



# Fish Health Section



## FHS NEWS – January 2024

**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!

Welcome to 2024! It's 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>**.

## President's Message

Dear AFS-FHS Members:

The new year has just started, and our membership is already working diligently to address ongoing and new priorities for the Section. As promised, all of you should have received the request for nominations to fill the newly created Testing Standards Committee, Inspection Standards Committee, and Inspection Standards Stakeholder Advisory Panel. These committees represent the next steps to update the Blue Book and improve future revision efforts so we are encouraging everyone to consider nominations. Nominations are now being accepted (<https://forms.gle/KoJLAbne127ZbLuH9>) and will continue until February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

We are also working through the preliminary planning stages for the 2024 FHS and Western Fish Disease Workshop, which will be held in Boise, Idaho from July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 1<sup>st</sup>. The announcement has been posted on the Section website and the meeting organizers are working to confirm the continuing education topic, RACE credits and meeting registration fees, which will be available soon. These meetings are always a great opportunity for us to meet in person, discuss our research and recruit additional members so we encourage everyone to attend.

Lastly, several of you may have recently received multiple emails from [president02745@gmail.com](mailto:president02745@gmail.com) or [t.coulter3@ntlworld.com](mailto:t.coulter3@ntlworld.com) that suggest I was asking you to provide funding, reimbursements and/or a request to purchase gift cards for the FHS. This was identified as a Phishing Scam based around the Section website where someone identified our committee positions, searched the web for contact information and ultimately created a story to solicit money. **Please do not respond to these emails, send payments, or purchase suggested items.** There is no scenario where the FHS president would request funding or reimbursements without first making direct contact with individual members or committee chairs. Any communication from our ExCom members would also only be sent from either our professional agency email accounts or an AFS-FHS gmail address. Your quick notifications regarding this issue were very much appreciated.

Thank you all for your membership and continued assistance addressing this year's priorities.

Wade Cavender  
435-720-2784

### **S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award Nomination Announcement**



The Awards Committee would like to solicit nominations for the S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award (SDSA). The SDSA is the highest award presented by the Fish Health Section. This award 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.

Because this is a career award, candidates should have a significant number of active years in science within the finfish or shellfish health field as well as significant accomplishments which are not limited to but may include a significant number of publications, a significant number of secured grants for grad student thesis projects, administration of a successful lab, a major discovery in the field of finfish or shellfish health, and/or previous recognition by other professional societies or committees. More information about the award and previous recipients can be found [here](#).

If you wish to nominate an individual for the SDSA please send nomination packages (see requirements below) to the Awards Committee Chair (Ben LaFrentz, [benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov](mailto:benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov)) by March 15, 2024. Awards recipient(s) will be honored at the Annual Fish Health Section Meeting.

Individuals must be nominated by a current FHS member and 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 who must be a current FHS member.

Additional guidance can be found on page 21 of the [FHS Procedures Manual](#). Feel free to contact members of the Awards Committee with questions.

#### Awards Committee

Ben LaFrentz, Chair	<u><a href="mailto:benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov">benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov</a></u>
Heather Walsh	<u><a href="mailto:hwalsh@usgs.gov">hwalsh@usgs.gov</a></u>
Danielle Van Vliet	<u><a href="mailto:dvan@utah.gov">dvan@utah.gov</a></u>

### **Special Achievement Award Nomination Announcement**

The Awards Committee would like to solicit nominations for the Special Achievement Award. The award is presented to a Fish Health Section member or group that has made a significant accomplishment or advancement in the field of fish health. The award is for a one-time accomplishment and may be given for: (1) a unique contribution to the fish health field (such as a new diagnostic tool, a new technique to control disease, etc.), (2) a significant research accomplishment,

or (3) outstanding leadership in resolving a major aquatic animal health problem. Please click [here](#) to view past recipients of this award.

If you wish to nominate an individual for the Special Achievement Award, please send nomination packages (see requirements below) to the Awards Committee Chair (Ben LaFrentz, [benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov](mailto:benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov)) by March 15, 2024. Awards recipient(s) will be honored at the Annual Fish Health Section Meeting.

Individuals must be nominated by a current FHS member and packages must include:

1. The accomplishment.
2. The significance of the accomplishment to the field of fish health.
3. Implication of the accomplishment to aquaculture (local, regional, national, or worldwide).

Copies of any articles or supporting documents related to the work should be included in the nomination package. Nominations for the Special Achievement Award should be made within one year of the accomplishment. Additional guidance can be found on page 23 of the [FHS Procedures Manual](#).

Feel free to contact members of the Awards Committee with questions.

#### Awards Committee

Ben LaFrentz, Chair	<a href="mailto:benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov">benjamin.lafrentz@usda.gov</a>
Heather Walsh	<a href="mailto:hwalsh@usgs.gov">hwalsh@usgs.gov</a>
Danielle Van Vliet	<a href="mailto:dvan@utah.gov">dvan@utah.gov</a>

### **New Committee Nominations for Upcoming Election**

Dear AFS Fish Health Section members,

Due to the Bylaws amendments passed last summer, the Fish Health Section has two new standing committees and a stakeholder advisory panel to fill with an upcoming election.

- Testing Standards Committee
- Inspection Standards Committee
- Inspection Standards Stakeholder Advisory Panel

Here is a description of responsibilities and duties for each new group and the expected qualifications for members:

#### **Testing Standards Committee**

1. Responsibilities and Duties
  - Foster and promote the use of standard, reliable, and sensitive technical procedures for pathogen surveillance and diagnosis of aquatic animal diseases.
  - Specific review and updating of the Laboratory Testing Procedures section of the Blue Book.
  - Provide guidance for the development of tests intended for diagnostic vs screening purposes.
  - Develop criteria for assays and procedures to be included in the Blue Book.
2. Committee membership
  - Number of members: Minimum of three (3), maximum of six (6).

- Term: Three (3) years.
  - The chair is elected by a simple majority vote of committee members.
3. Member qualifications: Academic training or professional experience in the development and/or validation of test procedures for pathogen identification. Professional experience in a diagnostic laboratory setting is highly valuable.

### **Inspection Standards Committee**

1. Responsibilities and duties
  - Foster and promote the use of scientifically justifiable approaches for conducting health inspections of aquatic animals and provide guidance for appropriate health management sampling procedures.
  - Review and update, as needed, the overall organization and intended use of the Blue Book; determine the need for revising, updating, and editing; formatting; technical editing; and distribution of the Blue Book.
  - Specific review and updating of the Blue Book except for sections related to Laboratory Testing Procedures and the Model Quality Assurance/Quality Control Program.
2. Committee membership
  - Number of members: Maximum of six (6).
  - Term: Three (3) years, with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.
  - Chair: Current FHS President or designee; non-voting except to break ties.
  - The Committee must include representation in the following areas
    - Aquatic epidemiology or statistics and modeling
    - Licensed veterinarian with aquatic disease specialization
    - Certified AFS FHS fish pathologist
    - Certified AFS FHS aquatic animal health inspector
3. Member qualifications: For members representing aquatic epidemiology or statistics and modeling, academic training, or professional experience in the respective subject area. Current licensing or certification is required for veterinarian, Fish Pathologist, and Health Inspector positions.

### **Inspection Standards Stakeholder Advisory Panel**

1. Responsibilities and duties
  - Provide recommendations and advice to the Inspection Standards Committee on the composition of the Risk Evaluation and Health Inspection sections of the Blue Book, including updates and revisions.
  - Provide information on best practices, requirements, and perspectives of respective stakeholder groups to the Inspection Standards Committee.
2. Committee membership
  - Number of members: Three (3) per stakeholder group.
  - Term: Three (3) years, with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.
  - Stakeholder representation includes:
    - Aquaculture
    - Indigenous, tribal, and First Nations aquatic management
    - State, provincial, or regional aquatic organism management
    - Federal aquatic organism management
3. Member qualifications: Knowledge or experience in aquatic organism practices and policies for the respective stakeholder group

Nominations for this 2024 off-cycle election are now being accepted and will continue until **February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**. If you are qualified, please consider submitting yourself for nomination. If you know a qualified Section member, please encourage them to submit a nomination. See attached Advisory Panel description and Blue Book Committee descriptions.

The online nomination form can be accessed at: <https://forms.gle/KoJLAbne127ZbLuH9>

Please direct any questions to the Nominating and Balloting Committee Chair (Timothy Bruce; [tjb0089@auburn.edu](mailto:tjb0089@auburn.edu)).

## **JOBS/GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

### **Lab Specialist 2 – Wildlife Specialist**

#### **Arizona State Wildlife Management Division – Aquatic Branch**

Phoenix, AZ

Closes 2/26/24

The Laboratory Specialist 2 will be responsible for assisting with research on aspects of fish disease, fish health, the use of drugs for treating fish diseases, laboratory maintenance and media preparation. This position is 80% laboratory and 20% field work.

Major duties include:

- Preparation of media for bacterial culture
- Inoculation of plates for bacterial culture
- Bacterial identification
- Performs necropsies and laboratory testing as requested
- Maintains records required by the FDA for VFD medicated feeds.
- Collects biological samples during fish management events and participates in the development of protocols for the detection, control, and eradication of fish diseases
- Produce reports and updates for Department staff as appropriate
- Maintains the Department Fish Health databases and attends and delivers presentations that address fish disease management.
- Identifies pathogens by PCR and QPCR
- Performs procedures for parasite identification
- Cell culture of fish cell lines.
- Conducts DNA sequencing of biological samples to determine genus and species
- Develop proficiency in preparing samples for histological examination, immunohistochemistry and in situ hybridization techniques

See attached .pdf for more information.

### **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.

### **January 2024 AADAP Update**

## **Get ready for Aquaculture America 2024!**

Aquaculture America 2024 is NEXT MONTH! This year's conference will be held from February 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 in San Antonio, Texas. Similar to years past, AADAP is planning to co-host a special session with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Drug Approval Working Group (AFWA-DAWG) called "Aquatic Animal Drug Updates", to be held on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:30 PM CST in Salon B. Stop by our session to learn more about aquaculture drug approval progress updates and associated research. We hope to see you in San Antonio!

## **INAD Tidbit of the Month: 2024 INAD Program News**

Happy New Year! With the start of the new year, the 2024 INAD Program is now fully open. Please be sure to add the 2024 INAD enrollment to the investigator's account prior to initiating a new study request. Once a facility enrolls, AADAP notifies the drug sponsor(s) of your facility's participation at the end of each week so you may purchase the INAD the following week. The welcome INAD email and invoices will be emailed out at the end of January or start of February. Please wait to make your INAD payments until you have received the invoice as all payments will need to be made online this year.

The INAD database was migrated over to the Fish & Wildlife Service's servers. The new address for accessing the database is now <https://www.fws.gov/aadap-inad/>. Note: you will need to create a login.gov account prior to accessing the INAD database on the new website for the first time. This will then link the accounts together and provide better security for your accounts. If you have any questions regarding accessing your INAD account, please contact [Bonnie Johnson](#).





## **WILDLIFE SPECIALIST**

**“Lab Specialist 2”**

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION / AQUATIC BRANCH / PHOENIX, AZ BASED**

**FLSA-Exempt / SALARY GRADE 21 / HIRING SALARY RANGE \$48,400 - \$55,000**

**REQUISITION # 523361 / CLOSING DATE: 02/26/2024**

Join the only state agency in Arizona responsible for conserving and protecting more than 800 wildlife species. Be part of a passionate group of people who want to make a positive impact on outdoor recreation in Arizona by managing resources for safe, compatible opportunities for current and future generations. From fishing, boating and off-highway vehicle use to shooting sports, hunting and wildlife watching, Arizona Game and Fish supports it all. Our biologists use the best available science in their management actions, and our wildlife managers are on the ground in your communities making a difference every day. Opportunities abound beyond the field at AZGFD, so check us out and see what we're all about! Consider joining our workforce today. AZGFD celebrates the diversity of Arizona's people, landscapes and of course, wildlife. However you choose to enjoy Arizona's wildlife and wild places, the outdoors is open for all.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department manages fish and wildlife in Arizona and under the authority of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, creates and implements scientific methods and regulations to effectively manage fish and wildlife habitat via conservation, enforcement, hunting, fishing, watercraft and off-highway vehicle recreation, and shooting sports. The Arizona Game and Fish Department dedicates itself to excellence, values its employees and supports a culture of stewardship, teamwork and partnerships.

**Description of Duties:** The Laboratory Specialist 2 will be responsible for assisting with research on aspects of fish disease, fish health, the use of drugs for treating fish diseases, laboratory maintenance and media preparation. This position is 80% laboratory and 20% field work.

Major duties include:

- Preparation of media for bacterial culture
- Inoculation of plates for bacterial culture
- Bacterial identification
- Performs necropsies and laboratory testing as requested
- Maintains records required by the FDA for VFD medicated feeds.
- Collects biological samples during fish management events and participates in the development of protocols for the detection, control, and eradication of fish diseases
- Produce reports and updates for Department staff as appropriate
- Maintains the Department Fish Health databases and attends and delivers presentations that address fish disease management.

---

*An equal opportunity, reasonable accommodations employer, the Arizona Game and Fish Department complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you need accommodation in the employment process or this document in an alternative format, please contact our office at (623) 236-7323 or TTY 1-800-367-8939, prior to the closing date of the job in which you are interested. The Arizona Game & Fish Department is responsible for managing Arizona's fish and wildlife resource as an enduring public trust. In addition, the Department is charged with promoting safe and responsible use of watercraft and off-highway vehicles. Funding is provided from the sale of licenses and permits; watercraft registration fees; federal excise taxes on firearms, fishing equipment, boats, and other sporting goods; State lottery revenues; donations on State income tax forms; and various contracts and grants. Department policy is set by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, whose five members are appointed by the Governor. We stand in support of equality for and advancement of all people based on their qualifications and actions alone without regard to color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.*



- Identifies pathogens by PCR and QPCR
- Performs procedures for parasite identification
- Cell culture of fish cell lines.
- Conducts DNA sequencing of biological samples to determine genus and species
- Develop proficiency in preparing samples for histological examination, immunohistochemistry and in situ hybridization techniques and Quality Control and Quality Assurance procedures
- Performs other duties as assigned

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:** The candidate will have knowledge of microbiology or medical technology and all of its associated disciplines, quality control and quality assurance in the laboratory and laboratory safety measures, computer programs, scientific method and thought, diagnostic tests, laboratory procedures, epidemiology and public health principles, rules pertaining to the use of antibiotics and other chemotherapeutants, animal drugs and pharmacology, and animal physiology and pathology. Candidates will be skilled in data processing and analysis, technical writing and English composition, public speaking, handling, first aid techniques, budget and personnel management. The candidate will be able to identify bacteria from culture, identify viruses from cell culture, complete immunofluorescence assays, conduct polymerase chain reaction procedures, be able to extract DNA or RNA, and conduct eDNA analysis. Must have experience and be proficient in aseptic technique and laboratory safety protocols, follow direction, be able to work alone or in a team setting, form collaborative relationships with other individuals and organizations, work in diverse environments and conditions and synthesize information from a number of sources and apply it to novel situations. Conduct testing following approved protocols.

The candidate must have a bachelor's degree in a biology, medical technology or microbiology or closely related field or in Fisheries Science with specialized training in microbiology, virology, bacteriology, molecular biology. Experience working within a microbiology laboratory is required.

Employment may be contingent upon completion of a post-offer medical/physical examination and the agency's ability to reasonably accommodate any restrictions.

If this position requires driving or the use of a vehicle as an essential function of the job, then the following requirements apply. Any employee operating a motor vehicle on State business must possess and retain a current, valid class-appropriate driver's license, complete all required training, and successfully pass all necessary driver's license record checks. The license must be current, unexpired, and neither revoked or suspended. Employees who drive on state business are subject to driver's license record checks, must maintain acceptable driving records, and must complete all required driver training. An employee who operates a personally owned vehicle on state business shall maintain the statutorily required liability insurance (see Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R2-10-207.11).

All newly hired employees will be subject to the E-Verify Employment Eligibility Verification program.

---

*An equal opportunity, reasonable accommodations employer, the Arizona Game and Fish Department complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you need accommodation in the employment process or this document in an alternative format, please contact our office at (623) 236-7323 or TTY 1-800-367-8939, prior to the closing date of the job in which you are interested. The Arizona Game & Fish Department is responsible for managing Arizona's fish and wildlife resource as an enduring public trust. In addition, the Department is charged with promoting safe and responsible use of watercraft and off-highway vehicles. Funding is provided from the sale of licenses and permits; watercraft registration fees; federal excise taxes on firearms, fishing equipment, boats, and other sporting goods; State lottery revenues; donations on State income tax forms; and various contracts and grants. Department policy is set by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, whose five members are appointed by the Governor. We stand in support of equality for and advancement of all people based on their qualifications and actions alone without regard to color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.*





Our work environment offers training opportunities and encourages career development.

The State of Arizona offers an outstanding comprehensive benefits package including:

- \* 13 days of vacation
- \* 12 sick days with accumulation benefits
- \* 10 paid holidays
- \* Participation in the nationally recognized Arizona State Retirement System
- \* Superior health care options
- \* Vision care, dental care, pharmacy benefits, and flexible spending account (options available)
- \* Life, long-term disability, and short-term disability insurance options are available
- \* Many more benefit programs are available

An Equal Employment Opportunity Agency

**TO APPLY CLICK ON TO [AZSTATEJOBS.GOV](http://AZSTATEJOBS.GOV)**  
**CLICK SEARCH FOR JOBS, SELECT GAME AND FISH DEPT FROM AGENCY DROPDOWN**

---

*An equal opportunity, reasonable accommodations employer, the Arizona Game and Fish Department complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you need accommodation in the employment process or this document in an alternative format, please contact our office at (623) 236-7323 or TTY 1-800-367-8939, prior to the closing date of the job in which you are interested. The Arizona Game & Fish Department is responsible for managing Arizona's fish and wildlife resource as an enduring public trust. In addition, the Department is charged with promoting safe and responsible use of watercraft and off-highway vehicles. Funding is provided from the sale of licenses and permits; watercraft registration fees; federal excise taxes on firearms, fishing equipment, boats, and other sporting goods; State lottery revenues; donations on State income tax forms; and various contracts and grants. Department policy is set by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, whose five members are appointed by the Governor. We stand in support of equality for and advancement of all people based on their qualifications and actions alone without regard to color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.*

# AFS FHS Blue Book

## Advisory Panel Specifications

### Inspection Standards Stakeholder Advisory Panel

#### Advisory Panel Responsibilities and Duties

- Provide recommendations and advice to the Inspection Standards Committee on [the](#) composition of the Risk Evaluation and Health Inspection sections of the Blue Book, including updates and revisions.
- Provide information on best practices, requirements, and perspectives of respective stakeholder groups to the Inspection Standards Committee.

#### Inspections Advisory Panel Positions

A stakeholder group may nominate or designate an individual outside of their own group to be their representative to the Advisory Panel.

The maximum number of representatives from each stakeholder group is three (3).

Term: Three (3) years, with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.

Limitation: A member of the Inspection Standards Stakeholder Advisory Panel may not concurrently serve as a member of the Inspection Standards Committee.

Stakeholder Group	Qualifications and Requirements
Aquaculture	<u>Food production</u> : Knowledge or experience in the commercial food-producing aquaculture industry <u>Non-food production</u> : Knowledge or experience in a non-commercial aquaculture enterprise (e.g., public aquarium, conservation or restorative aquaculture)
Indigenous, tribal, First Nations group	Knowledge or experience with indigenous, tribal, or First Nations aquatic organism management
State, provincial, or regional aquatic organism management	Knowledge or experience with state, provincial, or regional aquatic organism management
Federal aquatic organism management	Knowledge or experience with aquatic organism management at a national level

#### Note to Nominating & Balloting Committee:

1. Federal nominees are solicited directly from three (3) federal agencies:
  - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
  - U. S Department of Agriculture / Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service
  - National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

- 2 State, provincial, or regional nominees are solicited directly from the [Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies](#).
3. Any stakeholder group can designate a nominee outside of their group to serve as their group's representative (e.g., an academic to serve as aquaculture's representative).

# AFS FHS Blue Book Standing Committees Specifications

## Inspection Standards Committee

### Committee Responsibilities and Duties

- Foster and promote the use of scientifically justifiable approaches for conducting health inspections of aquatic animals, and provide guidance for appropriate health management sampling procedures.
- Overall organization and intended use of the Blue Book, including reviewing, determining the need for revising, updating, editing, formatting, technical editing, and distribution.
- Specific review and updating the Blue Book except sections related to Laboratory Testing Procedures and the Model Quality Assurance/Quality Control Program.

### Committee Positions

Number of committee members: maximum of six (6).

Term: Three (3) years, with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.

Chair: Current FHS President or designee; non-voting except to break ties.

Limitation: A member of the Inspection Standards Committee may not concurrently serve as a member of the Testing Standards Committee or the Inspection Standards Stakeholder Advisory Panel.

Subject areas: The following subject areas must be represented in the committee. A member can represent more than one subject area.

- Aquatic epidemiology or Statistics and modeling (2 members)
- Veterinarian (1 member)
- Fish pathologist (1 member)
- Aquatic animal health inspector (1 member)

Subject Area	Qualifications and Requirements
Epidemiology	Academic training or professional experience in the application of epidemiological principles, methods, and tools for aquatic organisms
Statistics and modeling	a) Academic training or professional experience in the application of statistical methods and techniques for organism health and disease, preferably for aquatic organisms; OR b) Academic training or professional experience with applying or developing modeling scenarios and tools for organism health and disease, preferably for aquatic organisms

Veterinarian	Possession of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree or equivalent with academic training or professional experience in aquatic organism health
Fish Pathologist	Current certification as an AFS Fish Health Section Fish Pathologist
Aquatic Animal Health Inspector	Current certification as an AFS Fish Health Section Aquatic Animal Health Inspector
Administrative chair (non-voting except in tie)	Current AFS President or designee

## Testing Standards Committee

### Committee Responsibilities and Duties

- Foster and promote the use of standard, reliable, and sensitive technical procedures for pathogen surveillance and diagnosis of aquatic animal diseases.
- Specific review and updating of the Laboratory Testing Procedures section of the Blue Book.
- Provide guidance for the development of tests intended for diagnostic vs screening purposes.
- Develop criteria for assays and procedures to be included in the Blue Book.

### Committee Positions

Number of committee members: minimum of three (3), maximum of six (6).

Term: Three (3) years; two (2) new members elected each year.

The chair elected by simple majority vote of committee members.

Limitation: A member of the Testing Standards Committee may not concurrently serve as a member of the Inspection Standards Committee.

Subject Area	Qualifications and Requirements
Test development, validation, application	Academic training or professional experience in the development and/or validation of test procedures for pathogen identification. Professional experience in a diagnostic laboratory setting is highly valuable.