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FHS NEWS

RENEW YOUR FHS-AFS MEMBERSHIP!

JOURNAL OF AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH

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52ND ANNUAL WESTERN FISH DISEASE WORKSHOP

Happy New Year to everyone in the FHS! As another year begins it is time to start thinking of the annual meeting!

Please join us in Nanaimo, British Columbia for the joint Western Fish Disease Workshop/AFS FHS meeting from June 14-16, 2011 at the Vancouver Island Convention Centre (check out <http://www.viconference.com> for more information on the beautiful Island and all that it offers). A continuing education session on day 1 will be followed by 2 days plenary session. More information will be forthcoming.

However, before the meeting it is time to think of anyone you may wish to nominate for the Snieszko Distinguished Service Award. Information concerning this award is listed below. If you have someone in mind you would like to nominate, please start putting the packet together now and requesting letters of recommendation.

STUDENTS!!!

Don't delay in putting in your application for the Snieszko Student Travel Award! Please follow the new directions and submit the complete package no later than April 1, 2011.

Snieszko Distinguished Service Award

This is the highest award in the FHS presented for the purpose of honoring individuals for outstanding accomplishments in the field of aquatic animal health. The criteria for this award are as follows:

* Individuals to be considered for this award must be nominated by a current member of the FHS.

* Persons making nominations must obtain six letters of recommendation from fish health professionals that support the nominee's dedication to research, teaching an/or service to the field of aquatic animal health. The six letters along with the curriculum vitae for the nominee should be sent to the Award Committee with a letter of nomination.

* Because this is a career award, candidates should have a significant number of active years in science within the fish or shellfish health field as well as significant accomplishments, which are not limited to but can include the following examples:

- o Candidates should have a significant number of research publications in recognized peer reviewed journals and/or book chapters and books within the subject of fish or shellfish health.

- o A candidate must have been active in finfish and shellfish health research or diagnostics as indicated by significant publications and/or secured grants for graduate student thesis projects, and/or administration of a successful finfish or shellfish health program or laboratory.

- o Accomplishment by a candidate of a major discovery regarding a new finfish or shellfish disease or diseases and/or continued significant contributions to the understanding of a previously discovered disease or diseases.

- o Previous recognition by peer through other society, committee or distinguished service awards and/or by elected or appointed chair/presidential positions.

FHS members interested in nominating an individual for this award should send the required materials as described above to Deborah Iwanowicz no later than April 1, 2011.

Snieszko Student Travel Awards

This award, a sum of up to \$1000, is awarded to one or more students yearly to defray travel to the Annual FHS meeting to present a talk in the aquatic animal health field. The requirements from student applications are as follows:

- * Letter of application and statement of any special financial circumstances (i.e. not supported by a stipend, etc.)

- * Curriculum vitae must be submitted along with three letters of recommendation

- * Itemized budget on how money is to be spent, i.e. travel, meals, lodging and registration

- * Copy of abstract of paper to be presented

- * The student **MUST** be a member of the AFS/Fish Health Section

The applications will be judged by the following criteria:

- * Quality of abstract

- * Significance of/interest in the research

- * Academic achievement

- * Professional achievement

- * Financial need

Students interested in applying for the Sniezko Student Travel Awards should prepare an application packet containing the above items and put it in pdf format. Send complete pdf to Deborah Iwanowicz no later than April 1, 2011.

Pdf packet should include (in order): 1) Letter of application and statement of any special circumstances, 2) CV, 3) Three letters of recommendation, 4) Itemized budget, 5) Copy of abstract to be submitted.

Awards Contact:

Deborah Iwanowicz
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National Fish Health Research Laboratory
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Kearneysville, WV 25430
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**MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS - FOR INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER
UPCOMING MEETINGS GO TO THE WEBSITE:**

<http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs/meeting.php>

SALMON DISEASE WORKSHOP

Corvallis, Oregon
Anticipated Dates: July 11-22, 2011

More information will be available in a subsequent updated, but if you are interested, or have questions contact: Jerri Bartholomew
bartholj@science.oregonstate.edu

HEALTH AND COLONY MANAGEMENT OF LABORATORY FISH

Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory Bar Harbor, Maine
15 – 19 August 2011

Applications are being accepted for this 1-week educational opportunity for individuals with maintenance, management or research responsibilities in which fish are used as laboratory animals.
APPLICATION DEADLINE - JUNE 15, 2011.

The course is offered at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Salisbury Cove, Maine during the period of 15 - 19 August 2011. Topics to be discussed will include general system design and water quality management, anatomy and histology of fish, general fish diseases and disease management strategies. Infectious and non-infectious diseases common to all fish as well as specific

diseases of importance to laboratory-maintained zebrafish will be discussed. The course will consist of lecture, laboratory exercises and discussions. During the course there will be an opportunity for students to discuss unusual and/or unsolved diagnostic case experiences from their home laboratories as problem-solving exercises. The course should be particularly valuable to technical staff, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty and investigators needing skills to monitor the health of a colony of aquatic organisms.

For more information on the course, please see the course web site at:

http://www.mdibl.org/courses/Health_and_Colony_Management_of_Laboratory_Fish/182/

JOBS

<http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs/employment.php>

RESOURCES

NEWS

REQUEST FOR COMMENT: ANIMAL DRUGS

Please note this important Federal Register notice seeking comment on potential strategies to address the prevalence of animal drugs being marketed without approval or other legal status. I think you may find this very relevant and I encourage you to read these materials and comment if you have thoughts or suggestions!

In summary: FDA is concerned that the safety and effectiveness of these market products has not been demonstrated. FDA recognizes that the continued availability of a number of these products is important to meet the health needs of animals. FDA is requesting comments on approaches for increasing the number of currently marketed animal drug products that have legal marketing status. The Agency's focus at this time is not on revising the current new animal drug approval process. Instead, FDA is exploring additional mechanisms that utilize FDA's existing regulatory framework as well as novel strategies not currently employed by the Agency to increase the number of approved or otherwise legally marketed animal drugs. The Agency is also requesting comment on the use of limited enforcement discretion as an element of the overall strategy. The deadline for comments is February 18, 2011.

The FR notice can be found at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-31889.pdf>

VHS PROPOSED RULE

The Federal register contained an announcement about a VHS Proposed Rule (below). Word of the announcement has traveled far and wide and caused a lot of excitement, but this announcement is actually nothing new. Federal agencies are required by OMB to semi-annually publish a list of rules that they are working on. The appearance of VHS on the agenda means nothing more than that APHIS is still working on a VHS rule. It does not mean that the rule is complete or that its release is imminent. The December date that appears in the announcement is reportedly a clerical error.

188. VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA; INTERSTATE MOVEMENT AND IMPORT

RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN LIVE FISH

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1622; 7 USC 8301 to 8317; 21 USC 136 and 136a;

31 USC 9701

Abstract: We are establishing regulations to restrict the interstate movement and importation into the United States of live fish that are susceptible to viral hemorrhagic septicemia, a highly contagious disease of certain fresh and saltwater fish. Viral hemorrhagic septicemia has been detected in freshwater fish in several of the Great Lakes and related tributaries. The disease has been responsible for several large-scale die-offs of wild fish in the Great Lakes region.

This action is necessary to prevent further introductions into, and dissemination within, the United States of viral hemorrhagic septicemia. This proposed rule replaces a previously published but not effective interim rule that contained substantially different restrictions on the interstate movement and importation of VHS- susceptible live fish.

Timetable:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>FR Cite</u>
Interim Final Rule	09/09/08	73 FR 52173
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	11/10/08	
Interim Final Rule: Delay of Effective Date	10/28/08	73 FR 63867
Interim Final Rule Effective	01/09/09	
Interim Final Rule: Delay of Effective Date	01/02/09	74 FR 1
NPRM	12/00/10	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/11	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Christa Speekmann, Import/Export Specialist,
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