

Organizational Meeting Announcement

for the

NATIONAL AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY THERAPEUTIC AGENT PROGRAM

(provisional name)

Friday, 1 August 2008; 1:00 to 5:00 pm
Bozeman Fish Technology Center; Bozeman, Montana

The first meeting of the National Aquaculture Industry – Therapeutic Agent Program (NAI-TAP; provisional name) is scheduled to be held in conjunction with the 14th Annual Aquaculture Drug Approval Coordination Workshop, which is taking place in Bozeman, Montana during the week of 28 July 2008. The NAI-TAP is a coalition of aquaculture-industry stakeholders and invited entities interested in addressing and supporting national aquatic animal health and production issues.

The impetus for this group's formation is the probable dissolution of the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture's Working Group on Aquaculture Drugs, Biologics, and Pesticides (JSA-WGADB&P), **and** the continuing need for a coordinated effort to facilitate government/private partnerships aimed at improving aquatic animal health and production. Although the mission of the JSA-WGADB&P has remained consistent with domestic aquaculture needs, regulatory restrictions preclude the Working Group's continued functioning as it has in the past.

Anticipating this probable phase-out of the JSA-WGADB&P, a small number of non-federal stakeholders initiated the formation of an industry-driven coalition to potentially assume some of the functions of the JSA-WGADB&P. An informal meeting of this coalition was held as well as a phone conference of interested parties. These have resulted in some preliminary governing documents and the identified need to proceed via an in-person meeting of interested parties. Hence, the planned upcoming meeting described herein.

The upcoming 1 August 2008 meeting has two purposes: 1) to finalize the new group's name and operating guidelines (including mission, objectives, membership, and consensus policy) and 2) to review recent drug approval, biologic licensing and pesticide registration activities as these relate to the facilitative or collaborative potential action of regulatory agencies and product sponsors.

Please consider attending this inaugural meeting to NAI-TAP (or whatever name is decided upon). Although official membership, by definition, must exclude federal agency representatives, all public-sector representatives are strongly encouraged to attend as well and provide essential technical guidance and information.

For more detailed information on location and juxtaposition of the meeting to the Aquaculture Drug Approval Coordination Workshop, [click here](#) or visit the Workshop webpage at:

<http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/inadworkshop08.htm>