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 is supported by many human and animal organizations such as the American Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

PARTNERS IN ONE HEALTH

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

- Office of Public Health
- Wildlife Health
- Integrated Pest Management
- Risk Management

Quick Facts about 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.
Unified Disease Surveillance (detection): A combined human and wildlife disease detection effort and system is being piloted to detect disease transmission and outbreaks (or in wildlife, large unexplained animal die-offs).

Interdisciplinary Response: A team consisting of a physician, 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.

Combined Research Agenda Projects: The National Park Service will be exploring better ways to define disease transmission issues by using a One Health paradigm. This approach is not only an efficient use of resources but has the added advantage of providing a holistic understanding of disease transmission cycles, stresses on wildlife from human activities, and resource management issues.

Consensus Guidance: 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 avoided through a unified understanding of interaction of wildlife health, human health, and the environment.

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 Wildlife Health: http://www.nature.nps.gov/biology/wildlifehealth/

National Park Service Integrated Pest Management: http://www.nature.nps.gov/biology/ipm/