

Breadcrumb

1. [Home](#)
2. Print
3. Pdf
4. Node
5. Entity Print

NWRC Research Areas: Human Dimensions of Wildlife

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Successfully mitigating human-wildlife conflicts often requires an understanding of the values, needs, preferences, and/or behaviors of affected stakeholders and the broader public. Such an understanding can help wildlife professionals define the nature of a conflict, identify human behaviors that may help or hinder conflict mitigation efforts, and choose effective strategies that most stakeholders will support.

Research about the “human” side of human-wildlife conflicts is the domain of Human Dimensions of Wildlife, an applied field that draws upon a range of social science disciplines to explore questions such as:

- Who are the stakeholders for a particular human-wildlife conflict or wildlife management issue?
- How are stakeholders affected by the conflict?
- Do the stakeholders view the conflict as a problem that requires management?
- How would stakeholders prefer the conflict be addressed or mitigated?
- What are the values, attitudes, assumptions, and/or concerns that inform stakeholders’ positions about the conflict?
- Are there any gaps in knowledge that might influence their positions?
- Are there any human behaviors that cause or contribute to the conflict?
- How might people be encouraged to change their behaviors?
- What are effective strategies for engaging stakeholders?

Related Links

[Human Dimensions](#) (Publications)

Contact Us

Human Dimensions of Wildlife

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