PUBLIC RECORDS RESPONSE

RCW 42.56

See 90.05 for additional instructions.

Washington State University

Office of Procedures, Records and Forms Information Technology Building 3089

Pullman, WA 99164-1225 (509) 335-3928

FAX (509) 335-3969

E-mail forms@mail.wsu.edu

REQUEST NUMBER 7-127

DEPARTMENT

Charlie Powell on behalf of Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory

DATE OF REQUEST August 27, 2007 RECORDS NEEDED BY September 4, 2007

The University has received a public records request for records meeting the following description. Please provide the following records to the Public Records Office:

REQUEST DESCRIPTION
Copies of necropsy reports of 24 rabbits, Case 2007-6489, Veterinarians: Cynthia Henkie and Mike Dix; rabbits owned by Best Friends Animal Society, received by WADDL on or around May 19, 2007.
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Additional information:
ne following fields are completed by the responding department:
searched for records in the following locations:
requested records from the following individuals:
am submitting the following records to the Public Records Office: WADOL# 2067 - Let
(entire record copy

Bestimate of time in hours expended to compile responsive records.

If additional records meeting the above description may be found in other departments, please identify departments and provide contact names.

No requested records were found.

I hereby state that I conducted a diligent and good faith search of the files and records for the requested records. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, I have provided all such records to the University Public Records Office as of the date indicated below. I specifically state that I am aware of no other documents responsive to this public records request that have not been provided and I have no reason to believe that any such document exists.

I understand that this statement will be filed with the court if an action arises and that the court will rely on this statement as truthful.

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Tim Baszler

lDirector Lab Operations WADDL

DATE OF RESPONSE

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College of Veterinary	Medicine, Washington	State University		PO # / Budget		05 05	2007-6489
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P.O. Box 647034 Pullman, WA. 99164		iali, Rm.155-N		WSU Account	#:		6
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E-Mail: waddl@vetm		0) 000-1424		Invoice #:		Date Received 05/19/07	
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Form WADDL 001.1, Version 03-06

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Russ Mead 435-644-313}

WASHINGTON ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

P.O. Box 647034 Pullman, WA 99164-7034 Phone: (509) 335-9696 Fax: (509) 335-7424

Veterinarian:

Owner: Best Friends Animal Socie

Clinic: Dr. Mike Dix

Animal:

Address: 5001 Angel Canyon Road

Breed:

Species: Domestic Rabbit (aka European)

Big Water, UT 84741

Age: Sex:

Phone: (435) 644-2001

GROSS REPORT

05/21/07

WADDL #2007-6489 Received: 05/19/07

Report authorized by: Timothy Baszler, Senior Pathologist

Twenty live and four dead, 2-2.5 kg rabbits of varying gender and coloration are submitted for necropsy on May 19, 2007. The live rabbits were sedated with intramuscular injection of xylazine and ketamine then upon sedation euthanized by overdose of sodium pentobarbital. The rabbits are in good body condition with adequate adipose stores and musculature. Twenty three of the twenty four rabbits had scannable identification chips in the subcutaneous region of the neck or shoulder region. Full necropsy examination was done on all 24 rabbits. A subset of 6 rabbits were selected, based upon the presence of gross lesions, for complete histopathology examination and bacteriology examination as indicated in the table below. Selected tissues from the remaining 18 rabbits were processed as a pool sample for histopathology examination.

Mandible (AVID 102 000 278): The ventral intermandibular subcutis is focally disrupted by a multilobular, approximately 5 x 3 x 2 cm mass. The mass is composed of pale tan to white, thick creamy material that oozes on section and small areas of bone. The proximal 1/4 of the mandible blends seamlessly with the mass.

Kidneys (AVID 102 322 548, 102 080 086, 102 013 280, 097 344 513, and 097 599 512): The capsular surface of the kidneys is multifocally disrupted by 1-3 mm diameter, well demarcated, red depressed areas. On section there is a wedge of subjacent renal tissue that is often red to pale tan.

Liver (AVID 097 608 527): There are numerous, tan, soft, depressed, 1-3 mm diameter areas on the capsular surface of the liver. These areas extend approximately 1-2 mm into the subjacent tissue.

Liver (AVID 102 283 539): The serosal surface of the liver is disrupted by several, slightly raised, pale tan areas.

Liver (AVID 102 311 311): A focally extensive area of the liver is dark brown.

Liver (AVID 101 628 110): The liver is diffusely dark red with a prominent reticular pattern.

Lungs (AVID 097 365 016, 101 841 869, 097 344 513, and 097 608 527): The lungs are mottled dark red to pink, with the dark red areas composing greater than 50% of the total tissue volume. The pleural surfaces are often indented by rib impressions. Moderate amounts of serosanguinous fluid ooze from cut surfaces.

Conjunctiva (AVID 101 810 023): The margin of the eyelids is enlarged by numerous, firm, pale tan to white, 1-3 mm diameter nodules that elevate the surface.

Nasal Cavity (AVID 101 817 555): The nasal cavity is diffusely dark red.

All animals lack significant gross changes in the brain, heart, diaphragm, spleen, adrenal glands, and intestinal tract. All animals have formed feces in the colon.

GROSS DIAGNOSES:

Scanned ID #	Alive/Dead	Samples Taken	Gross Diagnoses
AVID 104 079 380	Dead		No Significant Findings (NSF)
AVID 097 365 016	Dead	Fixed lungs in pool	1. Pulmonary edema and congestion
AVID 101 817 555	Dead		Nasal sinus congestion
AVID 102 322 548	Dead	Fixed kidneys in pool	1. Chronic nephritis, multifocal, mild,
			left kidney
AVID 102 080 086	Alive	Fixed kidneys in pool	1. Chronic nephritis, multifocal, mild,
			right kidney
AVID 101 825 366			NSF
AVID 101 841 869	Alive		NSF
AVID 080 863 859	Alive	Full necropsy, lungs for culture	1. Pulmonary edema and congestion,
			diffuse, moderate
AVID 102 283 539	Alive	Full necropsy, liver for culture	1. Hepatitis, multifocal, mild
AVID 102 031 850	Alive		NSF
AVID 102 013 280	Alive	Bacterial swab of conjunctiva	1. Chronic nephritis, multifocal, mild,
			right kidney
AVID 102 311 311	Alive	Full necropsy, liver for culture	1. Hepatic necrosis (presumptive),
			focal, moderate
AVID 101 810 023	Alive	Kidney for culture, bacterial	1. Conjunctivitis, proliferative,
		swab of conjunctiva	chronic, moderate
AVID 097 344 513	Alive	Full necropsy; lungs for culture	1. Pulmonary edema and congestion,
	j		diffuse, moderate
A 1/ID 100 050 000			2. Chronic nephritis, multifocal, mild
AVID 102 258 803	Alive		NSF
AVID 097 785 581	Alive		NSF
AVID 097 592 081	Alive	Bacterial swab of conjunctiva	NSF
AVID 102 035 332	Alive		NSF

Page 2 of 3

AVID 097 599 512	Alive	Fixed kidneys in pool	Chronic nephritis, multifocal, moderate to severe, left kidney
AVID 102 107 321	Alive		NSF
AVID 102 000 278	Alive	Full necropsy; bacterial swab of osteomyelitis	1. Osteomyelitis necrosuppurative, chronic with and subcutaneous abscess, mandible
AVID 101 628 110	Alive	Fixed liver in pool	1. Hepatic congestion, diffuse, mild
AVID 097 608 527	Alive	Full necropsy; liver for culture	Hepatic necrosis, acute, multifocal, moderate Pulmonary edema and congestion, diffuse moderate
No scannable chip	Alive		NSF

COMMENTS: The cause of the clinical signs in all 24 animals is not grossly evident as the gross lesions are sparse and inconsistent across rabbits. The most severe lesion is the abscessing osteomyelitis in animal AVID 102 000 278. This lesion is most consistent with infection by *Pasteurella multocida*, but similar abscesses are lacking in the other animals. Many of the animals (AVID 102 322 548, 102 080 086, 102 013 280, 097 344 513, and 097 599 512) have renal lesions consistent with infection with *Encephalitozoon cuniculi*. This is a common finding in rabbits, and the lesions in these rabbits are relatively mild and likely not affecting the renal function of these animals. The hepatitis in animal AVID 097 608 527 is strongly suggestive of septicemia, but few of the other animals have similar lesions. Pulmonary edema and congestion, seen in AVID 097 365 016, 101 841 869, 097 344 513, and 097 608 527, are common postmortem findings. The significance of the pulmonary changes requires histopathology. Pooled sections of liver and kidney and a single piece of brain are saved frozen pending histopathology and bacteriology.

WORK PENDING: Histopathology and Bacteriology

Dr. James B. Stanton/TVB/tvb/dir

Phone contact: Results are discussed with Russ Mead on 5/19/2007 2:30 p.m.

WASHINGTON ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

P.O. Box 647034 Pullman, WA 99164-7034 Phone: (509) 335-9696 Fax: (509) 335-7424

Veterinarian:

Owner: Best Friends Animal Socie

Clinic: Dr. Mike Dix

Animal:

Address: 5001 Angel Canyon Road

Species: Domestic Rabbit (aka European)

Breed:

Big Water, UT 84741

Age:

Phone: (435) 644-2001

Sex:

HISTOPATHOLOGY REPORT

06/01/07

WADDL #2007-6489 Received: 05/19/07

Report authorized by: Timothy Baszler, Senior Pathologist

A complete set of necropsy tissues are examined from animals #097 608 527, 102 000 278, 097 344 513. 102 283 539, 080 863 859, 102 311 311. Lungs, liver, kidneys, and conjunctiva are examined from the "pooled" sample of necropsy tissues.

Brain from all animals except #102 000 278: The brainstem and cerebellum have multifocal, sometimes bilaterally symmetrical areas of rarefaction, necrosis and gliosis. The areas effected include the white matter and gray matter around the fourth ventricle (dorsal brainstem including vestibular nuclei and ventral brainstem) and around the mesenencephalic aqueduct (including the peri-aqueductal gray matter), and cerebellar white matter. The lesions are characterized by loss of neuropil, individual or coalescent clear spaces (spongiosis), mildly to markedly increased numbers of astrocytes, which often have large amounts of eosinophilic cytoplasm and eccentric nuclei (gemistocytes), and loose accumulation of microglial cells, sometimes with foamy cytoplasm (gitter cells). Axon sheaths within these areas are often dilated and contain enlarged, eosinophilic axons (spheroids). Rarely, axon sheaths contain macrophages (digestion chambers). There is marked swelling of neuronal soma in effected areas (hydropic degeneration) and some entrapped neuronal cell bodies are shrunken and hypereosinophilic (neuronal necrosis). Adjacent to few affected areas are mild perivascular cuffs (one cell layer thick) of lymphocytes and plasma cells. Both sides of the fornix are similarly affected in animal #097 344 513.

Animals 097 608 527, 097 344 513, and 102 311 311 also have randomly scattered, approximately 100 μm diameter granulomas (compact, expansive aggregates of epithelioid macrophages) surrounded by few lymphocytes and plasma cells. All animals examined have few to several perivascular spaces, at all levels, that are expanded by one to five layers of lymphocytes.

Brain #102 000 278: Few, scattered perivascular spaces are expanded by one to two, incomplete layers of lymphocytes.

Kidneys (All kidneys except one from the "pooled" sample): Less than 10% of the architecture is disrupted by multifocal interstitial infiltrates (each less than 1 mm diameter) of lymphocytes and plasma cells. These areas, and other interstitial areas, are further expanded by linear arrays of moderate amounts of dense fibrous tissue. Entrapped glomeruli are shrunken and almost completely effaced by fibrillar eosinophilic material (glomerulosclerosis). Occasional scattered tubular epithelial cells in the superficial cortex are disrupted by granular, basophilic material that chips out of section (mineralization). Rare tubules contain granular protein casts or small amounts of hypereosinophilic cytoplasmic debris. There are few, small (less than 0.5 mm diameter) aggregates of macrophages, mixed with few lymphocytes and embedded within a matrix of fibrous connective tissue that separated collecting ducts.

Kidneys (most severely affected kidney specimen from "pooled" sample): Over 90% of the architecture is replaced by abundant fibrous tissue mixed with numerous aggregates of lymphocytes and plasma cells (similar to those described above). Tubular basement membranes and Bowman's capsules are markedly thickened by fibrous tissue. Glomerulosclerosis is prominent and numerous tubules contain granular eosinophilic protein casts.

Liver (all animals): Periportal areas are mildly to moderately expanded by increased amounts of loose fibrous tissue mixed with few to medium numbers of lymphocytes and plasma cells.

Lungs #080 863 859 and #102 311 311: There several scattered foci of alveoli (less than 10% of total sectional area) that contain numerous heterophils mixed with fewer macrophages. Interalveolar septa are mildly thickened by macrophages and small amounts of fibrillar eosinophilic material.

Submandibular abscess #102 000 278: The submandibular subcutis is disrupted by large aggregate of necrotic, lysed heterophils mixed with scattered aggregates of mineral. A thick band of dense fibrous tissue encapsulates the necrotic core. The abscess extends into and effaces the adjacent mandibular bone.

Bone marrow #102 000 278: The adipose tissue is replaced by wispy to homogenous eosinophilic to basophilic material (serous atrophy of fat).

Trachea #102 311 311: The lamina propria is expanded by few lymphocytes and plasma cells.

Conjunctiva ("pooled" sample): In one section of conjunctiva approximately 20% of the mucosa is ulcerated and replaced with a thin serous crust of degenerate heterophils. The subjacent propria is expanded by several ectatic squamous lined ducts and several hyperplastic sebaceous glands.

Tissues lacking significant histologic changes include tongue, pituitary gland, thyroid gland, salivary gland, esophagus, heart, diaphragm, spleen, urinary bladder, adrenal gland, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, pancreas, lymph node, and bone marrow.

HISTOLOGIC DIAGNOSES:

- 1. Encephalomalacia, chronic, multifocal, severe; brain stem, cerebellum, mesencephalon, and fornix (all animals but 102 000 278)
- 2. Encephalitis, granulomatous, multifocal, random, moderate, (097 608 527, 097 344 513, and 102 311 311)
- 3. Encephalitis, lymphoplasmacytic, chronic, perivascular, multifocal (all animals)
- 4. Nephritis, lymphoplasmacytic, chronic, multifocal, mild to severe (all animals)
- 5. Hepatitis, lymphoplasmacytic, chronic, multifocal, periportal, mild to severe (all animals)
- 6. Bronchopneumonia, suppurative, acute, multifocal, moderate (080 863 859 and 102 311 311)
- 7. Abscess, subcutaneous, focally extensive, severe; mandible (102 000 278)
- 8. Serous atrophy of fat (102 000 278)
- 9. Tracheitis, lymphoplasmacytic, chronic, segmental, mild to moderate (102 311 311)
- 10. Meibomian gland hyperplasia with ulcerative conjunctivitis (pooled sample)

COMMENTS: The encephalomalacia seen in five of the six brains is considered the cause of the neurological signs described in the history. The localization of the lesions to the brainstem and mesencephalon is consistent with the clinical signs of head tilt and circling. The precise cause of the malacia is not determined histologically. The sometimes symmetrical distribution of lesions and their limitation to specific areas in the brain suggest a nutritional or metabolic abnormality. Confirming nutritional or metabolic disease can be difficult to impossible with postmortem samples depending on the specific abnormality. Although infectious disease is unlikely since the lesions lack significant inflammation and there is no clinical evidence of contagion, infectious disease cannot be completely ruled out. Tests to rule out viruses are pending, as is consultation with our toxicologist to determine possible nutritional abnormalities that can result in these clinical signs. The bronchopneumonia is likely due to the neurologic deficits resulting in aspiration. The tracheitis may also be related to chronic aspiration secondary to neurologic disease.

The granulomatous encephalitis and the interstitial nephritis are both consistent with chronic infections with *Encephalitozoon cuniculi*. This is a common infection in rabbits and is often subclinical. It is unlikely that *E. cuniculi* is the primary cause of the clinical disease in these rabbits, although it is possible that infections with *E. cuniculi* may have contributed to some of the problems. The submandibular abscess in animal 102 000 278 likely was the main problem for this animal, as the serous atrophy of bone marrow fat suggests emaciation (likely due to inability to eat). The Meibomian gland hyperplasia and conjunctivitis are considered clinically insignificant.

WORK PENDING: Immunohistochemistry, Virus Isolation, Consultation

Dr. James B. Stanton/TVB/tvb/dlg

Phone contact: Results are discussed with Russ Mead on 5/25/2007 4:40 p.m.

Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab

P.O. Box 647034 Pullman, WA 99164-7034 Telephone: (509) 335-9696

Fax: (509) 335-7424

Case#: 2007-6489 **Report Date: 07/18/07**

Dr. Mike Dix 5001 Angel Canyon Road

Big Water, UT 84741

Submittal Date: 05/19/07

Owner: Best Friends Animal Scty.

Species: Domestic Rabbit (aka European)

Age: Sex:

Final Report:

Immunohistochemistry- Reported on 07/18/07 Authorized by Tim Baszler, Section Head

IHC for CDV SOP: 807.6.1.05.08.10

Animal	Specimen	Result
	34- Tissue Block Embedded	Not detected
	35- Tissue Block Embedded	Not detected

Previously reported results:

Bacteriology- Last reported on 05/24/07 Authorized by Lindsay Oaks, Section Head

Aerobic Culture SOP: 303.1.04.07.15

Animal Specimen Result Isolate 102311311

See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contam-

ination. Isolates include Streptococcus, Staphylococcus and Corynebacterium.

Liver

102283539 See comment.

Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. Isolates include Acinetobacter, Corynebacterium and Streptococcus.

102013280 eye swab Moderate Swab Acinetobacter sp. 102013280 eve swab Swab See comment.

Result Comment: Few colonies of Staphylococcus spp. also isolated. No probable pathogens identi-

fied.

102000278 Swab See comment. Pseudomonas sp. Result Comment: One colony isolated.

Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab Case#: 2007-6489 Page 1 of 3 This report contains information that is confidential and is intended for the use of the individual or entity named on page 1. If you have received this report in error, please notify WADDL immediately.

Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab Aerobic Culture SOP: 303.1.04.07.15 Animal Specimen Result 101817555 nasal swab Swab Moderate Acinetobacter sp. 101817555 nasal swab Swab See comment. Result Comment: Few colonies of Staphylococcus, Pseudomonas and Enterobacter also isolated. No probable pathogens identified. 101810023 Kidney See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. Isolates include Acinetobacter, Staphylococcus, Streptococcus and Micrococcus spp. 101810023 Swab See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. No probable pathogens identified. Isolates include beta-hemolytic coag negative Staphylococcus, Micrococcus and Bacillus spp. 097785581 Swab Moderate Coag. Neg. Staphylococcus sp. Result Comment: Isolate is beta-hemolytic. 097785581 Swab See comment. Result Comment: Few colonies of Enterococcus, Corynebacterium and Acinetobacter also isolated. No probable pathogens identified. 097608527 See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. Isolates include Acinetobacter, Enterococcus and Corynebacterium. Lung See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. Isolates include Acinetobacter, Corynebacterium, and Micrococcus. 097344513 Lung See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. Isolates include Staphylococcus, Streptococcus and Corynebacterium spp. 080863859 See comment. Result Comment: Multiple colony types present in very low numbers suggestive of low level contamination. Isolates include Pseudomonas and Staphylococcus spp. Histopathology- Last reported on 07/06/07 Hictor WADDI necroncy (Other) COD, 0601 2 02 00 19

msto-waddd netropsy (Other) 3O1: 0001.3.03.03.16		
Animal	Specimen	Result
	Cadaver	See Attached Report

Pathology- Last reported on 06/01/07

Necropsy SOP: 700.3.05.07.13

Animal	Specimen	Result
	Cadaver	See Attached Report

Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab

Virology- Last reported on 06/12/07 Authorized by James Evermann, Section Head

Viral Isolat	ion SOP: 404.1.04	1.10.20		
Animal	Specimen	Result	Isolate	
No ID	Brain	Negative		

Result Comment: NOTE: Virus isolation negative to date. Virus recovery from cell culture may require multiple passages and up to 3 weeks. A follow-up report will be sent if a virus is subsequently isolated.

ADDITIONAL TESTS REQUESTED

(within WADDL)

WADDL CASE #:	<u>07-64</u>	89
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RECEIVED WADDL

IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY FOR INFECTIOUS AGENTS

WADDL#	Date in VADDS / Tech		Date Slides	Issued	Assigned Pathologist
07-6489	6-5-07/ag	,	6-6	07	JBS
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BCV		Q	Q	Q	
BRSV		O	O	0	
BVDV		0	0	0	
CCV		0	0	O	
CDV	V .Kis 6-6	0	Q	0	Bron 13 + 35
Chlamydiaceae		0	0	0	
Coxiella burnetii		O	Ω	O	
CWD		Q	Q	Q	·
EHV-1		Q	\mathbf{Q}^{-1}	Q	
FIP		Q	Ω	Q	
IBR		Q	Q	Q	
Leptospira		0	0	0 .	
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WASHINGTON ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

P.O. Box 647034 Pullman, WA 99164-7034 Phone: (509) 335-9696 Fax: (509) 335-7424

Veterinarian:

Owner: Best Friends Animal Society

Clinic: Dr. Mike Dix

Animal:

Species: Domestic Rabbit (aka European)

Address: 5001 Angel Canyon Road

Breed:

Big Water, UT 84741 Phone: (435) 644-2001

Age:

Sex: Not Reported

SUMMARY REPORT

07/18/07

WADDL #2007-6489

Report authorized by: Timothy Baszler, Senior Pathologist

Received: 05/19/07

All testing at WADDL is complete. As mentioned in the histopathology reports, the lesions in the brains are consistent with the history of circling, head tilt, and other neurologic signs seen in these rabbits. However, no definitive cause is identified. Virus isolation is negative, as is immunohistochemical testing for infection with canine distemper virus.

One-hundred thirty-nine slides of brain are examined and only one slide of caudal brainstem from animal #102 311 311 has an approximately 100 µm diameter clear space containing an irregularly folded, homogenous eosinophilic structure (ascarid cuticle) with roughly symmetric small points (lateral alae). However, the structure is collapsed, preventing evaluation of any internal structures. The adjacent neuropil is vacuolated with increased numbers of hypertrophic microglial cells.

FINAL DIAGNOSIS:

1. Larval migrans (presumptive), Baylisascaris procyonis

COMMENTS: The structure identified in the single section of brain is suggestive of a Baylisascaris procyonis larva. The lack of definitively identifiable larvae is common in rabbits with this disease as only a few larvae can be present and yet still cause significant damage to the brain. B. procyonis is an ascarid of raccoons, and rabbits are a dead end host for this parasite (i.e., rabbits cannot pass the infection to other animals, including other rabbits). Additional history indicates that raccoons are common on the premises that housed these rabbits (history of raising an orphaned raccoon). Eggs of B. procyonis are passed in raccoon feces and can infect rabbits that ingest the raccoon feces. A common source of raccoon feces contamination is when wild raccoons forage in and defecate in bins of rabbit food.

SUMMARY REPORT

07/18/07

WADDL #2007-6489

WORK PENDING: None

Dr. James B. Stanton/TVB/tvb/sls

Phone contact: Called Russ Mead on 6/15/2007 10:34 AM. Spoke with Russ Mead on 6/18/2007 12:35 PM.