### Background

- Black vultures are known opportunistic hunters and have a history of livestock depredation.
- Black vulture populations are expanding into the Midwest, increasing conflicts with agricultural producers.
- Current understanding of producer perceptions of vultures related to economic costs (loss of cattle or property damage), have not studied drivers of this conflict.

### Results

- Tangible costs were not significantly associated with tolerance of black vulture populations.
- Intangible costs, utilitarian wildlife value orientation and habits had a significant negative influence on tolerance.
- Perceived ecological benefits and mutualistic wildlife value orientations had significant positive influence on tolerance.

### Discussion

- Social not economic factors are driving black vulture tolerance.
- Results demonstrate the importance of understanding the human dimensions of human wildlife conflict.
-Future policy related to black vultures should take into account how underlying values and habits are driving low tolerance and consider how we can leverage the ecological role of black vultures in improving tolerance.

### Framework

- I utilized Kansky et al. (2016) Wildlife Tolerance Model which incorporates potential drivers of tolerance, that include economic, psychological and sociological drivers.

### Methods

- Surveys were distributed utilizing Dilman’s method through livestock related organizations and associations in Kentucky and Indiana.
- Surveys were conducted online through Qualtrics and in person. Resulted in 220 responses.
- A Partial Least Squared Structural Equation Model (PLS-SEM) was used to analyze drivers in Stata SE16.

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**Photo credit: Brooke McWherter**