



Moose Winter Tick:

Developing a monitoring plan to support management discussions



Winter Tick, *Dermacentor albipictus*

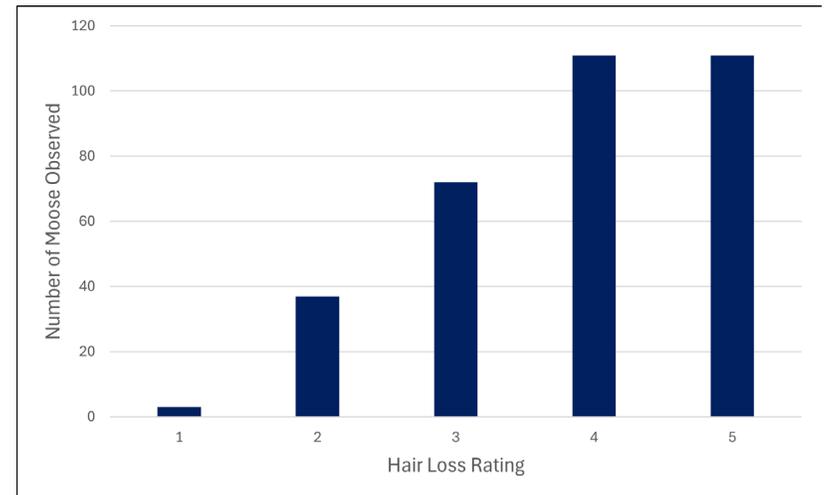
April 2024
exploratory
moose
composition/tick
monitoring flights
in collaboration
with the T8WWG



April 2024 exploratory moose composition/tick monitoring flights

- Helicopter surveys that highgraded for moose habitat and observability (e.g. ag zones and warm aspect slopes) were conducted April 4&5 and April 10&11 in the South and North Peace regions.
- Moose were sexed (using antler scars) and aged (adult vs calf) and categorized on amount of hair loss
- 15 calves per 100 cows
- 66% of moose had severe hair or worse

Sex	Adult	Calf	Total
Female	209	1	210
Male	86	4	90
Unknown	6	28	34
Total	301	33	334



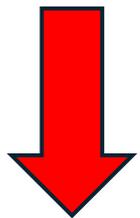
Moose Winter Tick

BC WILDLIFE HEALTH PROGRAM—WINTER TICK SURVEILLANCE



Building a (predictive?) Monitoring Plan

- Community surveillance
- Composition flights (mid-winter & spring)
- Fall larvae abundance sampling
- Weather modeling



Management?

5 CATEGORIES FOR AMOUNT OF HAIR LOSS—have you seen this?



1. NO LOSS

to hair coat

2. MILD

5% - 20% loss or damage to hair coat (neck and shoulders)

3. MODERATE

20% - 40% loss or damage to hair coat

4. SEVERE

40% - 80% loss or damage to hair coat

5. GHOST MOOSE

>80% loss or damage to hair coat



Survey period January 1 to April 30

For more information, please contact us at FLNRMooseTickSurvey@gov.bc.ca

Questions

