



Fish Health Section



The official link to the FHS website is: <http://www.afs-fhs.org/>
NEW WEBSITE!!!: www.afs-fhs.org

FHS NEWS

LISTSERV NOTICE

I plan to purge the listserv mailing list sometime in the near future, so please make sure that your membership is current. If you stop receiving this and you feel that is a mistake, please contact me. - Jerri

STUDENT SECTION

The Student Subcommittee is pleased to announce that the first member profile has been posted on the student web site. To read more about Nick Phelps, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Minnesota, go here <http://afs-fhs-students.blogspot.com/2012/10/student-profiles.html>.

We'd also like to remind advisors to encourage their students to sign up and get involved in the Fish Health Section. If you have any news/information you'd like posted on the website or would like to volunteer for the next profile, please contact Amy Long and Sarah McConnachie at student.section.fhs@gmail.com.

OTHER MEETINGS

JOBS

BIOLGIST III - FISH PATHOLOGIST

http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=nrsc_direct_hire_jobs&id=377475&v=article

Agency/Bureau: Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife - Bureau of Resource Management

Location: Augusta

Open: October 12, 2012 **Close:** November 2, 2012

Position Type: Permanent Full Time

Grade: 28 **Code:** 9353 **Position:** 01845-0551

Salary Range: \$48,713.60 - \$66,996.80 *salary - (*included 5.5% salary adjustment)

Benefits: Value of State's share of Employee's Retirement: 11.54% of pay - Value of State-paid Dental Insurance: \$13.69 biweekly

Value* of State-paid Health Insurance:

Level 1: 100% State Contribution (employee pays nothing): \$363.77 biweekly

Level 2: 95% State Contribution (employee pays 5%): \$345.58 biweekly

Level 3: 90% State Contribution (employee pays 10%): \$327.39 biweekly

Level 4: 85% State Contribution (employee pays 15%): \$309.20 biweekly *The level of

the actual value of state paid Health Insurance will be based on the employee's wage rate and status with regard to the health credit premium program as of July 1, 2011.

BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION: This is a full time position providing comprehensive fish pathology and fish health management for the State's freshwater fish culture facilities and for wild fish populations throughout the inland waters of the State. Responsibilities include fish health monitoring, diagnosis, and treatment of fish diseases or environmental disorders while overseeing operation the Fish Health Laboratory. The position evaluates fish health inspection reports from the aquaculture industry and reviews all fish importation and transfer permits for the Commissioner. This position is also responsible for assisting and advising the Department of Marine Resources on fish health rules, importation of marine organisms, health and safety issues regarding lobster bait, and for conducting fish pathology, epidemiology, and biosecurity investigations for both marine aquaculture and wild capture fisheries. Statewide travel is required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A Bachelors Degree in Biology, Fisheries Management, or related field -AND- four (4) years of progressively responsible experience in a related biological field, including experience in a supervisory capacity. Directly related work experience may be substituted for education on a year-for-year basis. Preference will be given to those with fisheries pathology experience and experience in fisheries diagnostics and treatment with an emphasis on salmonids.

APPLICATIONS PROCESS: Applicants must submit a Direct Hire Application form and **supplemental answers** to Thomas Cotnoir, Personnel Specialist, NRSC, SHS #155, Augusta, ME 04333. Employees who wish to transfer must send a memo or email of interest to Thomas Cotnoir. Applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm on the closing date of this posting.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH POSITION – AMPHIBIAN HEALTH AS AN INDICATOR OF ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

Department Of Veterinary Pathology
University of Saskatchewan

A post-doctoral researcher is being sought to assist with experimental design, data analysis, and manuscript preparation related to priority substances detected in environmental samples and wild amphibian tissue samples from the oil sands region of Alberta. Information from this component of the project is being integrated with other components of the project including infectious disease dynamics, malformation rates and biochemical indicators of chronic stress.

Background: The boreal forest ecosystem in northern Alberta plays host to several major industrial development projects including oil sands mining and upgrading. Although the province of Alberta, as well as the rest of Canada, derives substantial economic benefits from this natural resource, the poorly understood ecological effects of these operations have drawn scrutiny. My collaborators and I are investigating the effects of activities related to oil sands mining on the health of wild amphibian

populations in northern Alberta and south-eastern NWT. Amphibians are integral components of the boreal forest ecosystem, linking terrestrial and aquatic food webs as a result of their complex lifecycles. By understanding indirect and direct effects of oil sands mining related activities on wild amphibian populations it will be possible to develop protocols and procedures necessary to use amphibian populations as indicators of ecosystem health.

Qualifications: The successful applicant will have formal training and research experience in wetland ecology, amphibian ecology, environmental chemistry, or ecotoxicology, and demonstrated experience managing, analyzing and publishing projects that involve large ecological datasets. Previous experience with laboratory and/or field experiments that relate to ecologically relevant levels and forms of heavy metals, naphthenic acids, and/or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons is strongly preferred. Previous research or work experience related to the oil sands or other natural resource based industries will be considered an asset. Professionalism, attention to detail, competence in statistical software capable of dealing with large, complex datasets, and a strong drive to publish manuscripts is expected. Most datasets related to this position are already in-hand. Analyses of those datasets by the successful applicant will be used to inform the design and implementation of future field work. There may be opportunity for involvement in future field work although that is not a requirement or focus of this position. Proof of a completed PhD in a relevant discipline will be required prior to hiring.

Location: This position is based in the Department of Veterinary Pathology at the University of Saskatchewan, which is located in Saskatoon, SK. Multiple trips to Fort McMurray, AB, will be required; transportation and accommodation costs associated with travel between Saskatoon and Fort McMurray will be covered through the project. The Department of Veterinary Pathology has a strong culture of interdisciplinary research and collaboration, and is closely affiliated with several other departments within the University of Saskatchewan as well as the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre and Environment Canada. (Please note that a DVM degree is not required for this position.)

Salary: Salary for this position is \$44,000/year and will be managed in compliance with University of Saskatchewan regulations. Major funding and support for this position is being provided through Environment Canada, Keyano College, and The University of Saskatchewan. The position is currently funded for 1 year but may be extended depending on satisfactory progress and subsequent funding.

Review of applications will begin 15 October 2012 and continue until a suitable candidate is found. The successful applicant will begin as soon as possible – ideally as soon as early November 2012. Applications must include a brief cover letter highlighting qualifications for the position, current CV, and the names + contact information for 3 references.

Please submit your application materials, via email only, to: Dr. Danna Schock at [<danna.schock@keyano.ca>](mailto:danna.schock@keyano.ca)

NEWS AND RESOURCES

OIE CHAPTERS FOR REVIEW – see attached 5 files beginning GS 81 AAHSC

Dear Aquatic Animal Health Stakeholders,
The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission met in September 2012 to discuss amendments to the Aquatic Animal Health Code (Code). Attached are five (5) individual documents extracted from the report resulting from that meeting. I am sending the complete set to you for distribution to whomever you feel should see, review and comment on them. You may share them all or select specific individual documents for sending to the appropriate commodity/industry groups or other interested entities.

When submitting comments back to my office, please note the following due date and procedures:

- **Due date of December 14, 2012 for comment submission** on all of the attached documents to Paul.G.Egrie@aphis.usda.gov

-If you have comments on any of the attached documents, please utilize the following procedures in their preparation:

- a) identify the specific Article and text you are commenting on
- b) indicate the changes you believe should be made
- c) provide suggested language that should replace the changes you are making (if any)
- d) provide a scientific justification or rationale for such changes

All of the 5 documents are existing chapters in the Code that have been amended so please focus only on the changes with the exception of the Infectious Salmon Anemia (ISA) Chapter. The ISA chapter has been significantly edited such that all portions are open for comment. The OIE shows the proposed changes as text that is double underlined (new text) or text that has a strike-through (deleted text). Please comment only on these proposed changes. I will consider comments to other sections that are significant or important. The Chapters for comment are:

- 1) Glossary (Note: only the additional entry to the Glossary is in this document. All other entries for the Glossary remain the same)
- 2) Notification of Diseases and Epidemiological Information
- 3) Criteria for Listing Aquatic Animal Diseases
- 4) Diseases Listed by the OIE
- 5) Infectious Salmon Anemia

We will post the chapters for comment on the following Veterinary Services OIE web page within a few days at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/oie/

As always feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and also feel free to share these documents with others whom you believe would provide valuable input.

Thanks for your participation!

Gary

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### **CANADIAN ENFORCEMENT OF NEW AQUATIC ANIMAL IMPORT REGULATIONS TO START DECEMBER 10, 2012**

As of December 10, 2012, each shipment of aquatic animals or their products shipped from the U.S. to Canada must be accompanied by an import permit issued by Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), and a health certificate endorsed by USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). [Other countries will be similarly affected.]

On December 22, 2010, CFIA published changes to the Canadian Health of Animals Regulations and Reportable Diseases Regulations. These changes resulted in new import controls for aquatic animals that are listed in Schedule III of the regulations, covering hundreds of aquatic animal species. New phased-in import requirements for these animals will include the need for importers in Canada to obtain an import permit issued from CFIA, and for shipments of listed aquatic animals to be accompanied by a zoosanitary (health) certificate issued in the country of origin. This effort is focused on preventing the introduction, and/or spread within Canada, of certain animal diseases. The new regulations and list of regulated aquatic species (finfish, mollusk and crustacean), developed in a context of end-purposes and aquatic animal diseases, can be found at <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2010/2010-12-22/html/sor-dors296-eng.html>.

However, CFIA delayed the enforcement of the changes to the Health of Animals Regulations and Reportable Diseases Regulations until December 10, 2012 because of the potential for significant impact on international trade in aquatic animals. To assist, CFIA implemented a Stream of Commerce Policy starting December 10, 2011 to facilitate trade during a transition to enforcement on December 10, 2012. Additional information regarding the Stream of Commerce Policy is at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/aqua/20111118inde.shtml>.

Until December 10, 2012, U.S. exporters may ship aquatic animals listed in Schedule III of the Health of Animals Regulations without an import permit and zoosanitary/health certificate. However, exporters should be aware that the additional delay of enforcement does not eliminate the need to eventually comply with Canada's new regulations, and should carefully review the information at the website above to determine the relevance of these changes for their exported aquatic animals. Exporters are encouraged to work with their Canadian import counterparts regarding the exact import conditions that will come into effect for their specific exports in December 2012.

The Canadian regulated species and the diseases of concern are at:  
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/diseases/susceptible-species/eng/1327162574928/1327162766981>.

Three U.S. federal agencies that function as U.S. "Competent Authorities" for exported aquatic animals or products (the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [farmed animals], the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service [seafood, in cooperation with FDA-CFSAN]; and the U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Services [wild fisheries]) have worked with the CFIA on specific export requirements that will facilitate continued US trade in aquatic animals and products with Canada.

Two health certificates for "Aquatic Animals and Germplasm Intended for Culture" and "Live Ornamental Aquatic Animals Intended for Commercial Aquarium use in CLOSED Premises in Canada" certificates are nearly finalized and will be available in early November. The certificates will require specific statements testifying to a number of requirements. Currently required testifying statements or attestations are available at the APHIS International Animal Export Regulations (IREGS), under "Aquatic Animals" [see link below] and as additional attestations are agreed upon, they will also be posted to the IREGS link.

APHIS is also working closely with CFIA to establish zones of equal disease health status, and compartmentalization (management) equivalence programs to facilitate trade and provide alternative means for US exporters to meet CFIA requirements. APHIS anticipates some of these options will be available in 2013. For preliminary information on Canada's evolving program involving compartmentalization of aquatic animal premises see <http://tinyurl.com/99evrbg>.

For concerns or questions regarding specific exports from the US please contact the appropriate offices:

- Live aquatic animals intended for relay or rearing in Canada, please contact Dr. Christa Speekmann with APHIS National Center for Import and Exports (NCIE) Animals Export staff (301) 851- 3300, Option 2.
- Aquatic animals intended for direct retail or human consumption (seafood), please contact NOAA Seafood Inspection Program at (800) 422-2750.

- Aquatic products intended for bait and pet food, please contact APHIS NCIE Products staff at (301) 851- 3300, Option 6.

Source: USDA-APHIS International Animal Export Regulations (IREGS)  
([www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/animal\\_canada.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/animal_canada.shtml)).

**NEW BOOK ON FISH PARASITES - Parasites of continental fish of the Duero basin (NW Spain). An approach to aspects of the host-parasite relationships**  
<https://www.lap-publishing.com/catalog/details/store/gb/book/978-3-659-19188-6/fish-parasites-part-1?search=fish%20parasites>

Book language: English

Blurb/Shorttext: The increasing impact of some parasitoses on fish health and its economic relevance in aquaculture and fisheries has enhanced the need for studies on piscine parasites and on the fish-parasite relationships. Fish parasites are an important part of water ecosystems, and thus, changes in these habitats can affect the host-parasite equilibrium. The research teams led by the author have studied piscine parasites in Spanish waters since 1970. In this Part 1, the parasite fauna of continental fish (mainly salmonids and cyprinids), mostly collected in rives of the Duero basin (NW Spain) from 1970 to 1984, is presented, including 62 figures. After a brief reference to the pathological concern of some fish parasitoses, the population dynamics of the found parasites is analysed. The helminth fauna of macroinvertebrates of some rivers is also reported in relation to the helminth life cycles. Some recent findings on this filed in Spain and in other European countries are also commented and compared. This book is useful for students or graduates in Biological Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, and also for ecologists or ichthyologists interested in the role of parasites in aquatic habitats.

By (author) : Pilar Alvarez-Pellitero

**FDA - LETTER TO AQUACULTURE PROFESSIONALS**  
<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/SafetyHealth/ProductSafetyInformation/ucm324048.htm>

The website includes a table for a list of all FDA-approved fish drugs and an explanation of their status