

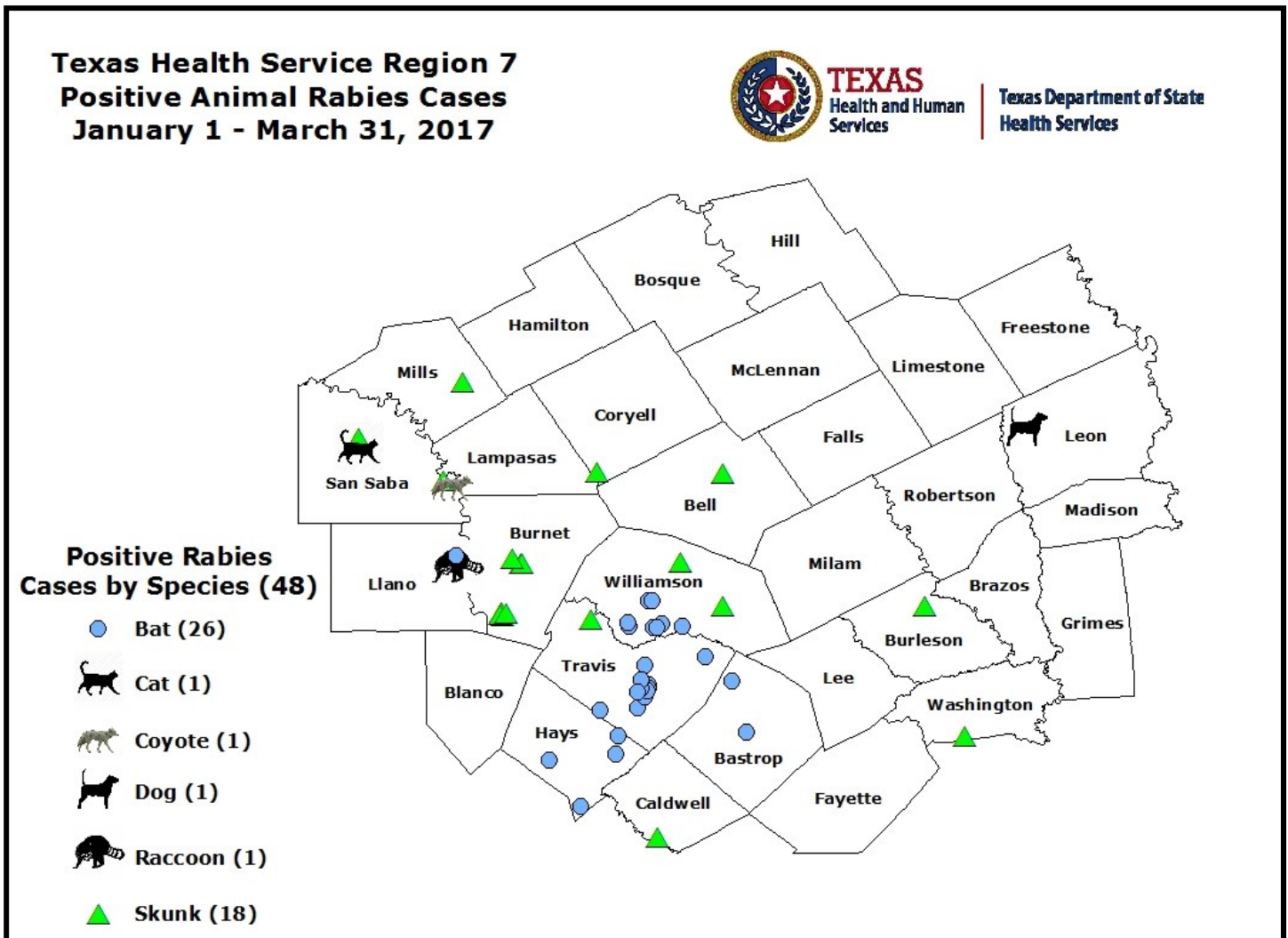
## Region 7 Zoonosis Control Program First Quarter, 2017

**75** total positive and non-negative animal rabies laboratory results reported from January 1– March 31, 2017

**48** laboratory-confirmed positive rabies cases investigated within the 30-county area of HSR7 by Zoonosis Control staff

**27** non-negative (“decomposed” or “destroyed”) animals also investigated by HSR7 Zoonosis Control

**6** people and **45** animals exposed or potentially exposed to these positive and non-negative animals



## Selected First Quarter Case Summary

**San Saba County:** On January 2, 2017 a couple was hiking the Gorman Trails at Colorado Bend State Park. While stopped at a kiosk along the trail, they noticed a coyote approaching from a nearby wooded area. Hoping the coyote would pass, the couple remained in place and watched as the animal wandered closer and closer. Then, without any obvious provocation, the coyote charged and bit the man on his right leg. The coyote then attacked the other hiker, biting her on the thigh and causing her to fall and break her wrist. Striking it with a backpack, the man was able to remove the coyote from his partner and grabbed it by its head and neck. Once secured, the man used a knife to kill the attacking animal. The couple received treatment for their wounds and were promptly started on rabies post-exposure prophylaxis. The coyote was tested at the DSHS laboratory and was found to be positive for the south-central skunk variant of the rabies virus. The two exposed individuals are expected to make a full recovery and our investigation identified no other human or animal exposures in connection with this rabid coyote.



\*\*\*Remember: Rabies transmission occurs year-round throughout Texas. Our high-risk mammals include bats, skunks, raccoons, foxes, and coyotes. In some cases, exposure to potentially-rabid animals by people or their pets is unavoidable. Always be aware of any uncharacteristic behavior in our high-risk animals and seek the appropriate medical or veterinary care if a potential exposure occurs.

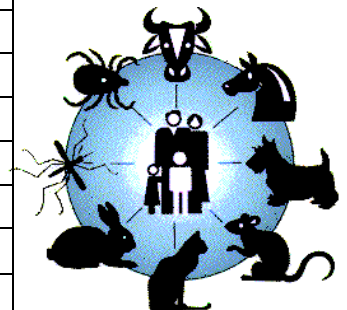
For more information on rabies in Texas, including monthly and annual rabies reports and maps of animal rabies cases, visit [www.Texasrabies.org](http://www.Texasrabies.org).

### Other Zoonosis News

#### HSR 7 Reportable Zoonotic Disease Cases in Humans

**January 1– March 31, 2017<sup>†</sup>**

Brucellosis	1 probable
Chikungunya*	1 confirmed
Leishmaniasis*	2 confirmed
Malaria*	4 confirmed
Murine Typhus	5 probable
Q-fever	2 confirmed
Spotted Fever Group Rickettsiosis	1 probable
Zika virus infection*	2 probable, 1 confirmed



<sup>†</sup> DSHS case counts may differ from those reported by local jurisdictions as DSHS does not report cases until the case investigations are completed.

\* Denotes travel-associated cases that were not locally acquired.



## Who is Your Local Rabies Control Authority (LRCA)?

The commissioners court of each county and the governing body of each municipality **shall** designate an officer to act as the local rabies control authority for the purposes of this chapter. Reference: Texas Health and Safety Code, Title 10: Health and Safety of Animals, Chapter 826.017.

If you are unsure who your LRCA is, please reach out to your county or municipality. If you determine that your county or municipality is non-compliant with Chapter 826.017, we ask that you take the appropriate steps to designate a LRCA. The LRCA designation form is located on the last page of this newsletter. This will help us assist you and your constituents with future rabies control questions and concerns.

### Thank You Region 7!

HSR7 Zoonosis Control personnel could not have met the time-sensitive investigation requirements of these cases without the help of animal control officers, veterinarians, peace officers, health care providers and others.

[Note: The rabies data presented in this document were obtained through a passive reporting system and may be subject to change. The data was based solely on the results of animals submitted for rabies testing. There were many more animals (particularly wildlife) that died of rabies that were not submitted for rabies testing.]

If you know of others in your agency or community who want to know about zoonosis control events in Central Texas, encourage them to share their contact information and e-mail address with us at 254/ 778-6744, ext. 6784 or [HSR7.ZOO@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:HSR7.ZOO@dshs.texas.gov).

### Note Our New Email Addresses

Along with a new logo, our primary email domain extension is changing. You will notice on our websites, business cards and our signature lines that our primary email address is now **@dshs.texas.gov**. We ask that you update your contacts and distribution lists now. The old email domain extension will be disabled September 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### HSR7 Zoonosis Control Program Personnel (Temple, TX): Stay in Touch!

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The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(governing body) (city or county)

designates \_\_\_\_\_ as the Local Rabies Control  
(job title or name)

Authority (LRCA) for the purposes of the RABIES CONTROL ACT OF 1981.

This appointment became effective \_\_\_\_\_.  
(date)

AUTHORIZING PERSON'S NAME (print): \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORIZING PERSON'S TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORIZING PERSON'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print the name and contact information of the appointed individual:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

JOB TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS FORM TO: Department of State Health Services  
Zoonosis Control  
2408 South 37<sup>th</sup> Street