Safe Work Practices

- EHS minimum safety requirements collated into standardized best practices rather than provided on a case-by-case basis.
  - Consistency of message to research groups.
  - Assessment criteria and mitigations provided in an organized fashion.
- Consultation on hazard assessment and mitigation occurs at the beginning of the project and not during time sensitive review of an AUP application by an ACUC.
- Principal Investigator can review SWPs when applying for funding to identify any missing safety equipment.
Safe Work Practice Overview

- Series of 20 documents
- Set up in a standard template
- Two most related to field research activities:
  - Needle safety
  - Handling Animals Infected with a Zoonotic Pathogen
Fewer Engineering Control Options

- Greater reliance on administrative and PPE controls
Zoonotic Risk Assessment Needs to be Population Specific

- Elk Island vs Wood Buffalo
Disclose Animal Work if Consulting Physician

• When consulting a physician regarding a bite or cut injury suffered while working with wild animals, or an unseasonal illness following a field trip, they should disclose the animal worked with and any potential zoonoses associated with the study population.

• Failure to do so means that the zoonoses will not be considered in the differential diagnosis for treatment.
Implementation of SWPs

• SWPs are completed and EHS is currently consulting with stakeholders for their roll-out
• SWPs should be posted to the EHS website this summer
• Any field research group wanting an advance copy of the zoonosis SWP should contact EHS via biosafety@ualberta.ca