

Fish Health Section



The official link to the FHS website is: <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/>

FHS NEWS

REMINDER!! - please bookmark the new FHS website! We still have not been able to take down the old FHS website which is outdated and inaccurate.

AFS Fish Health Section Facebook Site

The FHS now has a Facebook Page (<https://facebook.com/FishHealthSectionAFS>). Please 'Like' and follow us! Social media is expanding in the scientific arena, and we hope to expand our use for promoting meetings, sharing information, etc. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ben LaFrentz (benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov).

Volunteer Needed for AFS Special Committee on Standard Methods

Jesse Trushenski, past AFS President, recently contacted me concerning having a FHS member serve on a special committee through the parent society. Scott Bonar, current AFS President, has included the development and promotion of standard methods as part of his plan of work as AFS President. He has appointed Jesse as chair of a special committee to develop a process by which standard methods should be proposed, vetted, and approved by the Society.

Jesse indicated the following concerning the committee:

As for the goals of the committee, I would consider it to be an exploratory committee charged with identifying the pros and cons of establishing a formal process for proposing, vetting, and approving (or not) methods at the Society level. We will examine how other organizations go about this and propose a structure/process, i.e., how are methods proposed for consideration, who evaluates them and recommends approval/disapproval, and who ultimately makes the approval decision. There are plenty of organizations that do this sort of thing, and they all have a similar process. Our role is to identify what process might work for AFS and to determine what the consequences, positive or negative, of establishing a formal standardization procedure might be. I am trying to make sure we have the right people on the committee to provide all the necessary perspectives. For example, I can foresee some implications for publishing in AFS journals (i.e., does it become harder to publish in our journals if you use non-standard methods?), so I've asked for a representative from the

Publications Overview Committee. Given that the FHS already does this sort of this with the Blue Book, I think it would be helpful to have those views represented on the committee. So, ideally, the name you provide me should be someone who's been involved with the Blue Book revisions and whatnot, though the QA/QC group would have valuable insights, too.

Jesse doesn't believe the committee work being particularly onerous, just a few conference calls and a bit of homework to evaluate how other organizations approach method validation and endorsement. The important part is that the AFS establishes a process that is fair, transparent, and rigorous. Further, the special committee won't be vetting any methods themselves, but rather defining who will be doing the vetting and how they will do so in the future.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider serving on this special committee. Also I would appreciate it if you have any suggestions for someone who would have the experience with the Blue Book and potential interest in serving. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact me at <mailto:benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov>.

Ben LaFrentz

Recruiting and Student Involvement Committee

A new career profile has been posted to the Student and Early Career members page. You can read more about Nicole Nietlisbach and her career as a fish vet at <http://afs-fhs-students.blogspot.com/2020/01/nicole-nietlisbach-is-veterinarian-at.html>. If you would like to be featured, please email Amy Long long.amy.80@gmail.com.

2020 FHS Elections

Start thinking about who you would like to nominate this year. Nominations will be accepted from February 3rd through February 28th for the following positions:

Vice President
Nominating and Balloting Committee (1 position)
Professional Standards (1 position)
Policy/Position Development (1 position)
Technical Standards (2 positions)

Submit nominations to the Nominating and Balloting Committee Chair, Derek Gibbs gibbsgo@oregonstate.edu

Additions to the Website in 2020

In this new year we've made several additions to the section website. We added a page for students under the "About" tab. There you can find scholarship info, awards, and a link to the Student and Early Career Member site. We've also uploaded archived

quarterly newsletters from 1972 - 2007. These contain a good dose of fish health comics, grey literature, and self-effacing humor. I recommend the article "Fish Health Section: The First Five Years (1973 to 1977) and a Little Before That" in 34(3) 2006. It covers the inception of this section, almost five decades ago!

If you'd like any changes or additions to the website, please email me at americub@oregonstate.edu.

Cheers, Ben Americus

Call for Symposia at the American Fisheries Society 150th Annual Meeting in Columbus, OH

The parent society is seeking additional proposals for symposia to be held at the 150th Annual Meeting of American Fisheries Society.

The American Fisheries Society will host its 150th Annual Meeting in Columbus, Ohio, during August 30 – September 3, 2020. This meeting will celebrate the past, present, and future of fisheries research and management, bringing together a diverse group of academics, researchers, private industry professionals, management agency personnel, and students.

If anyone is attending this meeting and interested in organizing a symposium, please visit the following website: <https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/call-for-papers/>.

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO HOST THE 9th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH SEPTEMBER 4 - 8, 2022

The American Fisheries Society's Fish Health Section is soliciting proposals to host the 9th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health (ISAAH-9), September 4 - 8, 2022. This stimulating gathering of international aquatic animal health professionals occurs every four years, most recently in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island (Canada) with over 500 attendees representing 34 countries. In the past participating professional societies have included the American Association of Fish Veterinarians, the World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association, the European Association of Fish Pathologists, the Japanese Society of Fish Pathology, and the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine, and sponsors have encompassed industry supporters, academic institutions, and government agencies.

Organizations and individuals interested in submitting a bid to host ISAAH-9 are welcome to contact Gary Marty at <mailto:Gary.Marty@gov.bc.ca> before June 1, 2020. For more details, please see attached announcement.

**61st Western Fish Disease Workshop
Hood River, Oregon
June 15-18, 2020**

Best Western Plus Hood River Inn Conference Center
<http://www.hoodriverinn.com/>
1108 East Marina Way, Hood River, OR 97031
TOLL FREE: 800-828-7873
PHONE: 541-386-2200

Workshop and CE Session: The two day Western Fish Disease Workshop will cover all aspects of the health of wild and cultured fish and shellfish. Following the conclusion of the Western Fish Disease Workshop a continuing education session will occur, TBD. Details for both the workshops and CE session will be updated shortly.

Tentative schedule:

Monday June 15

Evening: Welcome, Registration, Clinical Conundrums

Tuesday June 16

Morning: General Session

Afternoon: General Session

Evening: Poster Session

Wednesday June 17

Morning: General Session

Afternoon: General Session

Evening: Banquet

Thursday June 18

Morning and Afternoon: CE Session

Travel: Flights into PDX Portland International Airport. Hood River is 1 hour East of PDX Airport and there are a variety of transportation options available. Information can be found on the AFS Website at <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/wfdw/>

**AFS-FHS and Northeast Fish Health Committee Joint Meeting
June 22-26, 2020
Burlington, VT**

“Applying Research: Bridging the Gap Between Aquatic Animal Health Research and Inspections”

The 2020 Annual Meeting of the AFS Fish Health Section will be held jointly with the Northeast Fish Health Committee (NEFHC) for the first time on June 22-26, 2020 in Burlington, VT! The theme for the meeting is "Applying Research: Bridging the Gap Between Aquatic Animal Health Research and Inspections". The venue for the meeting is the [Hilton Burlington Lake Champlain](#) which has newly renovated guest rooms and meeting spaces. The Hilton is only one block from beautiful Lake Champlain and only

three blocks from the Church Street Marketplace - Vermont's award-winning open-air mall featuring over 100 places to shop and dine.

The FHS looks forward to co-hosting this meeting with the NEFHC and provides a tremendous opportunity for learning more about fish health research and topics unique to the Northeast US and provides an opportunity to attract our Canadian colleagues to the meeting.

The meeting will begin on June 22-23 with the Northeast Fish Health Committee Meeting, a Continuing Education Course will be provided on June 23, and the FHS meeting will occur on June 24-26. We are planning at least two special sessions: (1) "Fish Health Research/Topics in the Northeast US, and (2) "Current Status of Fish Health Regulations and Testing Criteria for Aquatic Animal Movements in the Northeastern US & Canada". Additionally, a half to full day of Continuing Education is being planned for June 23rd and more details will be provided in the future.

For updates and more information please see the first [announcement](#), check the Meeting [Website](#) and like us on [Facebook](#)!

Health and Colony Management of Laboratory Fish

August 9-14, 2020

MDI Biological Laboratory

Bar Harbor, Maine

Link: <https://mdibl.org/course/health-and-colony-management-of-laboratory-fish-2020/>

This is a short course for veterinarians, technicians, trainees, principal investigators, and core managers who utilize or plan to utilize fish models in laboratory research. The course is directed by Michael Kent, Ph.D., College of Veterinary Medicine, Oregon State University. Course faculty include: Rodman G. Getchell, Ph.D., Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine; Christian Lawrence, M.S., Children's Hospital Boston; and Jan Spitsbergen, DVM, Ph.D., DACVP, Department of Microbiology, Oregon State University.

The course is offered at the MDI Biological Laboratory, located in Bar Harbor, Maine on Mount Desert Island, the home of Acadia National Park. It is intended to help laboratory technicians, researchers, and veterinarians monitor and maintain the health of a colony of aquatic organisms, focusing on zebrafish. This course is appropriate for veterinarians and veterinary trainees, as well as technical staff, students, postdocs, and investigators.

The course consists of lectures, laboratory exercises with a high faculty to student ratio, and discussion. During the course, there are ample opportunities for students to discuss unusual and/or unsolved diagnostic case experiences from their home laboratories as problem-solving exercises.

This course is now approved by the AAVSB RACE (American Association of Veterinary State Boards Registry of Approved Continuing Education) to offer a total of *33 CE* (Continuing Education) Credits to veterinarians and veterinary technicians. RACE approval is for the subject matter categories of both category 1 (Scientific) and 3 (Non-Scientific-Practice Management/Professional Development).

For more information, visit the MDI Biological Laboratory course page <https://mdibl.org/education/courses/> or email the Education Office at education@mdibl.org. See attached pdf for flyer.

JOBS/GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Center Director

**USGS Western Fisheries Research Center
Seattle, WA**

Extended to 2/18/20

Link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/554647700>

As a Center Director, Supervisory Biologist or Supervisory Physical Scientist, within the Western Fisheries Research Center (WFRC), some of your specific duties will include:

- Responsibility for all aspects of the leadership, administration, operation, and management of WFRC.
- Leads and develops collaborations with other USGS Science Centers, other Federal and State agencies, universities, Tribes, and non-governmental organizations.
- Plans, coordinates, executes, and manages broad, multi-disciplinary programs of research, inventory, monitoring and information management.
- The research program of the Center includes multi-disciplinary studies such as: aquatic habitats and ecosystems, genetics, physiology, propagation, and health; and molecular, species, and population genetics within these ecosystems.
- Plans and evaluates long range programs and projects where issues and factors to be considered are largely undefined or controversial and, therefore, require extensive analysis to determine the nature and scope of the problems.

Natural Resource Specialist 3 (Fish Health Specialist-La Grande)

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Permanent Position

Initial deadline extended until January 21, 2020, open until filled

Link for external applicants: https://oregon.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/SOR_External_Career_Site/job/La-Grande-Fish-Research---ODFW/Natural-Resource-Specialist-3--Fish-Health-Specialist-REQ-26574-1

Graduate Research Assistantship – Masters, Shellfish Aquaculture – Vibrio Control/Disinfection
Delaware State University

A Master's level assistantship is available starting in Spring 2020, and will be filled as soon as a suitable candidate is identified. This assistantship is being funded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Educational Partnership Program (EPP) with Minority Serving Institution and comes with a \$21,000/year stipend plus tuition assistance. The selected candidate will also participate in a NOAA Experiential Research & Training Opportunities (NERTO), a 12-week internship at a cooperating NOAA lab during their graduate training.

DESCRIPTION

Shellfish farming is America's fastest-growing marine aquaculture sector. However, growers and regulators are experiencing more stringent post-harvest treatment requirements because of increased public health concerns about illness related to consuming raw shellfish. The most dangerous pathogens in domestic bivalve shellfish are *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and *V. vulnificus*, and are an increasing concern both for human health and the sustainability of a rapidly expanding half-shell industry. DSU is working with a number of partners including the DE Sea Grant, DE Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, private shellfish growers, and commercial technology companies to develop practical, on-farm solutions. With the recent initiation of shellfish aquaculture in Delaware's Inland Bays and growing concerns over vibrios, the selected candidate will explore various vibrio control strategies, both pre- and post-harvest, for possible implementation in DE, the region and nationally.

QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum: Bachelor's degree in aquaculture, fisheries, animal husbandry, biology, microbiology or a related field with a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher, and GRE scores. Students with strong quantitative and writing skills are encouraged to apply. U.S. citizenship is required.

APPLICATION

Position is open until filled. To be considered, applicants must submit a personal statement that includes a description of their research interests and prior experiences, a CV, an unofficial copy of their undergraduate transcripts and GRE scores, and three letters of recommendation directly to Dennis McIntosh. A single PDF file containing the requested information in preferred.

Dr. Dennis McIntosh, Professor and Extension Specialist - Aquaculture
Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources
Delaware State University
Phone: (302) 857-6456
Email: <mailto:dmcintosh@desu.edu>

Two Assistant Professorships in Virology

Oregon State University

Corvallis, OR

Full consideration by 1/31/20, open until filled

Oregon State University invites applications for two 9-month, full-time (1.0 FTE), tenure-track positions in the Department of Microbiology.

1. Aquatic virology. Areas of interest include existing and emerging infections of aquatic animals and plants, viral evolution, aquatic viromes, and the role of phage in microbiome regulation and disease management. A particular emphasis is on challenges in sustainable aquaculture and conservation of aquatic resources. For additional information and to apply: <https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/postings/86144>

2. Human virology. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, molecular and cellular virology, host-pathogen interactions, antivirals and vaccines, the human virome, epidemiology, ecology, and evolution. For additional information and to apply: <https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/postings/86139>

The successful candidates will be expected to establish a competitive research program in one of the indicated areas, teach undergraduate and graduate courses in microbiology, and participate in institutional and professional service. Collaborative and interdisciplinary research endeavors that could link to local initiatives in microbial pathogenesis, microbiome research, data science, and in case of the aquatic virology position also aquatic animal health and marine biology, are encouraged. OSU is an AA/EOE. Date for full consideration is 31 January 2020.

Tenure Track Position - Veterinary Bacteriology

Department of Pathology and Microbiology - Atlantic Veterinary College

Closes 1/31/20

Link: <https://www.upei.ca/hr/competition/38a19>

The Department of Pathology and Microbiology at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), invites applications for a full-time tenure track faculty position in Veterinary Bacteriology. Appointment will be made at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor. UPEI is committed to teaching, service and research. The AVC has ~272 DVM students, over 60 graduate students, 70 full-time faculty, and a professional and technical team of 222 dedicated individuals. It has full accreditation by the AVMA/CVMA and delivers DVM, MVSc, MSc and PhD programs.

The successful candidate will have primary duties in the instruction of undergraduate and graduate courses in veterinary bacteriology and conduct independent and collaborative research in bacteriology. A more limited time allotment will go toward provision of professional service support in the AVC Diagnostic Services bacteriology laboratory. The diagnostic bacteriology laboratory at the AVC has state of the art

equipment and is staffed with a Clinical Bacteriologist and 3 staff members. It provides high quality service to both the AVC Teaching Hospital and clients from the four Atlantic Canadian provinces. We are looking for a candidate who is interested in contributing to ongoing efforts to expand and develop expertise in bacteriology and mycology at the AVC and UPEI.

**Assistant/Associate Professor – Aquatic Animal Health
Auburn University**

Link: <https://aufacultypositions.peopleadmin.com/postings/3861>

The School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences (<http://www.sfaas.auburn.edu>) at Auburn University seeks a scientist in the field of aquatic animal health. The position is a tenure-track appointment (80% research, 20% teaching; nine months per year) and will be filled at the rank of assistant or associate professor. The successful candidate will build an externally funded research program, contribute to the instructional program, and participate as a collaborator in the Southeastern Cooperative Fish Disease Project. Salary and start-up funds are negotiable. The target start date is August 16, 2020.

Zebrafish Related Job Announcements

<https://wiki.zfin.org/display/jobs/Zebrafish-Related+Job+Announcements>

**Fisheries and Aquaculture Extension Educator
Minnesota Sea Grant
Duluth, MN**

Link: <http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/news/2019/09/17>

Position Summary

The extension educator will be responsible for providing outreach and applied research on fisheries and aquaculture for the Minnesota Sea Grant Program. Preferred candidates will have experience and knowledge in fisheries and aquaculture. The educator will develop, conduct, and evaluate extension programming relevant to Sea Grant's mission and strategic plan. The educator will work closely with other Minnesota Sea Grant staff, University of Minnesota extension educators, and Sea Grant extension educators across the Great Lakes and nation who are involved in related issues. The educator will also work with appropriate state, federal and tribal agencies along with the commercial fishing and aquaculture industries. Supervision will come from Minnesota Sea Grant Associate Director for Outreach and the Minnesota Sea Grant Director.

RESOURCES/NEWS

New Aquaculture PhDs under major new partnership

News

UK.- The University of Stirling's Institute of Aquaculture (IoA) will benefit from a number of new PhD studentships after joining a major partnership funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

The IoA has received the funding from the UKRI's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), under its third phase of Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTPs).

Stirling joins the existing East of Scotland Biosciences Doctoral Training Partnership (EASTBIO) – led by the University of Edinburgh – and brings expertise in the field of aquaculture, given its strong research focus and international leadership in the area.

EASTBIO aims to link doctoral researchers working on dynamic challenges around food production with cutting-edge expertise and training in other novel and exciting areas of bioscience. It provides new opportunities for training and development around bioscience, renewable resources and clean growth. Across the partnership, 32 PhD students will be funded annually, over a period of five years.

Professor Dave Little, of the IoA, said: "We are excited to join the EASTBIO partnership and look forward to contributing to this important area of work while developing the next generation of bioscientists."

The EASTBIO partnership spans three thematic areas: aquaculture; bioscience for sustainable agriculture and food: livestock biology and health; and crop and soil science. It funds and trains PhD students across the whole spectrum of BBSRC research – tackling some of the major challenges facing our plant, including food security, clean growth and health' and developing our fundamental understanding of biology and new approaches and technologies.

It will drive improvements in how partners support students' wellbeing and enable students to join programmes from a diverse range of backgrounds. It also involves the Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee and St Andrews; as well as Scotland's Rural College, the Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre, James Hutton Institute and the Moredun Research Institute. Associate partners include the Scottish Life Sciences Alliance and the Cool Farms Alliance.

A total of £170 million will be invested in DTPs across the UK during this phase of UKRI-BBSRC funding –resulting in the appointment of 1,700 PhD researchers, over five years.

Professor Melanie Welham, UKRI-BBSRC's Executive Chair said: "The success of the UK's science sector and the consequent benefits to society and the economy relies on great researchers doing great work. Our Doctoral Training Partnerships have already supported the training of hundreds of early career scientists working at the cutting edge of biology and biotechnology. By continuing to fund, through this significant £170 million investment, vital training of the next generation of researchers we will help ensure that the UK consolidates its position as world-leader in this crucial sector."

The DTPs provide PhD training in areas of bioscience relevant to the remit and strategic research priority areas of BBSRC. They also provide a breadth of professional

development training opportunities to enhance the capabilities of doctoral candidates and develop a world-class, highly skilled workforce the UK needs for its future.

Source: University of Stirling

<https://www.aquahoy.com/en/news/33935-new-aquaculture-phds-under-major-new-partnership>

S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award Nomination Announcement

We would like to solicit nominations for the 2020 [S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award](#) (SDSA). As you know, the SDSA is the highest award presented by the Fish Health Section. It is presented for the purpose of honoring individuals for outstanding accomplishments in the field of aquatic animal health. This is a career award and while it may be given to more than one individual in a year, it is not necessarily awarded every year.

If you wish to nominate an individual for the SDSA please send nomination packages to the Awards Committee Chair (Luke Iwanowicz, liwanowicz@usgs.gov) by February 1, 2020. Awards recipient(s) will be honored at the [Annual Fish Health Section Meeting](#) in Burlington, VT this coming June.

Nomination packages must include:

1. Six letters of recommendation from fish health professionals that support the nominee's dedication to research, teaching and/or service to the field of aquatic animal health.
2. The nominee's curriculum vitae.
3. A general letter of recommendation by the primary nominator.

Additional guidance can be found on page 20 of the FHS [procedures manual](#)

Please feel free to contact members of the Awards Committee with questions.

Awards Committee

Luke Iwanowicz, Chair (liwanowicz@usgs.gov; 304.724.4550)

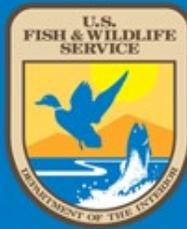
Cindy Stine (cstine@wesleyan.edu)

Joel Bader (joel_bader@fws.gov)

Nicole Nietlisbach (nicole.nietlisbach@wisconsin.gov)

Stacy A Strickland

From: US Fish and Wildlife Service Fisheries <USFWSFisheries@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 2:01 PM
To: stacy.a.strickland@state.or.us
Subject: January 2020 AADAP Update



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership, AADAP Update A Branch of the Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program



The AADAP Update provides recent news and updates from the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership program and its partners. For questions or to offer feedback, email [Julie Schroeter](mailto:Julie.Schroeter). For more about the AADAP Program, please [visit our web page](#). (Photo/NPS)

2020 Vision:

Happy New Year! The AADAP team is looking forward to another year of working with our partners to advance aquaculture drugs through the approval process. 2020 is going to be an exciting and productive year!

Our Newest Hire:

We're excited to announce that AADAP has filled a term position in the INAD program! Paige Maskill began her appointment with AADAP on January 6th, 2020. Paige earned her BS in Biological Science-Organismal Biology from Montana State University in 2015, and is working on her MS in the Dept. of Ecology-Fish and Wildlife Management at Montana State University. She has over five years of fisheries research experience, most recently as a graduate research associate with the Montana Fisheries Research Cooperative Unit in Bozeman, MT and Castlegar, B.C., Canada, where she studied the reproductive physiology of a hatchery-origin population of white sturgeon, and also conducted radioimmunoassays to quantify blood plasma sex steroid concentrations. We are excited to have Paige on board!

Approved Aquaculture Drug Fact of the Month:

Did you know Chorulon® by Merck Animal Health (Chorionic Gonadotropin) is approved for the improvement of spawning function in male and female brood finfish? For more information on dosing and limitations, please see AADAP's [Quick Desk Reference Guide to Approved Drugs for Use in Aquaculture](#). In addition, please check AADAP's [Resources Page](#) for recent drug approval updates.

Special Session at Aquaculture America 2020:

AADAP will co-host a special session with the AFWA Drug Approval Working Group (DAWG) at Aquaculture America 2020, to be held in Honolulu, HI from February 9th-12th, 2020. The "Aquaculture Drug Updates" special session will be held on February 10th from 1:30 PM-5:00 PM in room 317A of the Hawaii Convention Center. We look forward to seeing you there!

[Fish and Aquatic Conservation](#)
Contact us: fisheries@fws.gov



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FISH HEALTH SECTION
AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO HOST THE 9th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH SEPTEMBER 4 - 8, 2022

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Organizations and individuals interested in submitting a bid to host ISAAH-9 are welcome to contact **Gary Marty** at Gary.Marty@gov.bc.ca before **June 1, 2020**.

Suggested pre-conference and conference schedule:

Day 1:	Morning:	Fish Health Section Ex-com meeting Pre-Conference Workshops
	Afternoon:	Registration Pre-Conference Workshops
	Evening:	Registration and Ice Breaker

Day 2-4: Plenary speaker presentations, poster presentations, oral presentations

Day 5: Post Conference Workshops and Field Trips

Target number of attendees: **300 - 500**

Preference will be given to proposals that can host at least **400** attendees, and those who can coordinate the required accommodation needs of the conference. Typically, **60%** of conference attendees stay within the conference venue. Guests of attendees can be anticipated for at least **5%** of the attendees.

Please consider the following requirements for the conference.

1. Conference facilities overview and capacity:

The conference facilities should be able to accommodate the following requirements.

- Lecture room or auditorium to seat up to 300 at a minimum
- At least **3** smaller presentation rooms to seat up to **100** people.
- Technology to accommodate presentations by computer, internet access, and audiovisual equipment.
- Space for a registration / information desk /poster sessions
- Exhibitor / vendor space
- High Speed wireless internet access for the duration of the conference is preferred

2. Residential accommodations overview and capacity:

Please include a full description of prospective accommodations for attendees.

3. Conference-provided meals, catering, and reception:

The food and meal needs for the conference include the following items.

- Four breakfast buffets
- Four lunch buffets
- One full dinner (banquet, bar)
- One full opening reception (h'ordervers, bar)

4. Location details:

Please describe the location of the conference venue in relation to airports, train stations, and other transportation hubs, and the availability of parking.

5. Recommended conference-associated activities (e.g., tours, athletic runs):

Please briefly describe any activities that might be available for conference participants and or offsite events.