

Partners in One Health

One Health is a collaborative approach to improving the health of humans, domestic animals, wildlife, and the environment. This collaboration is demonstrated through a strong partnership among the following offices within the National Park Service:

- Office of Public Health
- Wildlife Health Program
- Wildlife Management Program
- Ecological Restoration Program
- Natural Sounds and Night Skies
- Human Dimensions of Biological Resource Management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Risk Management



Quick Facts about One Health

- At least 60% of human infectious disease agents can be acquired from other animal species.
- In the last 30 years, 75% of emerging human pathogens have been zoonotic (transmitted between humans and other animals) including West Nile virus, avian influenza, and Lyme disease.
- The concept of One Health is not new, but its current holistic and collaborative approach has recently received support from many human and animal health organizations such as the American Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



One Health



One Health is an approach to improving community health in all species and the environment.

At the National Park Service, through partnerships within different disciplines, we are implementing the concept of One Health in the approach of health management for humans, animals, and the environment.

How Is the National Park Service Implementing One Health?



Unified Disease Surveillance

A combined human and wildlife disease surveillance system is being piloted to better detect outbreaks and clusters.

Interdisciplinary Response

A team consisting of a medical epidemiologist, a wildlife veterinarian, and a public health consultant is available to provide immediate technical expertise and assistance to all park units on human and wildlife disease outbreaks.

Integrated Messaging

With over 280 million visitors annually, national parks offer a unique opportunity to interpret One Health to the public. The National Park Service (NPS) is working to develop integrated programs and messages that communicate the interconnectedness of the health of all species.

Combined Research Agenda Projects

The National Park Service will explore better ways to study disease transmission issues using a One Health paradigm. This approach not only is an efficient use of resources but also has the added advantage of providing



a holistic understanding of disease transmission cycles, stresses on wildlife from human activities, and resource management issues.

Management Tools

Our goal is to use the One Health concept to provide NPS unit managers and staff with holistic, ecologically-based science guidance that can be used when making decisions about wildlife and visitor protection. Potential conflicts between management action taken to protect wildlife and visitors can be minimized through a unified understanding of the interaction of animal health, human health, and the environment.



Health Promotion

A growing body of evidence suggests that human health is linked to the health of our natural world. The NPS Health Promotion Initiative seeks to develop a strategy to guide how parks and partners can best contribute to the health of our nation while promoting the health of all species and the planet we share. Human health focus areas of the initiative include physical activity, nutrition, and mental health promotion.



Additional Resources

One Health Commission

<http://www.onehealthcommission.org>

One Health Initiative

<http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/>

One Health Newsletter

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/One_Health/OneHealth.html

National Park Service Office of Public Health

http://www.nps.gov/public_health/index.htm

National Park Service Wildlife Health

<http://www.nature.nps.gov/biology/wildlifehealth/>

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