

WHISPers Metadata for Natural Resource Management Professionals

Form	Field Name	Field Type	Short Description	Detailed Description	Does this Field Autopopulate or Default?	Public or Private View?	Required to Create an Event?	Required to Complete an Event?
Create Event	Event Type	List of Options	Mortality/Morbidity: A wildlife morbidity or mortality event is a noteworthy occurrence of one or more sick or dead animals clustered in space and time. Surveillance: Live animal surveillance data represents positive detections of a pathogen during active surveillance of healthy live, hunter-killed, or euthanized animals (that were not sick before euthanizing). If event has both morbidity/mortality AND was a surveillance effort (e.g., went to cave to swab live bats but also found dead bats), enter as two separate events (one morbidity/mortality, one surveillance).	Mortality/Morbidity: A wildlife morbidity or mortality event is a noteworthy occurrence of one or more sick or dead animals clustered in space and time. Mortality/morbidity events can include any or all of the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> trigger cause for concern and warrant reporting by natural resource managers cross political boundaries such as municipal, county, or state lines involve multiple species and/or multiple diagnoses be comprised of individuals with similar clinical signs and/or diagnoses be related to environmental conditions be significant to population(s) of species affected reveal new pathogens, or range or temporal expansion of existing pathogens Surveillance: Live animal surveillance data represents positive detections of a pathogen during active surveillance of healthy live, hunter-killed, or euthanized animals (that were not sick before euthanizing). If event has both morbidity/mortality AND was a surveillance effort (e.g., went to cave to swab live bats but also found dead bats), enter as two separate events (one morbidity/mortality, one surveillance).	No	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	User Event Reference	Free Text	Name or number for an event.	Name or number for an event designated.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Event Visibility	List of Options	Indicates whether event is visible to the public or not.	Indicates whether event is visible to the public or not. Event owner (i.e., WHISPers user who initially creates the event record) might want to keep events private that involve endangered species, legal cases, etc. Private events can still be viewed by everyone in event owner's organization, as well as a limited number of staff at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.	Defaults to "Visible to the Public"	Private	Yes	Yes
Create Event	WHISPers Record Status	List of Options	"Complete" if the event has ended, diagnostic tests are finalized, and all information is updated in WHISPers. Otherwise, "Incomplete".	"Complete" if the event has ended, diagnostic tests are finalized, and all information is updated in WHISPers. Otherwise, "Incomplete". When the record is marked as "Complete" then data are locked except for ability to add comments. Only the event owner (or higher hierarchical roles) can reverse the WHISPers record status from "Complete" to "Incomplete". WHISPers record can only be "Complete" when all fields required to complete an event are filled in.	Defaults to "Incomplete"	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	Contact Organization	List of Options	Organization(s) to display to general public for them to contact regarding general inquiries about the event. If correct organization is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard.	Organization(s) to display to general public for them to contact regarding general inquiries about the event. If correct organization is not listed, request a new option via the dashboard. List of options originate from organizations table managed by the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.	Defaults to event owner's organization	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	Location Start Date	Date	Estimated beginning date of the event at this location.	Estimated beginning date of the event at this location. MM/DD/YYYY	No	Public	Yes, for at least one location	Yes
Create Event	Location End Date	Date	Estimated ending date of the event at this location.	Estimated ending date of the event at this location. MM/DD/YYYY	No	Public	No	Yes
Create Event	Country	List of Options	Country of location.	Country of location. Options are based on International Organization of Standardization (ISO) 3166 codes.	Defaults to "United States"	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	State (or equivalent)	List of Options	State of location (or equivalent, such as provinces or territories in Canada).	State of location (or equivalent, such as provinces or territories in Canada). Options provided are determined by country selected and are based on International Organization of Standardization (ISO) 3166 codes.	No	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	County (or equivalent)	List of Options	County of location (or equivalent, such as parish or borough in the United States). If event encompasses multiple counties, create separate locations for each.	County of location (or equivalent, such as parish or borough in the United States). If event encompasses multiple counties, create separate locations for each. Options provided are determined by state selected and are based on Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) codes.	No	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	Location Name	Free Text	Describes location of morbidity/mortality or location of surveillance activities within an event. Within a morbidity/mortality event, there are sometimes distinct spatial clusters of morbidity or mortality observations that should be recorded as separate locations. The purpose of designating locations within events is to aid in the understanding of disease processes or management. The spatial scale of the locations recorded within an event will vary. Describe locations from most specific to least specific (e.g., if using the name of an island within a river, type island name, then a comma, and then river name). At minimum resolution, data should be reported by county or equivalent, but do not list counties in location name because those are included in a separate county field for each location.	Describes location of morbidity/mortality or location of surveillance activities within an event. Within a morbidity/mortality event, there are sometimes distinct spatial clusters of morbidity or mortality observations that should be recorded as separate locations. The purpose of designating locations within events is to aid in the understanding of disease processes or management. The spatial scale of the locations recorded within an event will vary. Describe locations from most specific to least specific (e.g., if using the name of an island within a river, type island name, then a comma, and then river name). At minimum resolution, data should be reported by county or equivalent, but do not list counties in location name because those are included in a separate county field for each location.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Land Ownership	List of Options	Entity that owns the land at this location. Options are: "Federal/National" - owned by the federal or national government of a country; "State/Province" - owned by the state or equivalent; "County or equivalent" - owned by the county or equivalent; "Municipal" - owned by a local entity such as a city or township; "Tribal/Native Peoples" - tribal land or land held by native peoples; "Private" - private property; "Other" - a type of land ownership not covered by the other options in the drop down list for this field; "Unknown" - the ownership of the land is unknown.	Entity that owns the land at this location. Options are: "Federal/National" - owned by the federal or national government of a country; "State/Province" - owned by the state or equivalent; "County or equivalent" - owned by the county or equivalent; "Municipal" - owned by a local entity such as a city or township; "Tribal/Native Peoples" - tribal land or land held by native peoples; "Private" - private property; "Other" - a type of land ownership not covered by the other options in the drop down list for this field; "Unknown" - the ownership of the land is unknown. If "Tribal/Native Peoples" is selected WHISPers will default the "Event Visibility" field to "Not Visible to Public".	No	Private	Yes	Yes
Create Event	Latitude	Number	Latitude of location in decimal degrees WGS84.	Latitude of location in decimal degrees WGS84.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Longitude	Number	Longitude of location in decimal degrees WGS84.	Longitude of location in decimal degrees WGS84.	No	Private	No	No

Form	Field Name	Field Type	Short Description	Detailed Description	Does this Field Autopopulate or Default?	Public or Private View?	Required to Create an Event?	Required to Complete an Event?
Create Event	Standardized Location Name	List of Options	Look up location names based on the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), which is a United States federal standard for geographic nomenclature. For example, if you work at a refuge, you can pull the standardized refuge name here. Note that the GNIS search tool looks up names starting with the first letter.	Look up locations based on the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), which is a United States federal standard for geographic nomenclature. For example, if you work at a refuge, you can pull the standardized refuge name here. Note that the GNIS search tool looks up names starting with the first letter. This lookup is powered by the USGS Search JavaScript API developed by the Geospatial Science + Cyber Innovation Branch of the USGS Texas Water Science Center. It searches about 3.7 million location records from a variety of sources, including GNIS. Source code can be on GitHub at: https://github.com/usgs/search_api/ .	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Species	List of Options	Species affected at this location. If correct species is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard.	Species affected at this location. If correct species is not listed in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard. Options are based on Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS).	No	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	Known Dead	Number	Exact minimum count of the cumulative number of dead animals (not including euthanized) over the length of the event at this location. Include euthanized with sick. If 0 observed, enter 0. Details can be provided in the Comment section.	Actual count of the number of dead animals of this species at this location. Do NOT include euthanized animals. Use 0 if known to be 0 (instead of leaving blank). Leave blank if there is no count. Avoid re-count of animals, especially if there are repeated visits to a location to assess wildlife health. Consider whether animals initially observed sick were later counted as dead; if so, only count them as dead. Numbers reported should reflect either a snapshot of morbidity/mortality as observed during a one-time site visit, or a synopsis of the numbers affected over the course of an event (e.g., dead = cumulative dead during multiple site visits and sick = number remaining sick or recovered from being sick at the end of the event). For morbidity/mortality events, there must be at least one number (among known dead, estimated dead, known sick, and estimated sick) for at least one species in the event at the time of event initiation and at least one number per species at the time of event completion.	No	Public	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"
Create Event	Estimated Dead	Number	Best guess of the maximum number of animals that died (include any known dead animals) at this location over the length of the event. Include euthanized with sick. Details can be provided in the Comment section.	Estimate of the number of dead animals of this species at this location. Use 0 if estimated to be 0 (instead of leaving blank). If estimate is unknown, or accurate count exists then can leave blank. Estimates > 0 must include number of known dead. Avoid re-count of animals, especially if there are repeated visits to a location to assess wildlife health. Consider whether animals initially observed sick were later counted as dead; if so, only count them as dead. Numbers reported should reflect either a snapshot of morbidity/mortality as observed during a one-time site visit, or a synopsis of the numbers affected over the course of an event (e.g., dead = cumulative dead during multiple site visits and sick = number remaining sick or recovered from being sick at the end of the event). Estimated dead must be higher than known dead. For morbidity/mortality events, there must be at least one number (among known dead, estimated dead, known sick, and estimated sick) for at least one species in the event at the time of event initiation and at least one number per species at the time of event completion.	No	Public	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"
Create Event	Known Sick	Number	Exact minimum count of animals exhibiting clinical signs of illness at the point in time that the observation was made at this location. If site visited repeatedly, use number remaining sick/injured plus number recovered from being sick/injured. Include euthanized with sick. If 0 observed, enter 0. Details can be provided in the Comment section.	Actual count of the number of sick or injured animals of this species at this location. Include euthanized animals, if any. Use 0 if known to be 0 (instead of leaving blank). Leave blank if there is no count. Avoid re-count of animals, especially if there are repeated visits to a location to assess wildlife health. Consider whether animals initially observed sick were later counted as dead; if so, only count them as dead. Numbers reported should reflect either a snapshot of morbidity/mortality as observed during a one-time site visit, or a synopsis of the numbers affected over the course of an event (e.g., dead = cumulative dead during multiple site visits and sick = number remaining sick or recovered from being sick at the end of the event). For morbidity/mortality events, there must be at least one number (among known dead, estimated dead, known sick, and estimated sick) for at least one species in the event at the time of event initiation and at least one number per species at the time of event completion.	No	Public	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"
Create Event	Estimated Sick	Number	Best guess of the maximum number of animals that might be showing clinical signs (include any known sick animals) at the point in time that the observation was made at this location. If site visited repeatedly, use number remaining sick/injured plus number recovered from being sick/injured. Include euthanized with sick. Details can be provided in the Comment section.	Estimate of the number of sick or injured animals of this species at this location. Use 0 if estimated to be 0 (instead of leaving blank). If estimate is unknown, or accurate count exists then can leave blank. Estimates > 0 must include number of known sick. Avoid re-count of animals, especially if there are repeated visits to a location to assess wildlife health. Consider whether animals initially observed sick were later counted as dead; if so, only count them as dead. Numbers reported should reflect either a snapshot of morbidity/mortality as observed during a one-time site visit, or a synopsis of the numbers affected over the course of an event (e.g., dead = cumulative dead during multiple site visits and sick = number remaining sick or recovered from being sick at the end of the event). Estimated sick must be higher than known sick. For morbidity/mortality events, there must be at least one number (among known dead, estimated dead, known sick, and estimated sick) for at least one species in the event at the time of event initiation and at least one number per species at the time of event completion.	No	Public	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"	Yes, but see "Detailed Description"
Create Event	Population	Number	Estimate of the maximum number of this species at this location, including live, sick, and dead.	Estimate of the maximum number of this species at this location, including live, sick, and dead. Population has to be more than or equal to sum of sick and dead.	No	Public	No	No
Create Event	Age Bias	List of Options	Age bias in the species affected at this location. Options are: "No noticeable bias" - age bias was assessed but no bias detected; "Unknown" - age bias not assessed; "Mostly young" - most animals affected were young; "Mostly adults" - most animals affected were adults.	Age bias in the species affected at this location. Options are: "No noticeable bias" - age bias was assessed but no bias detected; "Unknown" - age bias not assessed; "Mostly Young" - most animals affected were young; "Mostly Adult" - most animals affected were adults.	No	Public	No	No
Create Event	Sex Bias	List of Options	Sex bias in the species affected at this location. Options are: "No noticeable bias" - sex bias was assessed but no bias detected; "Unknown" - sex bias not assessed; "Mostly Male" - most animals affected were male; "Mostly Female" - most animals affected were female.	Sex bias in the species affected at this location. Options are: "No noticeable bias" - sex bias was assessed but no bias detected; "Unknown" - sex bias not assessed; "Mostly Male" - most animals affected were male; "Mostly Female" - most animals affected were female.	No	Public	No	No
Create Event	Captive	List of Options	Describes if species affected at this location are captive or not. Options are: "Wild and/or free-ranging" or "Captive >72 hours".	Describes if species affected at this location are captive or not. Options are: "Captive >72 hours" or "Wild and/or free-ranging".	Defaults to "Wild and/or free-ranging"	Public	Yes	Yes

Form	Field Name	Field Type	Short Description	Detailed Description	Does this Field Autopopulate or Default?	Public or Private View?	Required to Create an Event?	Required to Complete an Event?
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Species Diagnosis	List of Options	To determine what diagnoses to provide for situational awareness, consider the following criteria: 1.) Diagnosis has been determined by a wildlife professional to be an ultimate (or underlying) cause of death or morbidity in at least one specimen examined 2.) Any reportable disease as listed by OIE or USDA 3.) those diagnoses deemed significant by the user or organization. Can select "Undetermined" if assessed and no diagnosis determined, or can leave blank. If correct diagnosis is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard.	To determine what diagnoses to provide for situational awareness, consider the following criteria: 1.) Diagnosis has been determined by a wildlife professional to be an ultimate (or underlying) cause of death or morbidity in at least one specimen examined 2.) Any reportable disease as listed by OIE or USDA 3.) those diagnoses deemed significant by the user or organization. Can select "Undetermined" if assessed and no diagnosis determined, or can leave blank. If correct diagnosis is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard. A diagnosis can only be listed once for a location and species combination. List of options originate from diagnosis table managed by the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.	No	Public	No	No
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Species Diagnosis Suspect	Checkbox	Indicates if species diagnosis is suspect or not.	Indicates if species diagnosis is suspect or not. If not suspect, a diagnosing lab must be listed (except for the "Undetermined" diagnosis, which can not be suspect). If one species has some individuals with a suspect diagnosis and other individuals with the non-suspect version of that same diagnosis, only list the non-suspect diagnosis.	Defaults to checked as "Suspect"	Public	No	No
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Basis of Diagnosis	List of Options	Indicates how species diagnosis was determined. Options are: "Circumstances such as site history, physical evidence, and/or clinical signs" - corresponds to least evidence for diagnosis; "Necropsy conducted by a wildlife health professional" - corresponds to mid-level evidence for diagnosis; "Necropsy and/or ancillary tests performed at a diagnostic laboratory" - corresponds to most evidence for diagnosis; "Unknown" - lack information to select another option.	Indicates how species diagnosis was determined. Options are: "Circumstances such as site history, physical evidence, and/or clinical signs" - corresponds to least evidence for diagnosis; "Necropsy conducted by a wildlife health professional" - corresponds to mid-level evidence for diagnosis; "Necropsy and/or ancillary tests performed at a diagnostic laboratory" - corresponds to most evidence for diagnosis; "Unknown" - lack information to select another option. Must be "Necropsy and/or ancillary tests performed at a diagnostic laboratory" if diagnosis is not suspect. If "Necropsy and/or ancillary tests performed at a diagnostic laboratory" is selected, then a diagnosing lab must be listed.	No	Private	No	Yes, if there is a species diagnosis
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Significance of Diagnosis for Species	List of Options	Indicates whether diagnosis was a "Cause of Death", "Cause of Sickness", "Incidental Finding", or of "Unknown" significance for the species at this location.	Indicates whether diagnosis was a "Cause of Death", "Cause of Sickness", "Incidental Finding", or of "Unknown" significance for the species at this location. Generally, it is the ultimate cause (or underlying cause) of sickness or death that is best to provide on WHISPer for situational awareness.	No	Private	No	Yes, if there is a species diagnosis
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Number Assessed	Number	Number of individual specimens laboratory tested or examined for a specific etiology. For morbidity/mortality events, specimens will be individual animals. For surveillance events, specimens might reflect individual animals and/or environmental samples. Across diagnoses, numbers are nonadditive.	Number of individual specimens laboratory tested or examined for a specific etiology. For morbidity/mortality events, specimens will be individual animals. For surveillance events, specimens might reflect individual animals and/or environmental samples. Across diagnoses, numbers are nonadditive. Within each species diagnosis, "Number with this Diagnosis" must be less than or equal to "Number Assessed".	No	Public	No	No
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Number with this Diagnosis	Number	Number of individual specimens with the selected diagnosis (can be a suspect diagnosis). For morbidity/mortality events, specimens will be individual animals. For surveillance events, specimens might reflect individual animals and/or environmental samples. Across diagnoses, numbers are nonadditive.	Number of individual specimens with the selected diagnosis (can be a suspect diagnosis). For morbidity/mortality events, specimens will be individual animals. For surveillance events, specimens might reflect individual animals and/or environmental samples. Across diagnoses, numbers are nonadditive. Within each species diagnosis, "Number with this Diagnosis" must be less than or equal to "Number Assessed".	No	Public	No	No
Create Event; Add Species Diagnosis subform	Lab	List of Options	Laboratory(ies) providing the diagnoses for a species at this location. If correct laboratory is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard.	Laboratory(ies) providing the diagnoses for a species at this location. List of options originate from records listed as laboratories in organizations table managed by the USGS National Wildlife Health Center. If correct laboratory is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard. Can have multiple labs for one diagnosis.	No	Public	No	No
Create Event	Location Comment	Free Text	Observations of landscape and animals at this location to aid interpretation of data and to potentially guide cause of death determination and management actions. Text in at least one of the main comment categories is required. Options are: "History" - chronological description of current observational information leading up to finding sick or dead wildlife, plus historical information about past events; "Site Description" - animal and human land use (e.g., other species present, hunting and agricultural activities), habitat types (e.g., vegetation, water features), nearby structures (e.g., buildings, power lines, wind turbines), public health warnings, or other major characteristics of the area; "Environmental Factors" - storms, precipitation, temperature changes, migration, toxins, or other factors that may contribute to stress in the animals; "Clinical Signs" - any unusual behavior or physical appearance in the animals. "Additional Comment" text is optional.	Observations of landscape and animals at this location to aid interpretation of data and to potentially guide cause of death determination and management actions. Text in at least one of the main comment categories is required. Options are: "History" - chronological description of current observational information leading up to finding sick or dead wildlife, plus historical information about past events; "Site Description" - animal and human land use (e.g., other species present, hunting and agricultural activities), habitat types (e.g., vegetation, water features), nearby structures (e.g., buildings, power lines, wind turbines), public health warnings, or other major characteristics of the area; "Environmental Factors" - storms, precipitation, temperature changes, migration, toxins, or other factors that may contribute to stress in the animals; "Clinical Signs" - any unusual behavior or physical appearance in the animals. "Additional Comment" text is optional and gets an "Other" comment type tag when viewed on the Event Details page.	No	Private	Yes, in at least one of the comment categories	No
Create Event; Add Contact subform	Contact Person	List of Options	People to potentially contact about this location because they might have relevant information. Select from previously entered contact ("Add Contact") or enter a new person into address book ("Create New Contact").	People to potentially contact about this location because they might have relevant information. Select from previously entered contact (Add Contact) or enter a new person into address book ("Create New Contact").	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Add Contact subform	Contact Type	List of Options	Contact person's role at this location. Options are: "Field" - this person might have information about what is going on in the field; "Diagnosis" - this person might have information about the diagnostics; "Media" - this person is a media/news/outreach professional; "Private" - this person is not affiliated with an agency (e.g., private citizen).	Contact person's role at this location. Options are: "Field" - this person might have information about what is going on in the field; "Diagnosis" - this person might have information about the diagnostics; "Media" - this person is a media/news/outreach professional; "Private" - this person is not affiliated with an agency (e.g., private citizen).	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	First Name	Free Text	Can use full first name or nickname.	Can use full first name or nickname.	No	Private	Yes, if creating a new contact	Yes, if creating a new contact
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Last Name	Free Text	Surname.	Surname.	No	Private	Yes, if creating a new contact	Yes, if creating a new contact
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Email Address	Free Text	Email address, preferably work account.	Email address, preferably work account.	No	Private	Yes, if creating a new contact	Yes, if creating a new contact

Form	Field Name	Field Type	Short Description	Detailed Description	Does this Field Autopopulate or Default?	Public or Private View?	Required to Create an Event?	Required to Complete an Event?
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Phone Number	Free Text	Phone number, preferably work number.	Phone number, preferably work number.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Title	Free Text	Prefix to their name; e.g., Dr., Mrs., Special Agent.	Prefix to their name; e.g., Dr., Mrs., Special Agent.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Position	Free Text	Job position; e.g., refuge manager, virology lab technician.	Job position; e.g., refuge manager, virology lab technician.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Organization	List of Options	Organization where contacts works. If correct organization is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard or enter free text in the "Company/Business/Affiliation" field.	Organization where contacts works. If correct organization is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard or enter free text in the "Company/Business/Affiliation" field. List of options originate from organizations table managed by the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Create New Contact subform	Company/Business/Affiliation	Free Text	Contact's company or other affiliation, if not part of one of the organizations listed in the "Organization" field.	Contact's company or other affiliation, if not part of one of the organizations listed in the "Organization" field.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Event Diagnosis	List of Options	The overall main reason(s) for illness and/or death across all locations and species and thus the major cause(s) of the event, or a diagnosis deemed significant enough to list at the event level for situational awareness. Options presented are those diagnoses entered at the species level. If nothing else selected by user, defaults to "Pending" for "Incomplete" events or "Undetermined" for "Complete" events.	The overall main reason(s) for illness and/or death across all locations and species and thus the major cause(s) of the event, or a diagnosis deemed significant enough to list at the event level for situational awareness. Options presented are those diagnoses entered at the species level. If nothing else selected by user, defaults to "Pending" for "Incomplete" events or "Undetermined" for "Complete" events.	Defaults to "Pending" for "Incomplete" events or "Undetermined" for "Complete" events	Public	Yes	Yes
Create Event	Event Comment	Free Text	Observations or communications relevant to the entire event that aid interpretation of the data.	Observations or communications relevant to the entire event to aid interpretation of the data.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Event Comment Type	List of Options	Flags comment as belonging to a certain category. Options are: "Field Update" - observation from the field as the event is ongoing; "Management" - disease management actions considered or performed; "Epidemiological" - epidemiological context or patterns; "Diagnostic" - laboratory diagnostic updates; "Other" - any other comments that do not fit within one of the other categories in this list.	Flags comment as belonging to a certain category. Options are: "Field Update" - observation from the field as the event is ongoing; "Management" - disease management actions considered or performed; "Epidemiological" - epidemiological context or patterns; "Diagnostic" - laboratory diagnostic updates; "Other" - any other comments that do not fit within one of the other categories in this list.	Defaults to "Field Update"	Private	No	No
Create Event	Service Request	List of Options	Options are: "No services needed at this time" - user wants to enter an event but does not need consultative or diagnostic services from USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC); "Request diagnostic and consultative services" - user has specimens that they want to submit to NWHC for diagnostic evaluation; "Request consultative services ONLY" - user does not have specimens to submit to NWHC but would like advice on disease management, personal protective gear, etc.	Options are: "No services needed at this time" - user wants to enter an event but does not need consultative or diagnostic services from USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC); "Request diagnostic and consultative services" - user has specimens that they want to submit to NWHC for diagnostic evaluation; "Request consultative services ONLY" - user does not have specimens to submit to NWHC but would like advice on disease management, personal protective gear, etc. If user selects "Request diagnostic and consultative services", a prompt is displayed asking user to provide details of specimens available in the service request comment section.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event	Service Request Comment	Free Text	User and USGS National Wildlife Health Center provide comments related to diagnostic and/or consultative service request.	User and USGS National Wildlife Health Center provide comments related to diagnostic and/or consultative service request.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Select User for Collaborator List subform	Collaborators - Add Individual	List of Options	Natural Resource Management Professionals to collaborate with on this event. Individuals users can be invited to have "read only access" or "read and write access." Select from previously entered contact ("Get Email Address from Contacts") or enter an email as free text to search for a WHISPers user. If email address is not associated with an authorized WHISPers user account, potential collaborator must create WHISPers login before they can collaborate.	Natural Resource Management Professionals to collaborate with on this event. Collaborators can be invited to have "read only access" or "read and write access." Select from previously entered contact ("Get Email Address from Contacts") or enter an email as free text to search for a WHISPers user. If email address is not associated with an authorized WHISPers user account, potential collaborator must create WHISPers login before they can collaborate.	No	Private	No	No
Create Event; Choose Circle subform	Collaborators - Add Circle	List of Options	Predefined group of Natural Resource Management Professionals to collaborate with on this event. User circles can be invited to have "read only access" or "read and write access." Options are based on individuals grouped into circles via the "Circles" tab in the dashboard.	Predefined group of Natural Resource Management Professionals to collaborate with on this event. User circles can be invited to have "read only access" or "read and write access." Options are based on individuals grouped into circles via the "Circles" tab in the dashboard.	No	Private	No	No
Event Details	Event ID	Number	Unique identifier for an event.	Unique identifier for an event.	Autopopulates	Public	Yes	Yes
Event Details	Event Start Date	Date	Beginning date of the event (considering all locations).	Beginning date of the event (considering all locations). Earliest date from locations to be used at event level. Not editable at event level. MM/DD/YYYY	Autopopulates	Public	Yes	Yes
Event Details	Event End Date	Date	Ending date of the event (considering all locations).	Ending date of the event (considering all locations). If 1 or more location end dates is blank then WHISPers will leave event end date blank, otherwise WHISPers will display latest date from locations. Not editable at event level. MM/DD/YYYY	Autopopulates	Public	No	Yes
Event Details	Number Affected	Number	Total number affected in event. A count of sick plus dead animals for a morbidity/mortality event and a count of positives for a surveillance event.	Total number affected in event. A count of sick plus dead animals for a mortality/morbidity event (using either known or estimated numbers, whichever is higher) and a count of positives for a surveillance event. Not editable at event level.	Autopopulates	Public	Yes	Yes
Event Details	Flyway	List of Options	United States Fish and Wildlife Service administrative Flyway at this location.	United States Fish and Wildlife Service administrative Flyway at this location. Options are: Atlantic Americas, Mississippi Americas, Central Americas, and Pacific Americas. Options are selected by comparing latitude and longitude entered (or by using latitude and longitude of county centroid if no specific location latitude/longitude provided) with information found at https://ecos.fws.gov/ServCat/Reference/Profile/42276 .	Autopopulates	Public	No	No
Event Details	NWHC Carcass Submission Approval	List of Options	For USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) to fill out after a diagnostic service request has been received. Options are: "Yes" - service request has been approved; "No" - service request has not been approved; "Maybe" - service request might be approved but NWHC needs more information via comments.	For USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) to fill out after a diagnostic service request has been received. Options are: "Yes" - service request has been approved; "No" - service request has not been approved; "Maybe" - service request might be approved but NWHC needs more information via comments. Only USGS National Wildlife Health Center can create, update, or delete; partners can read as permissions allow.	No	Private	No	No
Event Details	Location Comment	Free Text	Observations or communications relevant to this location that aid interpretation of the data.	Observations or communications relevant to this location to aid interpretation of the data.	No	Private	No	No

Form	Field Name	Field Type	Short Description	Detailed Description	Does this Field Autopopulate or Default?	Public or Private View?	Required to Create an Event?	Required to Complete an Event?
Event Details	Location Comment Type	List of Options	Flags comment as belonging to a certain category. Options are: "History" - chronological description of current observational information leading up to finding sick or dead wildlife, plus historical information about past events; "Site Description" - animal and human land use (e.g., other species present, hunting and agricultural activities), habitat types (e.g., vegetation, water features), nearby structures (e.g., buildings, power lines, wind turbines), public health warnings, or other major characteristics of the area; "Environmental Factors" - storms, precipitation, temperature changes, migration, toxins, or other factors that may contribute to stress in the animals; "Clinical Signs" - any unusual behavior or physical appearance in the animals; "Field Update" - observation from the field as the event is ongoing; "Management" - disease management actions considered or performed; "Epidemiological" - epidemiological context or patterns; "Diagnostic" - laboratory diagnostic updates; "Other" - any other comments that do not fit within one of the other categories in this list.	Flags comment as belonging to a certain category. Options are: "History" - chronological description of current observational information leading up to finding sick or dead wildlife, plus historical information about past events; "Site Description" - animal and human land use (e.g., other species present, hunting and agricultural activities), habitat types (e.g., vegetation, water features), nearby structures (e.g., buildings, power lines, wind turbines), public health warnings, or other major characteristics of the area; "Environmental Factors" - storms, precipitation, temperature changes, migration, toxins, or other factors that may contribute to stress in the animals; "Clinical Signs" - any unusual behavior or physical appearance in the animals; "Field Update" - observation from the field as the event is ongoing; "Management" - disease management actions considered or performed; "Epidemiological" - epidemiological context or patterns; "Diagnostic" - laboratory diagnostic updates; "Other" - any other comments that do not fit within one of the other categories in this list.	No	Private	No	No
Registration	Username	Free Text	Login username.	Login username.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	First Name	Free Text	Can use full first name or nickname.	Can use full first name or nickname.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Last Name	Free Text	Surname.	Surname.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Email Address	Free Text	Email address, preferably work account for Natural Resources Management Professionals.	Email address, preferably work account for Natural Resources Management Professionals.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Password	Free Text	Password must be at least 12 characters long and contain at least one: Lowercase letter (a, b, c, ..., z) Number (0, 1, 2, ..., 3) Symbol (!, #, @, etc.)	Password must be at least 12 characters long and contain at least one: Lowercase letter (a, b, c, ..., z) Number (0, 1, 2, ..., 3) Symbol (!, #, @, etc.)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Terms of Use	Checkbox	Natural Resource Management Professionals are required to check this box acknowledging the terms of use before becoming authorized WHISPer users.	Natural Resource Management Professionals are required to check this box acknowledging the terms of use before becoming authorized WHISPer users. The Terms of Use are: The USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) conducts wildlife disease investigations in conjunction with state, federal, tribal, academic, and international partners and WHISPer provides a collaborative web-based interface for data entry and communication about wildlife health events. By using this site to request diagnostic assistance from NWHC, the user acknowledges that they maintain appropriate federal or state authority for collection and shipment of wildlife specimens By default, basic summary information such as county location, species affected, and diagnosis will be made publicly available. We recognize the sensitive nature of aspects of these investigations, including but not limited to the precise location(s) of threatened or endangered species or sensitive habitats. Therefore, registered natural resource management professionals entering data to WHISPer can choose to limit the visibility of sensitive data. In order to maintain the integrity of the database and information served through it, a limited number of staff at NWHC will be able to see all data entered.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Organization	List of Options	Organization where user works. If correct organization is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard or enter free text in the "Comment" field.	Organization where user works. If correct organization is not in dropdown, request a new option via the dashboard or enter free text in the "Comment" field. List of options originate from organizations table managed by the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Role	List of Options	Role being requested by registering user. Options are: "User" - can submit data, edit self-created data, and view non-public data within own organization; "Manager" - anything a "User" can do, plus can edit any data within own organization; "Administrator" - anything a "Manager" can do, plus can validate and delete users and user info within own organization.	Role being requested by registering user. Options are: "User" - can submit data, edit self-created data, and view non-public data within own organization; "Manager" - anything a "User" can do, plus can edit any data within own organization; "Administrator" - anything a "Manager" can do, plus can validate and delete users and user info within own organization.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Registration	Comment	Free Text	Any additional comment or explanation to accompany the registration request.	Any additional comment or explanation to accompany the registration request.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dashboard: Request New Item subform	Item Type to Request	List of Options	WHISPer pick list that needs new addition.	WHISPer pick list that needs new addition. Options are: "New Species"; "New Organization"; "New Diagnosis".	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dashboard: Request New Item subform	New Request Details	Free Text	What is being requested; e.g., "add northern cricket frog (<i>Acris crepitans</i>)" to species list or "add chytridiomycosis caused by <i>Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans</i> " to diagnosis list.	What is being requested; e.g., "add northern cricket frog (<i>Acris crepitans</i>)" to species list or "add chytridiomycosis caused by <i>Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans</i> " to diagnosis list.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dashboard: Create New Event Group subform	Event Group ID	Number	Unique identifier for an event group.	Unique identifier for an event group. Identifier has prefix of "G" for "group" to distinguish this number from the event ID. Only USGS National Wildlife Health Center can create, update, or delete; public and partners can read as permissions allow.	Autopopulates	Public	No	No
Dashboard: Create New Circle subform	Circle Name	Free Text	Short name for the user circle.	Short name for the user circle.	N/A	Private	No	No
Dashboard: Create New Circle subform	Circle Description	Free Text	Description of the user circle.	Description of the user circle.	N/A	Private	No	No