



Alabama Wildlife Biologists' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices on Wildlife Health & Zoonoses



ExpertReview score

Great

Introduction

Q1



We are looking to understand the experiences, attitudes, and opinions of wildlife biologists in Alabama toward wildlife health to improve our understanding of the state of knowledge of wildlife professionals regarding zoonotic diseases. Understanding what YOU as a wildlife professional know and think about wildlife health will give YOU an actionable voice and seat at the table. This project is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and developed by personnel in Auburn University's College of Forestry, Wildlife and Environment. Your survey responses will be anonymous, and no identifying factors will be collected. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the survey, please reach out to Rylee Tomey (MS student) at rdt0029@auburn.edu. We greatly appreciate your input. To begin, click the next button below. Thank you for your participation.



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Demographics

Q2



What year were you born?

Q3



Do you live and/or work in Alabama

☐ Yes☐ No

Q4



What is the zip code of your current residence?
(5 digit zip code)

Q5



Select the race that best describes you:

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

Q6



Do you identify with Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish origin?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

Q7



What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

Q8



What was your approximate household income in 2019?

- ☐ \$0-20,000
- ☐ \$20,001-30,000
- ☐ \$30,001-40,000
- ☐ \$40,001-50,000
- ☐ \$50,001-60,000
- ☐ \$60,001-70,000
- ☐ \$70,001-80,000
- ☐ \$80,001-90,000
- ☐ \$90,001-100,000
- ☐ \$100,001+

Q9



What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?

- ☐ Did not graduate high school/no GED
- ☐ High school graduate/GED
- ☐ Technical/Vocational School
- ☐ Some College/AA or AS (2-year degree)
- ☐ College Graduate/BA or BS (4-year degree)
- ☐ Graduate or Professional School

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Q10



Do you have a degree in wildlife biology, ecology, or management or related field?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q11



Are you certified by The Wildlife Society (TWS) as a wildlife biologist?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q12



Have you taken a formal course on wildlife health?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q93



▼ [Display this question](#)

If Have you taken a formal course on wildlife health? Yes Is Selected

When did you take a formal course on wildlife health?

- ☐ <5 years
- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ >10 years

Q13



Do you consider yourself to be a wildlife biologist?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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Q14



For how many years have you been employed as a wildlife biologist?

- ☐ <1 year
- ☐ 1-5 years
- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ 10-20 years
- ☐ >20 years

Q15



Which type of activities best describe the primary focus of your work in wildlife biology?

- ☐ Land/Wildlife Management
- ☐ Research
- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Consulting
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Other

Q16



What is your primary affiliation in the field of wildlife biology?

- ☐ Federal Government
- ☐ State/Provincial Government
- ☐ Private Industry
- ☐ Academic/Research Institution
- ☐ Nonprofit/Conservation Organization
- ☐ Tribal
- ☐ Professional Societies or Associations
- ☐ Other



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Practices & Activities

Q18



How frequently do you come into direct physical contact with wildlife in Alabama as part of your employment duties?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

Q17



What percentage of the time do you spend in the field as part of your employment duties?

Percentage

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

A horizontal slider bar with a vertical line at 0 and a dark grey bar extending to approximately 65%.

Q19



Do you regularly collect samples in the field from wildlife in Alabama?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q20



Do you regularly handle samples in the laboratory or field that have been collected from wildlife in Alabama?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q94



▼ [Display this question](#)

If Do you regularly handle samples in the laboratory or field that have been collected from wildlife... Yes Is Selected

When collecting samples, the animal is typically:

- ☐ Alive - Not Sedated
- ☐ Alive - Sedated
- ☐ Dead

Q21



If you handle or collect samples from wildlife in Alabama, do you utilize personal protective equipment (PPE)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Applicable

Q95



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If If you handle or collect samples from wildlife in Alabama, do you utilize personal protective equ... Yes Is Selected

How often do you use PPE when handling or collecting samples?

- ☐ Never (0%)
- ☐ Rarely (<25%)
- ☐ Sometimes (25%-75%)
- ☐ Usually (>75%)
- ☐ Always (100%)

Q22



In which counties do you regularly come into contact with wildlife in Alabama? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Autauga | <input type="checkbox"/> Houston |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baldwin | <input type="checkbox"/> Jackson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barbour | <input type="checkbox"/> Jefferson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bibb | <input type="checkbox"/> Lamar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blount | <input type="checkbox"/> Lauderdale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bullock | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butler | <input type="checkbox"/> Lee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calhoun | <input type="checkbox"/> Limestone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chambers | <input type="checkbox"/> Lowndes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cherokee | <input type="checkbox"/> Macon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chilton | <input type="checkbox"/> Madison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choctaw | <input type="checkbox"/> Marengo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarke | <input type="checkbox"/> Marion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clay | <input type="checkbox"/> Marshall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleburne | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Monroe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colbert | <input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conecuh | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coosa | <input type="checkbox"/> Perry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covington | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crenshaw | <input type="checkbox"/> Pike |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cullman | <input type="checkbox"/> Randolph |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dale | <input type="checkbox"/> Russell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dallas | <input type="checkbox"/> Saint Clair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeKalb | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elmore | <input type="checkbox"/> Sumter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Escambia | <input type="checkbox"/> Talladega |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Etowah | <input type="checkbox"/> Tallapoosa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fayette | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuscaloosa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Franklin | <input type="checkbox"/> Walker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geneva | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greene | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilcox |

☐ Hale

☐ Winston

☐ Henry

Q23



Did you have a hunting/trapping license for the state of Alabama in the past three years (2020-2023)?

☐ Yes

☐ No



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▼ Health Knowledge

Q24



Wild pigs may serve as a source of infectious disease transmission to both humans and domestic animals in Alabama.

☐ True

☐ False

☐ I don't know

Q25



Brucellosis affects reproduction in domestic animals but is not a concern for wildlife.

☐ True

☐ False

☐ I don't know

Q26



Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is primarily transmitted among cervids (deer/elk) through ticks.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I don't know

Q27



Avian influenza has been found in wild and domestic birds in Alabama.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I don't know

Q28



Avian influenza does not kill wildlife.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I don't know

Q29



SARS CoV2 (COVID) can infect deer.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I don't know

Q30



SARS CoV2 (COVID) from wildlife can infect humans.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I don't know

Q32



Rabies has been found in ALL states that border Alabama.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I don't know

Q33



How is rabies transmitted?

- ☐ Bites
- ☐ Blood
- ☐ Athropods
- ☐ Urine
- ☐ Feces
- ☐ I don't know

Q34



How should you dispose of a fresh wild turkey carcass that was found in Alabama?

- ☐ Incinerate
- ☐ Bury
- ☐ Field dress and consumption
- ☐ Place in a dumpster
- ☐ Ignore
- ☐ I don't know



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Attitudes & Beliefs

Q35



CWD was present in Alabama before the 21st century

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q36



Bats are significant carriers of many infectious diseases in Alabama

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q37



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is necessary when conducting fieldwork that does not directly involve zoonotic diseases

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q38



Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) is a major threat to human health

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q39



The only way to deal with zoonotic diseases in wildlife (such as rabies) is to let nature take its course

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

----- Page Break -----

Q40

I believe that..

Q41



Reducing the population of certain wild species in affected areas will eliminate infectious diseases in Alabama

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q42



Current plans to manage wildlife populations in Alabama will be effective in controlling infectious diseases

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q43



Surveillance is essential to successful infectious disease management

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q44



The vaccination of wildlife, such as for rabies, should be considered for other diseases

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Page Break

Q45

I am concerned...

Q46



About the current prevalence of wildlife diseases in Alabama

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q47



That infectious diseases will affect Alabama's biodiversity

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q48



That wildlife diseases in my region will affect my health or my family's health today.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q49



That climate change will impact wildlife health in Alabama.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree



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Education

Q50



A course on wildlife health should be required for a major in wildlife biology

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q51



Information on wildlife health can be acquired through continuing education rather than in undergraduate courses

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Q52



All critical elements (including aspects of wildlife health) can be acquired through on-the-job training and experience

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

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Q53



Is the information you need regarding wildlife health in Alabama easily accessible to you?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q54



What is your preferred source to obtain information regarding wildlife health in Alabama? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Friends/Family
- ☐ State Wildlife Agency
- ☐ Academic Publications
- ☐ Social Media
- ☐ News Sources
- ☐ Conferences
- ☐ I have not looked for health information
- ☐ Other

Q55



Would you be interested in learning more about wildlife health in Alabama?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Q56



If there was a free course on wildlife health in Alabama, how would you like to participate? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ One day, in-person conference
- ☐ One day, virtual conference
- ☐ Year-long, once a month, virtual conference
- ☐ Other

Q57



What topics would you like to obtain more information regarding wildlife health in Alabama? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Rabies
- ☐ Influenza
- ☐ Leptospirosis
- ☐ Raccoon roundworm
- ☐ Vector borne diseases
- ☐ CWD
- ☐ SarsCoV2
- ☐ One Health
- ☐ Other



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Final Remarks

Q58

Please write any additional comments, questions, or concerns below



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End of Survey

We thank you for your time spent taking this survey.

Your response has been recorded.