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Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



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Name of Department Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Agency or Division Name Legal Division

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

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Name of Rule 11.01 Definitions

Newspaper Name Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Date of Publishing June 20, 21, 22, 2021

Final Date for Public Comment July 22, 2021

Location and Time of Public Meeting 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock AR 72205, 9:00 a.m.

Appropriate Season– The first day of March until the first day of June solstice, and the first day of September until the first day of December solstice.

Appropriate Testing Methods– A screening and confirmatory test conducted as described in the inspection section of the most recent edition of the “American Fisheries Society – Fish Health Section Blue Book,” or the most recent edition of the World Organization for Animal Health “Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals,” or conducted according to the approved protocols in a laboratory listed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service which has been approved to test for aquatic animal pathogens, or in a USDA NAHLN laboratory by an official NAHLN protocol.

Biosecurity Required–

For facilities relying on Facility Inspections:

New aquatic animals must have a health certification status equivalent to, or greater than, that of current health certification status of the facility, or they must be maintained in a biosecure quarantine that protects the main facility from infectious disease introduction. Disinfected eggs from quarantined animals may be moved out of quarantine and the fry moved onto the main facility. Facilities may only use water sources for which the Commission deems there is no evidence that regulated pathogens are present, or must disinfect the water prior to its introduction onto the facility proper.

For facilities relying on Lot Inspections:

A lot of fish (same age, species, water source, broodstock, and facility) must not be co-mingled with other fish on the facility between sample collection and fish shipments. Between sampling and shipping, the fish must be maintained in water sources for which there is no evidence that regulation pathogens are present, or must disinfect the water prior to its introduction into the quarantine area.

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)– An official document issued by a federal, state, tribal, or accredited veterinarian certifying that the fish identified on the document have been inspected and were found to satisfy the regulations pertaining to their intended movement – within the same state, between states, or internationally. Void 30 days after issuance.

Certificate of Veterinary Usage– A CVI documenting no clinical signs of disease and infection will be accepted for health certification for educational display purposes (e.g. zoos, public aquaria, museums) where individual specimens remain in captivity in a closed system throughout their life.

Culture Units– Ponds, raceways, cages or other containments used to rear fish.

Farm-raised– Fish that spend their entire life (egg to sale) on a farm or commercial facility.

Qualified Independent Party– A veterinarian, a fish health inspector certified by the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society, or an employee of a state agency recognized as a competent authority for fish health and assigned by that agency to collect fish inspection samples and verify biosecurity.

Qualified Testing Laboratory– Any state, federal, or private laboratory recognized by the AGFC as competent to conduct fish inspections.

Pathogens of Concern (list subject to change as new pathogens of concern emerge)–

Fish Pathogens: (Required for fish species)

- Epizootic hematopoietic necrosis (EHN)**
- Infectious hematopoietic necrosis (IHN)** (Administrative NOTE: this asterisk is a strikethrough, to be removed; formatting makes it difficult to see as strikethrough)
- ~~Oncorhynchus~~ *Oncorhynchus masou* virus disease**
- Spring viremia of carp
- Viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (VHSV)
- Infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN)
- Bacterial kidney disease (*Renibacterium salmoninarum*)**
- Piscirickettsiosis (*Piscirickettsia salmonis*)**
- Whirling disease (*Myxobolus cerebralis*)**

** **not** required for warm water species

Mollusk Pathogens: (Required for mollusk species)

- *Bonamia exitiosus*
- *Bonamia ostreae*
- *Marteilia refringens*
- *Marteilia sydneyi*
- *Marteilia chungmuensis*
- *Mikrocytos roughleyi*
- *Perkinsus olseni* / *atlanticus*
- *Candidatus Xenohalictis californiensis*
- *Haplosporidium nelsoni*
- *Haplosporidium costale*
- *Pekinsus marinus*
- QPX

Crustaceans Pathogens: (Required for crustacean species, see Addendum J1.01 for shrimp species)

- Taura syndrome virus
- Yellowhead disease
- Spherical baculovirus (*Penaeus monodon*-type)
- Infectious hypodermal and hematopoietic necrosis
- White spot disease
- Tetrahedral baculovirus (*Baculovirus penaei*)
- Crayfish plague (*Aphanomyces astaci*)
- Necrotizing hepatopancreas diseases (HPD)

VHSV-free Water Source– Water from a well, borehole or spring (the spring must be covered and free of fish), or disinfected water source which does not contain VHSV. **VHSV-positive State**– Any state in the U.S. or any Canadian province listed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service as positive for viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ontario and Quebec).