The National Park Service

OVER 290 MILLION VISITORS

407 UNITS AND STILL COUNTING...

OVER 30,000 EMPLOYEES
THE AVERAGE RESOURCE MANAGER SPENDS OVER 40% OF THEIR TIME OUTSIDE
Risks have high consequences

- 2004 death of deputy superintendent due to hantavirus
- 2007 death of wildlife biologist due to plague
- Tick-borne relapsing fever outbreaks at GRCA and CEBR
STUDY OF POTENTIAL ZOONOTIC DISEASE EXPOSURES AT WORK OF 141 EMPLOYEES:

81% REPORTED INSECT BITES

56% REPORTED ANIMAL CONTACT
77% TESTED POSITIVE FOR ONE OR MORE ZOONOTIC DISEASES
Why does this happen and what can we do about it?
Only 65% reported always washing their hands after handling animals

– Only 87% reported wearing gloves during necropsies

• Only 53% disinfected equipment after field use
81% reported insect bites in the previous year

32% found ticks on themselves during work hour

56% reported animal contact
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Familiarity breeds contempt? *those that handled wildlife at least weekly were less likely to follow safe work practices*
92% SAID HAVING PPE STOCKED AND AVAILABLE

91% SAID HAVING MATERIALS AVAILABLE IN REMOTE SETTINGS
Concern about contracting a zoonotic disease was the greatest factor influencing safe work practice.
ONLY 38% REPORTED HAVING ZOONOTIC DISEASE TRAINING
Zoonotic Disease Training Provided to Resource Managers, Biologists
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PPE Caches Distributed to 100 Parks with 100 More in Transit
Zoonotic disease training provided to resource managers, biologists

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Pocket guides developed for quick reference and PPE selection

Experience your America™
WHAT ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE??????!