

Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis

ONLINE COURSE

The approach of using this material to introduce WDRA is a fantastic way to bring the relevance of WDRA as a technique to numerous stakeholders from wildlife rehabilitators, policy makers and conservation biologists, to vets and medical personnel.

Pilot WDRA course participant, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Disease is a primary driver of wildlife population declines worldwide. As these populations shrink or fragment, the dynamics of stable ecological systems are disrupted resulting in closer contact between wildlife, domestic animals and people, and providing novel opportunities for pathogen transmission. Where disease is a direct threat to species conservation, or wildlife are implicated as a vector or reservoir of disease impacting domestic animals and/or people, Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis (WDRA) can help decision-makers determine how best to respond.

Structured WDRA presents an opportunity for multiple stakeholders with varied interests to develop collaborative plans that benefit all those involved and ensure the conservation of threatened species, wherever they exist.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG) led the development of the <u>IUCN</u> <u>Guidelines for Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis</u>, published in 2014. This online course is designed for those who wish to put these guidelines into practice.

COURSE AIM

CPSG has the ambition of ensuring that 'every species that needs a plan is covered by an effective, implemented plan'. This online course has been designed to add to the resources available for this ambition to become a reality.

Our target audiences are government wildlife agency staff, IUCN SSC Specialist Group members, and other conservation professionals and veterinarians working in zoos, aquariums, universities or field programs, responsible for planning for disease management at the interface between people, places and wildlife.

This course is designed to equip participants with an understanding of how to put the IUCN Guidelines for Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis into practice.

By the end participants will be able to:

- Recognize and justify situations where a WDRA process can contribute to a) wildlife conservation, b) domestic animal health care, and c) public health protection
- Explain how the principle of One Health and the science of epidemiology are applied to a WDRA
- Design a workshop to effectively engage multiple stakeholders in completing a WDRA



Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis

ONLINE COURSE

CORE COURSE FACULTY



Jamie Copsey is the Director of Training at CPSG. He has been working in the field of capacity building for species conservation for more than 20 years. He has extensive experience in the design and delivery of training programs for conservation professionals, from junior staff through to senior leadership. He regularly facilitates planning workshops and publishes on topics such as conservation management and leadership, and capacity-building as well as on more biologically-related themes.



Steve Unwin is a wildlife vet and academic researcher in One Health. In 2006, he became the veterinary coordinator for the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) veterinary program, where he started using and training others in wildlife disease risk analysis. In 2019 Steve joined the University of Birmingham School of Biosciences as Lecturer in Biosystems and Environmental Change. As well as WDRA, Steve continues to work on other One Health and conservation capacity development tools for those working at the human-wildlife interface.





Fabiana Lopes Rocha is a wildlife veterinarian and ecologist. Her academic interest is in the areas of ecology, parasitology, and conservation of wild mammals, with an emphasis on carnivores and One Health. Fabiana is the head officer of the Center for Species Survival Brazil, a three-way partnership of IUCN SSC, CPSG, and Parque das Aves. Her work is focused on bringing global standards and improving national capacity to assess, plan, and act within governmental agencies, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholder groups to conserve threatened species.

Richard Jakob-Hoff is a zoo and wildlife veterinarian, group facilitator and Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis advisor to CPSG. Between 1990-2020 he was employed by Auckland Zoo, New Zealand in various capacities. He was lead editor of the IUCN/OIE Manual of Procedures for Wildlife Risk Analysis and its companion Guidelines published in 2014. He is a lifelong conservationist with a passion for facilitating multistakeholder collaborations.



Phil Tucak is a veterinarian, writer, and communications manager. He works with various organizations including the Office of the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer and Wildlife Health Australia. As the Wildlife Outreach Vet, Phil also works to share the conversation about conservation. Phil has previously worked as Communications Manager for the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, and as Communications and Interpretation Coordinator for Perth Zoo.



Vere Nicolson is a wildlife veterinarian who has worked with zoo and Australian wildlife for over 20 years. Currently Vere works at Hidden Vale Wildlife Centre, a partnership between his employer, the Turner Family Foundation, and the University of Queensland where he is initiating captive breeding projects and providing veterinary and curatorial services. He is a strong advocate for the facilitation processes and conservation support offered by CPSG.



Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis

ONLINE COURSE

IUCN **M**SSC

CONSERVATION



Zali Brookes is a veterinarian with an honors degree in law. She is passionate about wildlife conservation and disease, with interests in epidemiology, animal law and international public law. Zali has worked in emergency response to exotic disease and bushfires which led her to One Health. She has a diverse background which includes working with the media, writing and wildlife photography, is an experienced project leader and former associate director of the New Zealand International Science Festival.

COURSE FORMAT

This online course (delivered through <u>www.conservationtraining.org</u>) consists of prerecorded lectures, reading materials, and problem solving activities along with 'live' webinars and discussions. Assessed groupwork is included in the program. You will also interact with some of the world's leading experts on WDRA, communication and multi-stakeholder planning processes.

COSTS

The cost for participating in this course is US\$100. This does not reflect the true cost or value of this training as CPSG is committed to reducing financial barriers to training that will benefit threatened species worldwide. This is currently possible only due to the support received from the Global Conservation Network, (GCN) a group of institutions and individuals who support CPSG work. If you or your organization would like to consider becoming a GCN donor, or if you would like to learn more about CPSG, please contact: onnie@cpsg.org. If you would like to discuss costs of participating in this training course, please contact: jamie@cpsg.org.

COURSE DURATION

The course lasts for eight weeks and involves **4-6hrs work per week**, depending on how quickly you can work through the materials!

COURSE DATES

This course will run from **Monday 7th March-Friday 29th April 2022**. Pre-recorded sessions can be listened to in your own time. Live webinars will be repeated each week to accommodate different time zones.

CERTIFICATION

Participants successfully completing the course will receive a Certificate of Completion from CPSG. Those going further to apply the skills to undertake WDRA processes following the training can be considered for a Certificate of Reflective Practice (additional assessment criteria apply). If you successfully complete the course, you will also have the opportunity to attend Planning Clinics in which you can present your projects and receive expert advice.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Participant selection will take into account priority target groups in particular those involved in or considering planning and implementing wildlife disease management activities.

For course application form, please click <u>here</u>.

Application deadline: Friday 18th February, 2022.

FURTHER INFORMATION Contact Jamie Copsey at jamie@cpsg.org