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Comment from Hardin, Shane

Posted by the **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service** on Jan 22, 2026

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I think that sampling protocols should be extended and expanded upon for disease tracking, animal welfare, and OneHealth implications. The animal specimens that are submitted hold valuable information in following and helping to stop public health or disease issues before they start. Our samples from our large animal and companion species can help us to understand if they are coming into contact with wildlife and getting zoonotic pathogens that could be a risk to us. It also helps us monitor wildlife health and movement to ensure that diseases are not spreading into new areas or being seen in species that they have not been seen prior.

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