



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 We still have not been able to take down the old FHS website which is outdated and inaccurate.

Quality Assurance Committee Announces Tier 2 Program. The Committee for Quality Assurance for the Fish Health Section (FHS) has announced the initiation of the Tier 2 QA Program. This program has been in development for over two years. By necessity, it is a major step upward from the Tier 1 program, is somewhat complex and will likely take a significant amount of time and effort to achieve.

This program is the second level of the quality assurance process and is entitled “Tier II – Recognition”. There are several goals for this next level, which raises the bar even further from Tier 1. Requirements include verification of the accomplishments asserted in Tier One, in areas such as training, safety and biosecurity as well as laboratory proficiency. Completion of Tier 2 will help prepare a laboratory for potential entry into a laboratory network or actual accreditation with an existing program. To accomplish these goals, laboratories will need to achieve an integrated quality management system.

Submission date for each calendar year will be **June 30**. The application will be reviewed and approved or denied within 6 months of completing and submitting all required materials

Applicants should thoroughly read through the application on the FHS website as well as the accompanying guideline document and appendices, which will be posted on the FHS website at <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/certification/fish-health-laboratory-qaqc-program/>

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

Workshop: Keepin' It Clean: Biosecurity & Biosafety for Biologists and Scientists
Joint Conference of The Wildlife Society and The American Fisheries Society
September 29 - October 3, 2019 (Half day during conference)
Reno, Nevada

The Fish Health Section of AFS and the Wildlife Diseases Working Group of TWS are jointly offering a workshop at this year's joint meeting in Reno, NV. Our workshop is titled "Keepin' It Clean: Biosecurity & Biosafety for Biologists and Scientists". The workshop description is attached to this newsletter. Its purpose is to provide training in the basic principles and practices of biosecurity and biosafety that biologists can use to

protect their health, and fish and wildlife health, and reduce the risk of infectious disease transmission during the course of management and research activities.

The workshop organizers would like to invite members who are interested in, or have expertise in this topic to participate in the delivery of this workshop. We also want to solicit member input on a) any specific topics you think should be included, b) experiences you've had in biosecurity or biosafety that we might use as case studies/lessons learned for the workshop, and c) any best practices/protocols you would be willing to share that we could adapt and provide to attendees. If you would like to participate in delivering the workshop or share experiences or provide other input for the workshop, please get in touch with Nora Hickey (nhickey@nwifc.org) and Ben LaFrentz (benjamin.lafrentz@ars.usda.gov).

RESOURCES/NEWS

Pathogens Special Issue: Emerging Infectious Diseases in Aquaculture

This special issue aims to cover emerging infectious diseases causing significant production loss in aquaculture.

Please see the announcement attached to the newsletter email for information.