days and counting, a new record for the area, according to the country's Bureau of Meteorology.

Health warnings were issued across New South Wales last week advising people to stay indoors during the hottest part of the day, minimize physical activity and keep hydrated.

Australia's wild animals are increasingly suffering from the high temperatures, with more than a million fish reported dead and washed up on the banks of Murray-Darling river basin across the southeast, and colonies of bats falling from trees in Adelaide, according to CNN affiliate Nine News.

People have been warned to avoid contact with the bats as they can carry deadly diseases.

A report released by the Bureau of Meteorology last week showed that 2018 was Australia's third-hottest year on record, with rainfall 11% below average

The report said climate change played a key role in the increase in the frequency or intensity of heat events, fire weather and drought.

This story has been updated to correct a miscalculation from Celsius to Fahrenheit.

## Vocabulary

### Areas

##### Noun

* Any particular extent of space or surface; part
* A geographical region; tract
* Any section reserved for a specific function
* Extent, range, or scope
* Field of study, or a branch of a field of study
* A piece of unoccupied ground; an open space.

### Euthanize

##### Verb (used with object),

* To subject to euthanasia

### Role

##### Noun

* A part or character played by an actor or actress.
* Proper or customary function
* Sociology. the rights, obligations, and expected behavior patterns associated with a particular social status.

### Santa

##### Noun

* Santa Claus.
* A river in W central Peru, flowing NW into the Pacific Ocean. About 200 miles (322 km) long.

### Territory

##### Noun,

* Any tract of land; region or district.
* The land and waters belonging to or under the jurisdiction of a state, sovereign, etc.
* Any separate tract of land belonging to a state.
* (often initial capital letter) Government. a region or district of the U.S. not admitted to the Union as a state but having its own legislature, with a governor and other officers appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. some similar district elsewhere, as in Canada and Australia.
* A field or sphere of action, thought, etc.; domain or province of something.
* The region or district assigned to a representative, agent, or the like, as for making sales.

### Welfare

##### Noun

* The good fortune, health, happiness, prosperity, etc., of a person, group, or organization; well-being
* Welfare work.
* Financial or other assistance to an individual or family from a city, state, or national government
* (initial capital letter) Informal. a governmental agency that provides funds and aid to people in need, especially those unable to work.

### Cloze Questions

##### Fill in the blanks

-: (CNN)When \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Turner arrived at his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ swimming spot, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about 12 miles from the remote \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teresa) community in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ he couldn't believe his eyes.

-: \_\_\_\_\_\_ 330-foot waterhole was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ up and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ wild horses were strewn along its bed.

-: "I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ believe \_\_\_\_\_\_ I'd never seen anything \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ I didn't stop \_\_\_\_ count but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were lots \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of them. \_\_\_\_ was devastating," Turner told \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ "I just \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stop \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of how they died, desperate for water in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ heat \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ horses \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be good and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a couple of years ago."

-: Rohan \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a media spokesperson \_\_\_\_\_\_ the local Aboriginal community, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ thirsty animals went \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ having found none, \_\_\_\_\_\_ nowhere to go.

-: "People in the local \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ take \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_ feral \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ They \_\_\_\_\_\_ very concerned about the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals' welfare," \_\_\_\_ told CNN.

-: \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Council (CLC), a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that advocates \_\_\_\_\_\_ Aboriginal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Australia, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday that it had to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than 50 more horses near \_\_\_\_\_\_ waterhole because they were close to death.

-: "Horses and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ feral \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ dying of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and hunger because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ water sources, such \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Uyerreme, have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ up in the current \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ overpopulated by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suffer erosion and vegetation loss," the council said \_\_\_\_ the statement.

-: The \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ was planning to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a further 120 camels, horses and donkeys dying from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in another remote \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

-: Since some residents are opposed \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the council said, it is holding a community \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ welfare officers to address \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

-: "Before a cull it \_\_\_\_ important to get \_\_\_\_\_\_ informed consent of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ owners of \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ land \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ support," CLC director David \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

-: "However in emergencies, such \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Ltyentye Apurte, \_\_\_\_ will go ahead \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consent if necessary.

-: "With \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ change \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ truly upon us, we expect these \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to occur with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ frequency \_\_\_\_\_\_ nobody is truly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ resourced \_\_\_\_ respond to them."

-: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ experiencing a record-breaking heat \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ since \_\_\_\_\_\_ start of \_\_\_\_\_\_ year.

-: Temperatures in Alice Springs hit 42 degrees \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (107.6 Fahrenheit) for 14 consecutive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_\_ area, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ the country's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Meteorology.

-: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were issued across \_\_\_\_\_\_ South Wales last week advising people to stay indoors during the hottest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ physical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and keep \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

-: Australia's wild animals \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suffering \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the high temperatures, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reported \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and washed up on \_\_\_\_\_\_ banks of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ across the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ colonies of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ falling from trees in Adelaide, according to CNN affiliate Nine News.

-: People \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ avoid contact with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ they can carry deadly diseases.

-: A report released by \_\_\_\_\_\_ Bureau \_\_\_\_ Meteorology last \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ showed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2018 was Australia's third-hottest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on record, with rainfall \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ average

-: The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ said climate change \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a key role \_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the frequency \_\_\_\_ intensity of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fire weather \_\_\_\_\_\_ drought.

-: This \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to correct a miscalculation from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Fahrenheit.

### Discussion Questions

1: Summarise the article in your own words

2: How do you feel after reading the article?

3: Do you agree with the article's point? Why/why not?

4: Can you come up with an argument against this article's point?

5: After reading the article, is there anything you are wondering about?

6: Does the article relate to something else you read or watched recently?