

## DEFINITIONS AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH POLICY

The following terms are defined as used in the Aquatic Animal Health Policy (713 FW 1-5):

- A. Adults.** Sexually mature aquatic animals, regardless of age.
- B. Aquatic animal.** Those species, excluding mammals and birds, their gametes and fertilized eggs managed by or brought onto Service lands, waters, and facilities. Aquatic animals spend some portion of their life within water.
- C. Aquatic animal health official.** A Fish Health Center employee who meets professional standards equivalent to those of the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society for Fish Health Inspectors or Fish Pathologists.
- D. Broodstock facility.** A hatchery or other facility that maintains, onsite, a population of aquatic animals that will be used to provide fertilized eggs, gametes, and fingerlings for use onsite or for shipment to other facilities (also see primary broodstock facility).
- E. Captive broodstock.** Aquatic animals maintained and/or reared in captivity for the production of gametes.
- F. Clinical signs.** Gross pathology, either internal or external signs and/or behavioral changes, associated with disease.
- G. Cooperative agreements.** Any interagency or other multi-party (two or more) aquatic animal health agreement to which the Service is a signatory party.
- H Confirmatory test.** A second and conclusive procedure for the identification of the isolated listed pathogen.
- I. Cultured aquatic animal.** Aquatic animal held or reared in Service and non-Service hatcheries, rearing ponds, research facilities, or net pens.
- J. Diagnostics.** Examinations (targeting moribund animals) to determine disease etiology. The Service aquatic animal health official will note the "Remarks" section of FWS Form 3-226 when diagnostic samples are used as part of an annual health inspection.
- K. Emerging disease or pathogen.** An aquatic animal disease or pathogen not previously known to occur in a given population, but found as a result of newly developed diagnostic techniques or from a species not previously cultured.
- L. Endozotic.** A disease or pathogen that is known to occur within well-defined geographic boundaries.
- M. Epizootic.** A rapid and persistent increase in morbidity and/or mortality (above normal levels) in a given population by a virulent disease agent during a specific time period. The rate and period of persistence has not been specified in this policy because these are population and species-specific.
- N. Exotic disease or pathogen.** An aquatic animal disease or pathogen strain not previously known to occur in a given United States watershed or other jurisdictional boundaries. Requires a historical absence of the pathogen or disease using adequate detection methods as determined by the Fish Health Center Director.
- O. Facility.** Any structure holding aquatic animals and/or gametes, either indoor or outdoor or both.

**P. Fish health management plan.** Must be included in any captive propagation program and will minimally include: the health history of receiving Service facilities, protocols for the quarantine of the subject imperiled species, a set of operational standards or protocols, and the premovement health status of the subject imperiled species.

**Q. Fish health report.** Must be prepared prior to release of a CPP species. It is unlikely that most CCP's will permit the level of lethal sampling and diagnostic test confidence necessary to provide for adequate pathogen certification.

**R. Free-ranging broodstock.** Aquatic animals of any species captured from the wild for the purpose of spawning.

**S. Inspection.** A statistically-based onsite sampling (as per Exhibit 1, 713 FW 2) of all lots of aquatic animals on the facility, performed or supervised by a Service aquatic animal health official, with subsequent examination of the collected tissues and fluids for the detection of listed pathogens in accordance with procedures set forth or referred to in this policy. As outlined in 713 FW 1-5, monitoring and diagnostics results may contribute to inspection sampling requirements. Service aquatic animal health officials will report inspection results on FWS Form 3-226.

**T. Imperiled species.** Species that have been designated as a candidate or are listed under the Endangered Species Act, or are considered of special concern by local, State, or tribal jurisdictions.

**U. Isolation.** Complete containment, as it pertains to an entire facility or a subunit of the facility, of infected or exposed aquatic animals, aquatic animals of unknown disease status, or aquatic animal pathogens. Service fishery managers will accomplish isolation by restricting the movement of such aquatic animals, aquatic animal cultural equipment, or other items associated with the infected or exposed aquatic animals or the aquatic animal pathogen.

**V. Listed pathogen.** An aquatic animal pathogen causing or associated with diseases and listed in this policy.

**W. Lot.** A group of cultured aquatic animals of the same species, of the same year class, originating from the same spawning population, and sharing the same water supply.

**X. Monitoring.** Periodic sampling and disease detection work performed or supervised by a Service aquatic animal health official in accordance with procedures set forth or referred to in this policy (713 FW 1-5). When monitoring is used in part or for all of an annual health inspection, a Service aquatic animal health official will document this in the "Remarks" section of FWS Form 3-226.

**Y. Pathogen strain.** A pathogen that differs phenotypically (e.g., host-specificity, virulence, etc.) and genotypically (i.e., unique genetic identity) from other pathogens of the same taxonomic group.

**Z. Prevalence.** The number of detectable cases of a disease or disease agent (i.e., pathogen) present in a population at a given time.

**AA. Primary broodstock facility.** A hatchery or other facility whose primary role is to maintain, onsite, resident populations of aquatic animals that will be used to provide fertilized eggs and gametes for the National Broodstock Program. Primary broodstock facilities as of September 2001 are: Ennis, Erwin, Saratoga, and White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatcheries.

**BB. Quarantine.** Used in 713 FW 3 to describe the cessation of all movements of animal and potential infectious material from a facility suspected of containing an exotic disease. The facility boundaries define the outer limits of the quarantine zone. Quarantine is also used in 713 FW 5 to describe the highest level of isolation rearing where an animal or group of animals is held in a closed environment with disinfected effluent to ensure that disease organisms are not introduced to the general population of the facility or to the watershed.

**CC. Regulations.** Foreign, Federal, State, or tribal aquatic animal disease control regulations or administrative orders promulgated to prevent the introduction or spread of aquatic animal diseases or for other purposes.

**DD. Service-managed properties.** Any land, water and facilities controlled by the Service. These properties include, but are not limited to: national fish hatcheries, fish technology centers, fish health centers, and national wildlife refuges.

**EE. Service-contracted facilities.** Any non-Service facility under contract to the Service to produce aquatic animals.

**FF. Special-case aquatic animals.** Includes, but is not limited to: threatened and endangered species, species of concern, native fish species, animals for which there are no commonly accepted diagnostic techniques, and low captive population sizes (< 100 animals).

**GG. Statistically-based sampling.** The collection by a Service aquatic animal health official or his/her designated Service agent of appropriate aquatic animal tissue or fluid samples, on a lot-specific basis, in sufficient numbers to meet sampling criteria for listed pathogens as required in this policy.

**HH. Stock.** That portion of an aquatic animal population sharing a common gene pool and, for aquatic animal health purposes, a common environment.

**II. Surveillance.** The health examination (e.g. inspections, monitoring, diagnostics and non-lethal techniques) of aquatic animals by Service aquatic animal health officials.

**JJ. Traditional aquaculture species.** Animals that have been successfully reared in captivity and for which diagnostic techniques are available to test for their diseases.

**KK. Watershed.** A drainage system of connected lakes and/or streams confined to a limited geographic basin.