

ANIMAL AND HUMAN HEALTH PREVENTION OPPORTUNITIES

One Health in the (406)-Zoonotic Diseases of Wildlife

Across much of the world, human populations are growing and expanding, land use is changing, and movement of humans, animals, and animal products via international travel and trade has increased, bringing humans in closer contact with one another and with wildlife. We've seen similar changes in parts of Montana, a state known for its unique outdoor recreation opportunities including hunting, fishing, hiking and wildlife watching as well as for its long history of farming and ranching. These unique attributes of Montana highlight the fact that humans, wildlife, domestic animals, and the environment they share are all profoundly interconnected. Wildlife and livestock are both extremely important to Montanans, and the health of the human population is closely connected to the health of animals and the environment.

Due to the interconnectedness among humans, animals, and the environment, a collaborative approach to monitoring, mitigation, and management of wildlife disease is important to achieving optimal health outcomes for both humans and animals. Applying knowledge and expertise from public health, veterinary, and environmental health professionals as well as communications experts to the development of wildlife disease surveillance and management programs will increase the likelihood of early detection of disease, effective monitoring, and successful disease management, resulting in the best outcome for human health as well as for wildlife conservation.

Several known diseases found in wildlife can be shared among wildlife, domestic animals and humans. There may also be unknown or "emerging diseases" that could appear in wildlife but also have potential to impact domestic animal or human health. Hunters, trappers, anglers, outdoor recreationalists, wildlife professionals, scientists, and others who handle wildlife, wildlife carcasses, or products from infected wildlife are at a higher risk of exposure to zoonotic diseases of wildlife than the general public. While most wildlife and wildlife products are healthy and wholesome, the best defense against exposure to zoonotic diseases of wildlife is knowledge of diseases, transmission pathways, and basic risk mitigation strategies.

Registration Details

If you are interested in learning more about zoonotic diseases of wildlife, please join us via Zoom for the 2021 **Montana One Health Conference**. The topic of this year's conference is Zoonotic Diseases of Wildlife.

Registration link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9LPGCQF>

**Registration is free and we invite all interested individuals to participate!*

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1400 Broadway
Helena, MT 59620-2951

Adam Meier, Director, DPHHS
Mike Honeycutt, Executive Officer, DOL
Todd Harwell, MPH, Administrator, PHSD
Martin Zaluski, DVM, State Veterinarian