

*Prevention is  
the only proven  
effective method  
of wildlife disease  
management.*



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation



# New York State Wildlife Health Program



College of  
**Veterinary Medicine**



We promote the  
health and long-  
term sustainability of  
wildlife populations  
by advancing  
scientific tools and  
sharing knowledge to  
protect and improve  
the health of native  
wildlife populations.

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<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/261.html>

*All photos courtesy of Shutterstock*



The New York State Cooperative Wildlife Health Program (WHP) is a partnership between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Cornell Wildlife Health Lab at Cornell University's Animal Health Diagnostic Center (AHDC) that works to safeguard the long-term health of New York State's wildlife populations.

Our laboratories in Albany, Ithaca, and Eastport conduct routine surveillance and in-depth research, staff training and data analysis to support DEC's mission. We maintain strong relationships with partners in human and domestic animal health to address issues common to all under the One Health philosophy.

## DISEASE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

The Wildlife Health Program identifies emerging threats to wildlife, human, and domestic animal health; conducts targeted surveillance and research; and works with partners to plan comprehensive education, prevention, and response activities.

## HEALTH AND DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

Our team of biologists and veterinarians examines hundreds of submitted wildlife cases each year to investigate the causes of mortality.

Real-time surveillance allows us to establish common disease patterns as well as to rapidly detect and respond to new and emerging threats that can impact wildlife, human, and domestic animal health.

Our online case database will allow biologists to rapidly access the information and better respond to public inquiries.

## RESEARCH

Our research is broadly collaborative, applied, and driven by real world issues. At any given time we may have more than a dozen active projects combining field and laboratory work with colleagues from around the country in a variety of disciplines.

## TRAINING AND TEACHING

One of our highest priorities is training DEC staff to keep them safe in the course of their job duties.

## POLICY SUPPORT

Our program staff draw on a variety of resources and expertise to provide DEC with the most up-to-date scientific information in wildlife health.

