

# Fish Health Section



## FHS NEWS – December 2023

**Fish Health Section website:** <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/>

**Fish Health Section Facebook Site:** <https://facebook.com/FishHealthSectionAFS>

**Fish Health Section Twitter feed:** @AFSFishHealth

Would you like your recent open-access publication featured on our Twitter feed? We would like to share one publication per week. Just fill out the form at: <https://forms.gle/NWVXEFOGcdYME6gh8>.

## Time to renew your AFS & FHS membership!

'Tis the end of the year and in case you've had too many holiday cookies and forgot, it's also time to renew your membership. This is your friendly annual reminder! If you'd like to continue to receive the FHS newsletter, don't forget to renew by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**.

## Pete Walker Tribute

Pete G. Walker: Retired Senior Fish Pathologist at the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory.

Peter Walker passed away peacefully on the night of November 22, 2023 with his wife and daughter by his side. Retired Fish Pathologist at Colorado Parks & Wildlife, he also worked in the same position at Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. Pete accomplished much in his career, but the impact he left on his colleagues and work friends is what we truly appreciate this kind and brilliant man for.

Pete was born on December 8, 1948 and grew up in Poland Spring, Maine where his family goes back many generations. He developed a strong appreciation for all things nature starting in early childhood. His keen species identification skills, which were a prominent part of his career and what helped make him an exceptional birder, began at a very young age - his grandmother taught him how to identify birds



starting at just three years old. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Zoology in 1970 from the University of Maine in Orono. He worked for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from 1972 to 1984, where he went from Fish Culturist to Assistant Fish Hatchery Manager to Fishery Management Biologist and finally State Fish Pathologist starting in 1977. In 1979, he completed the Leetown Long Course at the National Fish Health Research Laboratory and received a Certificate of Advanced Study in Fish Pathology.

In 1984, Pete and his family left verdant Maine for the vast open spaces and prairies of eastern Colorado as he got a job to start up the fish health program at what is now known as the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory. Pete's research was integral on the understanding of a multitude of fish health issues, especially Whirling Disease and its impacts on both wild and hatchery raised trout. In his thirty-six-year career as a Fish Pathologist, he was a prolific writer of publications, from peer reviewed articles to newsletter stories for the AFS Fish Health Section. Pete was even featured in National Geographic in February 1996, the story included a photo of him with a brown trout fingerling affected with whirling disease along with a normal fingerling. He also took great interest in identifying aquatic invertebrates, as well as parasites on wild fish. He was affectionately known as The Walking Encyclo-"Pete"-ia at work.



**The Associated Press** State fish pathologist Pete Walker holds up two Brown trout at a Colorado Fish and Wildlife lab near Brush, Colo., in this 1995 file photo. The left trout has Whirling disease and the right one does not.

Pete's ceaseless curiosity for the natural world was very apparent to anyone who spent more than a few minutes with him. He was heavily involved in birding activities, including the Christmas Bird Count, in Colorado and later in the Sequim, Washington area where he and his wife retired to. He was well known by his friends to be a skilled photographer, especially of birds. Even in retirement, Pete was always helpful and knowledgeable of species identification – from plants to insects to birds to parasites.

Pete is greatly admired by his colleagues at Colorado Parks and Wildlife and beyond. He was a wonderful mentor to many and always made time for people who needed him. He will be greatly missed for his kind-heartedness, humor, wealth of knowledge, and laugh.

By Colby Wells, Colorado Parks & Wildlife

## **ABVP – Fish Practice Diplomates and testing**

On behalf of the **American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) - Fish Practice** Organizing Committee and Exam Subcommittee, we are pleased to announce and congratulate the first ever **ABVP - Fish Practice Diplomates!**

- Trista Becker (Melba, Idaho)
- James Bogan (Oviedo, Florida) \*(Canine and Feline, Reptile and Amphibian)
- Todd Cecil (San Diego, California) \*(Avian)
- Ari Fustukjian (Bountiful, Utah)
- David Marancik (Grenada, West Indies)
- Aimee Reed (Corvallis, Oregon)
- Jessie Sanders (Santa Cruz, California)
- Johnny Shelley (Ocean Springs, Mississippi)
- Natalie Stilwell (Starkville, Mississippi)
- Taylor Yaw (Papillion, Nebraska)




\*Indicates certification in an additional American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)-recognized veterinary specialty within the ABVP.

After 10 years of hard work put forth by a number of veterinarians with a primary interest in fish, **ABVP - Fish Practice** was provisionally approved by the **AVMA American Board of Veterinary Specialties** in March of 2023.

If you are interested in becoming a **Diplomate of ABVP - Fish Practice** please visit [abvp.com](https://abvp.com) or email the ABVP - Fish Regent, Dr. Johnny Shelley ([fishregent@abvp.com](mailto:fishregent@abvp.com)).

The due date to apply for next year's ABVP Fish Practice Exam is **Jan 15, 2024**. More information available here: <https://abvp.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2ABVP-Applclicant-Handbook-August-2023-FINAL-8.27.23.pdf>.






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<https://ABVP.org>

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## **JOBS/GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

### **Zebrafish Related Job Announcements**

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

## **RESOURCES/NEWS**

### **Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) Updates are available by request:**

The AADAP Updates feature news on aquaculture drugs currently in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process, AADAP programmatic updates, and aquaculture drug use guidance information. If you would like to sign up to receive the AADAP Update, please email [julie\\_schroeter@fws.gov](mailto:julie_schroeter@fws.gov) to be added to our email listserv.

### **Happy Holidays!**

As 2023 comes to a close, the AADAP team would like to wish everyone a happy, safe, and healthy holiday season!

### **AADAP website URLs**

Just a friendly reminder that the URLs of AADAP's webpages changed within the past year. See below for the lineup of commonly-visited AADAP webpages and bookmark them while you're at it!

AADAP landing page: <https://www.fws.gov/program/aquatic-animal-health/aquatic-animal-drug-approval-partnership>

INAD landing page: <https://fws.gov/service/investigational-new-animal-drugs-inads>

INAD fact pages: <https://www.fws.gov/find-inad>

INAD U: <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/investigational-new-animal-drugs-inads-university>

Drug Research Information Bulletins: <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/drug-research-information-bulletins>

Quick Desk Reference Guide: <https://www.fws.gov/media/quick-desk-reference-guide-approved-drugs-use-aquaculture>

Resources for Selecting Aquaculture Medications: <https://www.fws.gov/node/267114>

### **SAVE THE DATE for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Aquaculture Drug Approval Coordination Workshop!**

The new year is right around the corner and that means it's time to start thinking about the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Aquaculture Drug Approval Coordination Workshop! Hosted by the USFWS AADAP Program, the workshop will take place in Bozeman, MT from July 22nd- 25th, 2024. For more details about the workshop, please visit our [workshop webpage](#).