

# **GREAT LAKES FISH HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**2013 Winter Meeting  
South Bend, Indiana  
February 5-6, 2013**

**Minutes  
(with attachments)**

**Submitted By:**

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Great Lakes Fishery Commission**

**The data, results, and discussion herein are considered provisional; permission to cite the contents of this report must be requested from the authors or their agency.**

**GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION  
2100 Commonwealth Blvd, Suite 100  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105  
Great Lakes Fish Health Committee**

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## List of Attendees

<b>John Coll</b>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service- Pennsylvania
<b>John Dettmers</b>	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
<b>Mohamed Faisal</b>	Michigan State University
<b>Christina Haska</b>	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
<b>Sunita Khatkar</b>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
<b>Randy Lang</b>	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
<b>Kevin Loftus</b>	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
<b>Sue Marcquenski</b>	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
<b>Dave Meuninck</b>	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
<b>Andy Noyes</b>	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
<b>Paula Phelps</b>	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
<b>Ken Phillips</b>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service- Wisconsin
<b>Ling Shen</b>	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
<b>Gary Whelan</b>	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
<b>Coja Yamashita</b>	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

**Other Attendees:**

<b>Martha Wahlgamood</b>	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
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## Great Lakes Fish Health Committee Meeting

February 5-6, 2013

Salon B

DoubleTree Hotel

123 North St. Joseph Street

South Bend, IN 46601

### Draft Agenda

(Revised January 31, 2013)

#### Tuesday, February 5

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 8:30 am - 8:45 am   | Welcome & Introductions (Phillips)   |
| 8:45 am - 8:55 am   | Approval of Meeting Minutes (Phillips)   |
| 8:55 am – 9:00 am   | Communications (Phillips)  |
| 9:00 am – 9:15 am   | Model Program Update (Phillips)  |
| 9:15 am - 9:40 am   | Ranavirus Presentation (Waltzek)   |
| 9:40 am - 10:05 am  | New Tools to Detect Emerging Fish Viruses (Waltzek)  |
| 10:05 am - 10:25 am | Break  |
| 10:25 am - 10:55 am | Unknown Viruses from Chinook Salmon in Ontario (Loftus)  |
| 10:55 am - 11:30 am | APHIS Update (Whaley)  |
| 11:30 am-1:00 pm    | Lunch (on your own)  |
| 1:00 pm-1:45 pm     | Conservation by the cup of water: The potential for indirect surveillance techniques to inform conservation management (Jerde) |
| 1:45 pm-2:15 am     | Michigan State University Research Update (Faisal)   |
| 2:15 pm-2:30 pm     | Detection of Cutthroat Trout Virus (CTV) in the Mountain-Prairie Region: Where are we now? (Hopper)                            |
| 2:30 pm-3:00 pm     | Cutthroat Trout Virus (CTv) in WI DNR Brood Stocks (Marcquenski/Phillips)  |
| 3:00 pm-3:20 pm     | Break  |
| 3:20 pm-4:20 pm     | EEDv @ Marquette SFH (Whelan/Phillips)   |
| 4:20 pm-4:45 pm     | GLFHC Webpage (Haska/Phillips)   |
| 4:45 pm-5:30 pm     | Agency Updates (5-10 minutes each) (All)   |
| 5:30 pm             | Adjourn for the day  |

#### Wednesday, February 6

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 8:30 am-9:00 am | Hydrogen Sulfide - From Aquatic Pollutant to Clinical Therapeutic, A Fish Story (Olson)   |
| 9:00 am-9:30 am | Resident Fishes Display Elevated Organic Pollutants in Salmon Spawning Streams of the Great Lakes Invited Paper (Lamberti/Chaloner) |

9:30 am-10:15 am	Great Lakes Fish Health Center Discussion (Faisal/Marcquenski)
10:15 am-10:35 am	Break
10:35 am-11:35 am	Incorporating Non-Member Agencies—Presentations (Phillips)
	A. Indiana Board of Animal Health (Strasser)
	B. Ohio Department of Agriculture (Forshey)
	C. Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture Trade & Consumer Protection (Kebus?)
11:35 am-1:00 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 pm- 1:30 pm	Epitheliocystis Blue Jay Creek FCS (Lumsden/Loftus)
1:30 pm-2:30 pm	Agency Updates—Continued (All)
2:30 pm – 2:50 pm	Break
2:50 pm-3:50 pm	Review & Discussion of Research Pre-proposals (Phillips)
3:50 pm-4:10 pm	Selection of New GLFHC Vice-Chair (Dettmers)
4:10 pm-4:30 pm	Future meetings (Phillips/Dettmers)
	A. Number of Meetings/Year
	B. Dates/location for Winter 2014 Meeting
4:30 pm-5:00 pm	Incorporating Non-Member Agencies—Discussion (Phillips)
5:00 pm-5:30 pm	Meeting Wrap-up/Parking Lot (Phillips)
5:30 pm	Adjourn for the day

*Tuesday, February 5, 2013*

**1. Welcome and introductions (Phillips)**

**2. Approval of meeting minutes (All)**

The meeting minutes from July 2012 and the conference call in January 2013 were approved.

**3. Communications (Phillips)**

Ken was contacted by John Kerwin, Executive Secretary of the Pacific Northwest Fish Health Protection Committee (PNFHPC) regarding the SVC outbreak that occurred in Minnesota in 2011. Ken sent the excerpt from Minnesota's annual report that addressed the outbreak, a link to a communication in the *Journal of Aquatic Animal Health*, as well as Ranjit Bhagym's (co-author of the publication) and Ling's contact information.

**4. Model Program update (Phillips)**

The copy edits are done and the final version will be sent to Randy at the GLFC for formal typesetting. This will take about four weeks to finish, then the document will be published online. Hard copies will be printed after that. The online version can be updated annually, and the hard copy as needed. The winter agenda should include time to discuss any edits to the Model Program because that is when most members are present. It is likely any changes would be prompted by something happening throughout the year that would elicit an edit.

Consensus was reached that the document would be changed as needed. The writing subcommittee of Ken, Ling, Andy, and Gary will be in charge of edits. Inform Ling of any issues that need to be discussed, and she will start the appropriate chain of events.

**5. Ranavirus presentation (Waltzek)**

See Appendix 1 for the presentation.

- Tadpoles are the most susceptible. Amphibians are not challenged as adults.
- Pallid sturgeon fingerlings and tadpoles were the life stages used in the study.
- The only isolate from adults was from a white sturgeon epizootic in California.
- The studies were done by bath exposure, not by injection.
- The Frog Virus 3 that was found during VHS surveillance was not part of a disease outbreak. There may have been carriers, but it's unknown.
- Temperature extremes may stress fish and initiate mortality, but there are a lot of unknowns – e.g., if adults are carriers, transmission paths, etc.
- The water temperature at BPSFHS was 17 – 25°C in 2001 and 2009.

**6. New tools to detect emerging fish viruses (Waltzek)**

See Appendix 2 for the presentation.

- It is difficult to culture the pallid sturgeon iridovirus. It is tough to grow and you don't often see cytopathic effect. That's been a big challenge, so instead, they work from infected tissues.
- The cost of sequencing depends on the question and what you need. If the virus has been purified and has a short sequence, it is cheaper.
- The sequencing is done at the university sequencing core.
- The DNA extraction process to separate out the genome of the fish from that of the virus is to essentially purify for all viruses, which could result in a long list of which are present. When there is a co-infection, it can be challenging to know which is the culprit of the infection. The process is similar to that of purifying cell tissue: rupture fish cell; release viral cell; separate out debris; and treat with nucleases to destroy DNA or RNA outside the capsid. The virus remains.

### **7. Ontario Fish Health (Loftus)**

See Appendix 3 for the presentation.

- The detection was 30% from the ovarian fluids and 30% from the kidney and spleens.
- The U.S. also has this issue and is watching the RTG work in Ontario for insight.
- Roz Stevenson would have information on the progress of sequencing the aquareovirus.

### **8. APHIS Update (Whaley, via phone)**

Stakeholder groups were asked to give recommendations regarding VHS. The GLFHC survey to its members is much appreciated, and she is looking forward to seeing all the responses.

Decisions have been made about next steps, which were sparked by industry groups who want the federal order removed immediately. APHIS is not rescinding this order. Other natural resources groups do not want the order removed until the groups have alternate methods in place.

Existing regulations are being reviewed. A risk assessment is looking at different approaches to reduce exposure of live freshwater fish species to VHSV. The risk of farm animals transferring the disease is also being investigated. Objectives will take about 6 months to complete, and they will be posted in public record to get feedback. The scope is in draft form and will consider the likelihood of VHS being introduced to farm fishes, the spread to susceptible species, and biological and economical consequences. It will NOT look at the effectiveness of state regulations. This information will help them move forward with decisions.

They will likely look into a voluntary VHS certification program. They are also looking for pilot research projects, pending funding, similar to that of ISA in the northwest. Resources are limited though.

- APHIS has not received any feedback yet from the industry sector about not rescinding the order. Janet will likely hear something when she meets with industry folks in Nashville.

- Recommendations from the original questions are still welcome. The project is in the scoping phase, but the risk assessment will likely start in the next few weeks.
- The Ford-Collins group is doing the risk assessment.
- The modeling approach is similar to that of ISAv. There were unconfirmed findings of ISAv in British Columbia in the Fraser River. The U.S. Congress asked the aquatic animal health task force to answer questions on U.S. capabilities to look for it. A surveillance and research plan were initiated from some seed money, and now an enhanced surveillance project is happening in Washington and Alaska. APHIS is working with various agencies for testing and screening. Positives will be confirmed by a USDA veterinary service. The pilot study will be working with industry and performing surveillance of captive Atlantic salmon. This all is just getting started.
- The survey is a two-year project depending on funding. APHIS had asked Congress for funding but did not receive it, so they are working off 2012 numbers.

If you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact her.

Thoughts on how to proceed with the GLFHC:

Go back and revisit the questions. Review what you have written and see if there are any changes. Ken will send out to the committee what was sent to Janet. The group can review the statements and see if any changes need to be made. The final version will be sent to the CLC chair and vice-chair prior to sending back to Janet for final submission. The deadline for everything is the end of February. The writing subcommittee could take charge, if needed.

**9. eDNA presentation (Jerde)**

See Appendix 4 for the presentation.

- The control water samples were a mixed slurry of non-target DNA and distilled water. These were placed in tubes with the caps open on the boat, and then were run through PCR to make sure they were not contaminated with carp DNA.
- qPCR was not used for this study, but others have used it in projects. The silver carp marker is more sensitive than the bighead carp marker.
- When measuring the sensitivity of the test, it is done in pure water with the template. eDNA is not mixed in. This prevents inhibition due to environmental contaminants.
- False negatives from PCR inhibition have been detected, and those are tough to figure out.
- There have been some DNA degradation studies, and the longest it has been found is 4 days. The environmental conditions make a difference (e.g., low water levels with high temperatures will decrease the amount of DNA).
- Purdue is testing if egg DNA can be found during spawning events. Milt is more likely to be found and amplified during an event.

**10. Michigan State University Research Update (Faisal)**



See Appendix 5 for the presentation.

- The team is not going to approach the FDA to get approval until another student's research is completed and the results are in.
- Coldwater disease is common at some weirs but not in steelhead; nonetheless, it shows up in steelhead at hatcheries. This could be from the Chinook salmon housed at the same hatchery. There are too many potential explanations for this.

### **11. CTv discussion (Marcquenski)**

Sue had asked Ken to forward an email about CTv to the committee in January (Appendix 6). Ovarian fluids were tested from spawning broodstock at the St. Croix Falls hatchery (SCF). The fish appeared normal with no mortalities. The LaCrosse fish health facility found Chinook salmon cells were abnormal. It was confirmed in late November/early December that it was CTv. There is a strain of brown trout at Nevin hatchery (which is not close to SCF), which has been exchanging eggs with SCF for the last 30 years or so. Those fish were tested and CTv was found there also. Other sources of brown trout were tested and the virus was found there as well. In early December, every lot of fish was tested at SCF (fry, yearlings, adults, etc.). CTv was found in yearlings that had spent their whole lives within the hatchery, separated from the broodstock. Staff have said that every year, eyed eggs were disinfected at Nevin, transferred to SCF, disinfected again, and still had the virus as yearlings.

Currently, there is early life stage mortality in coho fry at Wild Rose hatchery. About ten days ago, technicians have started to see mortality in muskies. See the pictures in Appendix 7 for details.

Sue's recommendation was to not stock anything that tested positive, but her supervisors did not agree. When stocking fish with viruses, consideration should also be given to other species. See Tom's ppt in which viruses can be transferred between species. Sue is still concerned and will be testing for CTv above and below the dam in the St. Croix River in a variety of species. She is concerned because wild fish do not go into SCF or Nevin hatchery, so it's unclear what was first exposed. It could be a feed issue (bad pasteurization), but records of feed deliveries were not kept.

In the issue brief to her administrators, Sue expressed the need to have a hatchery system with a goal of a virus-free broodstock. Best management practices would be necessary. This could reduce the virus below a detection threshold, but more information is needed to know the susceptibility of coolwater species.

The water source at the hatchery is spring water. The CTv results were sent to Tom Waltzek to be compared with previous outbreaks, and this strain of CTv is not unique.

Nevin Hatchery does not stock fish in the Great Lakes, and SCF historically did but that has ended. Only Wild Rose Hatchery strains are stocked now in the basin.

Pennsylvania has had similar CTv issues (see email, Appendix 8). The hatcheries were experiencing fish mortalities but did not find IPN. They changed the feed, but fish were still dying. Finally, inspections discovered it was CTv. The brood they came from were IPN positive--- PCR tests are currently being run now and they are awaiting results. The broodstock is known to have genetic issues, and Coja is trying to get them to switch them out and bring in new, disease-free fish. The CTv fish are not scheduled to be stocked until 2014, so they will be kept for now. The fish likely won't be stocked in the Great Lakes basin. Next year, the fish will be cultured an additional week to see if the virus can be find earlier.

Mohamed commented on helper viruses. This occurs often with herpesvirus, in which only having one strain of the virus will not result in disease, but when two strains co-occur, they are activated and disease occurs.

Recommendation from the committee:

Is it possible that CTv has been here for a while but just hasn't been detected? It could be beneficial to process older samples to see if it was present. Prevalence may not be able to be calculated. The pathogenicity of the virus would be important to know. There are too many unknowns for the committee to be able to make a proper recommendation on how to handle this virus.

**12. EEDv at Marquette State Fish Hatchery (Whelan/Phillips)**

A document was sent from Gary through email (Appendix 9). In it, there is data on the cumulative mortality by raceway and lake trout strain.

Fish mortality is leveling off, and lesions are healing. The coloration of the fish is coming back. Titer levels are low and declining, indicating the fish are likely in recovery now. Splake were positive for EEDv, and subsequent testing has turned negative, so they may have cleared the virus. No positive brook trout are on the station. The broodstock may have an immune response from exposure in the wild.

EEDv is an endemic virus, and the fish appear to be in recovery. Hatchery personnel are expecting to see even lower titer levels when the fish get retested in a few weeks.

The LHTC does not want these fish stocked in Lake Huron. Gary's opinion is that these fish probably don't represent a high risk, but acknowledges that it's a herpesvirus and will be latent. These flare-ups may have been caused by stress from the conditions at the hatchery, which they likely would never experience in the wild.

All lake trout production units had positive fish within it (raceways). There was no mortality in the broodstock, but the pathogen was detected. This is the only lake trout hatchery in Michigan.

The current plan is to manage around this disease. No fish with clinical signs will be stocked. If there is a recurrence or if this happens on a regular basis, the stocking issue would be revisited.

**Member Comments:**

- Constituents may be upset that Michigan is stocking infected fish. If this virus is similar to BKD, that's a level 2 restricted pathogen in the Model Program, which recommends not stocking.
- EEDv has been found in Lake Ontario and Lake Superior, but it has not yet been looked for in Lake Huron.
- It's legitimate for the LHTC to be concerned, even if fish have been stocked before with latent virus. These fish are showing clinical signs, which increases the risk. They have the right to be worried about increasing the viral load in Lake Huron.
- On the other hand, this virus is likely ubiquitous in the Great Lakes, BUT the effects of stocking these fish could potentially be felt 20 years from now.
- The fish might be stocked in Lake Michigan, but that is currently unclear. This is not a simple management issue.
- The GLFHC could make a description of the risks, but not necessarily provide a recommendation.
- Neither La Crosse nor Lamar has done much testing in the Great Lakes for this virus. 59 fish from Lake Huron were sampled and no pathogens were detected. Two fish in Lake Ontario were positive. If this is endemic in the receiving water, they could be put in.
- It may be worthwhile to sample tissue of the survivors and also stress a subset of fish and see what happens. That could provide information that would feed into what to do. Nonlethal sample assays (e.g., WBC) would be great.

Michigan DNR will not stock fish with clinical signs, and will do subsequent testing of pathogen levels in the springtime. Right now, there's nothing to hint these fish could not be stocked in the Great Lakes. If the CLC recommends not to stock in the Great Lakes waters, these fish will likely be stocked inland instead.

When reporting to the CLC, the GLFHC should give the Risk Assessment with rationale for each value. Ken will look into the scales on the risk assessment and assure they are comparable to that of USFWS.

February 6, 2013

**13. Hydrogen sulfide – from aquatic pollutant to clinical therapeutic (Olson)**

See Appendix 10 for the presentation.

- There are deep thermal wells with H<sub>2</sub>S at the Thompson SFH, which also has chronic disease issues with fish. The hatchery technicians think it might be sublethal toxicity.
- There are different susceptibilities in fish to H<sub>2</sub>S. There appear to be physiological adaptations, such as carp being more resistant than trout. Different tissues from different species have been analyzed and there are large variations.
- Patents are in place for a new aspirin, and they are negotiating with drug companies to have the drug hit the market.

**14. Resident fishes display elevated organic pollutants in salmon spawning streams (Chaloner)**

See Appendix 11 for the presentation.

- Dam removal is an important issue right now in Michigan. Of concern is the population effects on native fish that are exposed once the dams are removed. Also, mink and bald eagle populations are increasing in the areas with spawning fish.
- Lake trout recruitment might be contributing to contaminant levels. It's hard to evaluate and there is not much in the literature. There is concern: dams probably shouldn't be removed without more research. There's no definitive word that it would/not have an effect. Should we be concerned about consuming these fish? There's the human health issue too.
- Gut analysis wouldn't necessarily tell what the source of the contaminants is (e.g., do sculpin eat the eggs?), which is why it would be beneficial to use stable isotopes to see the continuous flow.
- The control sites were up and downstream with barriers but without salmon.
- Managers make the decisions about negative consequences vs. benefits. Scientists determine lethal limits which aren't currently known. We need models to predict likely contaminant transfers. The current levels could be of concern, but we need more data. Each system should be looked at individually when making decisions to remove a dam or restore connectivity.

**15. Great Lakes Fish Health Center discussion (Marcquenski and Faisal)**

See Appendix 12 for the presentation.

Over the years, the GLFHC has faced challenges as a committee. Sue and Mohamed need a recommendation from the committee that having a Fish Health Center is a priority.

There was some concern from committee members that their agency would not be able to contribute money to the project. Nonetheless, it would be worth pursuing and investigating other funding opportunities as the project progresses.

It would be important to have fishery manager support as well. The Executive Board would be comprised of managers, fish health experts, and academics.

The first step will be creating a white paper to summarize these ideas, gain support from the GLFHC, and present to fishery managers to gain their insight. Gary, John, and Mohamed will work on the white paper together and send it out to the committee for comment.

#### **16. Incorporating non-member agencies**

##### **Indiana Board of Animal Health (Strasser)**

See Appendix 13 for the presentation.

- It would be nice to have a relationship with the GLFHC to help brainstorm when issues arise.
- If the U.S. develops an aquatic health plan, the Board's role may change depending on the regulations that become enforced. For example, if the USDA takes charge, she may have an aquaculture role.
- The Board contacts other states when drafting new regulations. It wants to be in line with what the surrounding states do, but each state has its own issues.
- Aquaculture in Indiana is not huge. There's only one large producer, but lots of farms raise freshwater shrimp.
- The DNR is in charge of the aquaculture registration process. There are currently 120 permit holders and 20-40 grass carp holders.

##### **Ohio Department of Agriculture (Forshey)**

See Appendix 14 for the presentation.

- There is a lot of fragmentation in the components of the industry because of varying communication styles between the DA and the Amish community.

#### **17. Epitheliocystis Blue Jay Creek FCS (Lumsden)**

See Appendix 15 for the presentation.

- At three weeks, there was a decrease in inclusions but an increase in mortalities. This is likely due to variation between species, and some have co-infections. In lake trout, microcolonies are present before early signs. They rupture, causing inflammation and lesions, and eventually cause mortality.
- When events occur, reduce the feed response. Tetracycline may help. Field trials are currently ongoing and they are awaiting results to give information on the course of the disease. The bacteria cannot be cultured.

## **18. EEDv Conversation Resumed (All)**

Everyone is assigned to do the Risk Assessment independently and send it to the Christina, Ling, and John. They will summarize the reports and a conference call will follow to discuss the issue.

### Agency comments

*Wisconsin USFWS:* Wisconsin cannot support stocking these fish. Not much is known about the virus and its distribution in the wild. Wisconsin hatchery managers are concerned these fish are shedding the virus into tributaries leading to Lake Superior. The fish which tested positive and had clinical signs of disease should be destroyed.

*Minnesota DNR:* This is considered an Emergency disease in Minnesota. The management would destroy the fish and not proceed with stocking. Lake Huron water levels are at records lows. This may induce stress and not be appropriate to stock diseased fish there.

*Pennsylvania USFWS:* Abstains from making a recommendation. More needs to be known--- prevalence, whether or not it would biomagnify, etc. It is out there already but no one knows where or to what extent.

*Pennsylvania FBC:* Stocking inland may be appropriate. If these fish went through another stress test and the disease reemerged, these fish should be destroyed. If not, stock inland, but not within the Great Lakes.

*New York State DEC:* If this happened in New York, the fish would be destroyed. Andy abstained from making a comment on behalf of his agency.

*Indiana DNR (Lange):* Draft out the facts and present what is known and what is unknown. Present this then to the LHTC and the LHC for a decision.

*Wisconsin DNR:* In 2009-2010, kidneys and spleens were tested and found positive for EEDv. The fish did not display any outward signs of disease. At the time, the GLFHC gave mixed advice. In the end, the fish were stocked. If there had been clinical signs, these fish would not have been stocked. Stocking known diseased fish on top of any background levels of the pathogen in the water is not supported.

*Fisheries and Oceans Canada:* Abstains from making a representative comment until consultation with colleagues. There is concern about stocking.

*Michigan State University:* Even fish which have not shown clinical signs are infected. The risk is the same for fish which are infected versus those which have the disease. Perhaps if we stock fish who have survived the disease, we will build a stronger stock (herd immunity).

*Ontario MNR:* Articulate the facts objectively and provide it to the CLC. They then can assess the risk and make the final recommendation. This does not appear to be a huge risk, but admittedly he is not the most qualified to make that decision. This would be an appropriate objective of a Fish Health Center!

*Indiana DNR (Meuninck):* Survivors are sitting in this hatchery and it may be beneficial to release them. It could be that every fish in the Great Lakes has some form of this infection---it's unknown.

Final recommendation: There likely won't be consensus about what to do. We can present these issues to the LHC and CLC and allow them to proceed as they see fit.

### **19. Research Pre-Proposals (All)**

The GLFHC was asked to review 12 pre-proposals submitted to the GLFC's Fishery Research Program and provide recommendations about whether or not the projects merited full proposals.

### **20. Selection of New GLFHC Vice-chair (All)**

Coja was nominated and accepted the nomination. Beginning after this meeting, the Chair will be Ling and the Vice-Chair is Coja.

### **21. Future meetings (All)**

Prior to VHSV outbreaks in the Great Lakes, the committee only met once a year. There has been talk about going back to this because it is difficult for some members to get travel approval twice a year. The GLFC would prefer the committee met twice a year but recognizes this is the members' committee. Other committees do not have every member attend every meeting, and it's understandable when this happens.

One meeting a year **benefits**: not having to worry about travel.

One meeting a year **cons**: does not allow for great continuity; only routine business would be conducted without an opportunity to invite speakers and branch out to other researchers and interests.

Member comments:

- Two meetings/year would allow for information to be provided to the CLC at each of its meetings, if need be.
- We could have distance meetings, i.e., remote conference calls broken up into sections, Skype, Adobe Connect, etc.
- Many members never attend any meetings. It may be worthwhile to reestablish these members at distance meetings.
- Mohamed's proposals: 1) one in-person meeting and one electronic; 2) one in-person meeting and then again at a national conference in the summer

#### Decision:

For this summer meeting, the GLFHC will meet in-person. For those that cannot make it, there will be a call-in option. Ling will set up a tour of the local hatchery by Duluth.

#### Dates/Location for next winter:

Pennsylvania will host. February 4-5, 2014.

The committee should consider hosting some continuing education workshops for the winter meeting.

### **22. Incorporating Agriculture Departments (All)**

How can the GLFHC ensure continuity with invitations to agriculture consultants?

- Develop a list of potential contacts that could be invited to meetings. Eg., Diane Elliott, Myron \_\_, Janet Whaley, etc.

- Agencies can nominate who should be on this list. GLFHC members could contact those they know already and see what they suggest. Each committee member should figure out who is best to contact for their state.
- Only agencies signatory to the Joint Strategic Plan can be official members of the committee. This does not include Agriculture departments; nonetheless, their input and participation is wanted. Their presence is akin to technical advisors.
- Likely, representatives will only attend meetings when it is held in their area. This means that some representatives may only come to meetings once every 5-6 years. Invitations can be sent with agendas to involve their participation. Travel funding may help get them to attend (unsure where this would come from) OR they can attend via off-site capabilities.
- There is the potential to have the representative's presentation be a part of the continuing education part of the Winter 2014 meeting.

### **23. Final Comments (All)**

The GLFHC website needs revisions. Ling, John, and Andy will form a subcommittee to review the website and decide the best course of action.

Asian tapeworm has been found in spottail shiners in Saginaw Bay. They were previously found in Lake St. Clair. Gary will send out additional email through email.

A press release from New York indicated the finding of furunculosis. The fish have since been destroyed. After 2 months, a similar situation happened to Rome SFH fish (~800k). The cause is unknown, but it may have been from challenging broodstock fry. Two weeks later, *A. sal* was detected. Mitigation approaches include using an ozone or UV system. Surveillance is ongoing.

### **24. Adjourn**



## RANAVIRUSES


**Emerging Threats to Aquatic Industries & Ecosystems**

Thomas B. Waltzek MS, DVM, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
UF College of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Infectious Diseases and Pathology




## RANAVIRUSES

**Emerging Threats to Aquatic Industries & Ecosystems**



## Family Iridoviridae Characteristics

- Diverse group of Nucleocytoplasmic Large dsDNA Viruses (NCLDV)
- Virion: enveloped icosahedral capsid (120-350 nm)
- Taxonomy
  - Genus *Iridovirus* (arthropod hosts)
  - Genus *Chloriridovirus* (dipteran host)
  - Genus *Lymphocystivirus* (fish hosts)
  - Genus *Megalocystivirus* (fish hosts)
  - **Genus *Ranavirus* (fish, amphibian, & reptilian hosts)**
- Unassigned members
  - **Missouri River (Pallid) Sturgeon IV (MRSIV/PSIV), White Sturgeon IV (WSIV)**



### Ranaviruses:

an emerging threat to ectothermic vertebrates



Friday, 8 July 2011  
Minneapolis, MN, USA

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER

### FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON RANAVIRUSES



**Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists**  
6-11 July 2011  
Minneapolis, MN, USA

**23 Speakers from 8 Countries!**

Ranavirus: past, present & future (Lesbarrères et al. 2011)

### Ranavirus (RV) Characteristics & Taxonomy

- Systemic diseases of fish, amphibians, & reptiles
  - Temperate to tropical 10 - 32 °C
  - Significant morbidity & mortality (10-100%)
  - OIE reportable (amphibian outbreaks only)
- 6 species recognized (USA - 3 endemic)
  - Santee-Cooper ranavirus (SCRV/LMBV)
  - Ambystoma tigrinum virus (ATV)
  - Frog Virus 3 (FV3) - low host specificity**

### Amphibian Decline & Emerging Infectious Diseases

### Global Amphibian RV Epizootics

- Varied habitats across 5 continents
- 12 affected families of frogs, toads, salamanders, & newts

### Amphibian RV Epizootics in North America

**Families**

- Ranidae
- Hylidae
- Bufonidae
- Ambystomatidae
- Salamandridae

*Lithobates sylvaticus*

- 5 Canadian Provinces & > 30 States = 25 spp. amphibians
- 2008-10: Repeated outbreaks in Pallid, Escanaba, and Big Muskegon Lakes
- 2011: FV3 confirmed 1st RV outbreak in Florida (Lansberg et al. 2013)

### Host Range of Frog Virus 3 like Agents

Frog Virus 3 like agents	Host Class	Host	Host common name	MCP % ID
Frog Virus 3 (FV3)	Amphibia	Rana pipiens	Leopard frog	/
Renwood Park Virus (RPV)	Amphibia	Rana aurora	Northern red-legged frog	100
Tadpole Steno Virus (TSV)	Amphibia	Rana catesbeiana	Bullfrog	98.6
Rana temporaria United Kingdom Virus (RUKV)	Amphibia	Rana temporaria	European common frog	99.4
Rana gryllus virus (RGV)	Amphibia	Rana gryllus	Pig frog	99.2
Rana unicolor virus	Amphibia	Rana unicolor	Southern leopard frog	100
Rana clamitans virus	Amphibia	Rana clamitans	Green frog	100
Bufo boreas United Kingdom Virus (BUK)	Amphibia	Bufo boreas	European toad	99.2
Bufo marinus	Amphibia	Bufo marinus	Cane toad	98.2
Dromoglystis quadrangulatus Virus	Amphibia	D. quadrangulatus	Sisibylla salamander	99.1
Bon turtle virus 3 (TV3)	Reptilia	Ferruginus carolina	Eastern box turtle	100
Tortoise virus 1 (TV1)	Reptilia	Terrapene horsfieldi	Russian tortoise	99.1
Tortoise virus 2 (TV2)	Reptilia	Gopherus polyphemus	Gopher tortoise	100
Gopher tortoise virus	Reptilia	Gerrhonotus platyrhina	Burmese star tortoise	100
Burmese star tortoise virus	Reptilia	Gerrhonotus platyrhina	Burmese star tortoise	98.4
Leopard tortoise Virus	Reptilia	Testudo horsfieldi	Leopard tortoise	98.7
Softshell turtle Iridovirus (STV)	Reptilia	Trionyx sinensis	Chinese softshell turtle	99.7
Sickleback Virus (SBV)	Osteichthys	Gasterosteus aculeatus	Threespine stickleback	100
Pallid sturgeon Ranavirus (PSRV)	Osteichthys	Scaphirhynchus albus	Pallid sturgeon	100



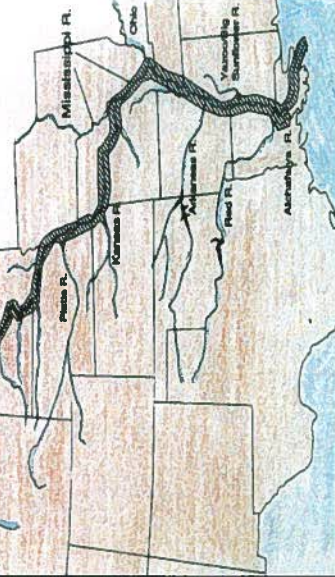
### Isolation of Frog Virus 3 from Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) Suggests an Interclass Host Shift

Thomas B. Waltzek, Debra L. Miller, Bruce Drecktrah, Jeff T. Briggler, Beth MacConnell, Crystal Hudson, Lacey Hopper, Susan C. Yun, Kirsten V. Malm, Scott Weber, Roberto Brenes, Nate Hilzinger, Sean Roon, Matt J. Gray, Ronald P. Hedrick



### Decline of Pallid Sturgeon within the Missouri River Basin (MRB)

- Overfishing & damming MRB led to PS decline
- 1990 listed as federally endangered
- Breeding program in 6 hatcheries



### Pallid Sturgeon Restoration Effort

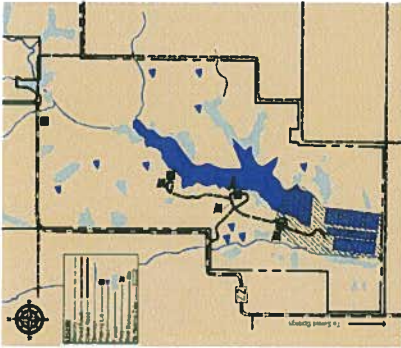
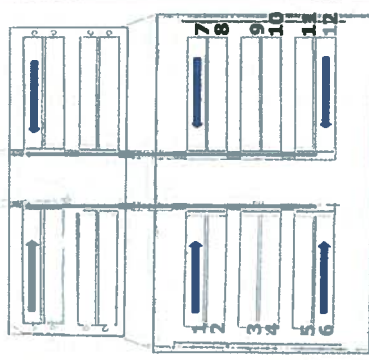
- Endangered adults are captured annually & transported to 1/6 hatcheries
- Adults spawned & then returned to the wild
- Progeny reared at 6 hatcheries for restocking 3 management zones within the MRB



Blind Pony State Fish Hatchery (BPSFH)

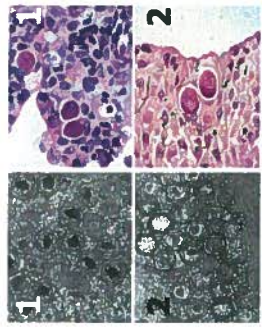

### Blind Pony State Fish Hatchery, Sweet Springs, MO

- Hatchery spawns & rears ~ 12,000 pallid sturgeon annually
- 12 raceways typically stocked at 2,000/raceway
- Raceways receive untreated H<sub>2</sub>O by gravity from Blind Pony Lake Dam



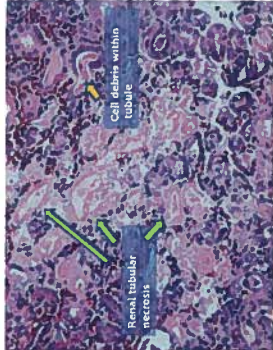
### Missouri River Sturgeon Iridovirus

- Pallid (PSIV) [MRSIV]
- Shovelnose


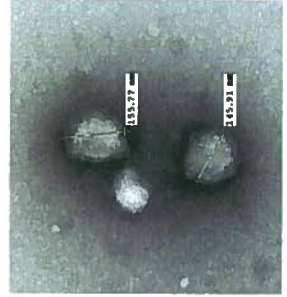
### 2009 Blind Pony State Fish Hatchery Epizootic

- July – Sept. YOY PS experienced heavy losses (80-100% over 3 months)
- Mortality (550/d) greatest at higher temps (15.5 – 25.5 °C)
- Dying fish displayed external and internal hemorrhagic lesions
- Histology revealed necrosis of hematopoietic (K, S) organs et al...
- Negative (-) by PCR for MRSIV

### BPSFH PS Epizootic – Bacteriology, Cell Culture, EM

- Mixed pop. of bact. cultured but mort. continued despite repeated antib. Tx
- Replicating agent observed in sturgeon cell lines
- Negative staining EM revealed icosahedral particles (~ 150 nm versus 300 nm for MRSIV)

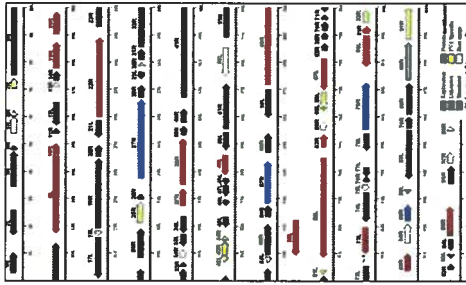



## PS Isolate Genomic Characterization

- PS isolate genome sequenced (Illumina)
  - > 99% ID to FV3 (105 kbp)

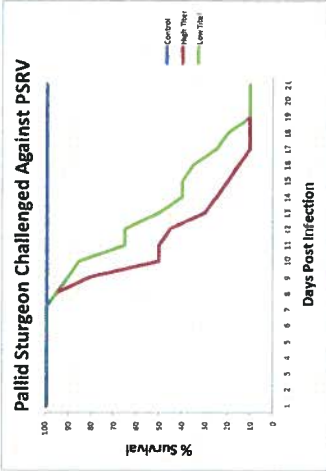


- PS represents a new fish host for Frog Virus 3 (FV3) = interclass host shift!
- PS Ranavirus (PRSV) the cause of the mortality???



## PSRV Lethal to Pallid Sturgeon - Koch's Postulates Fulfilled

- 90% mortality in low & high titer exposures
- High virus titers recov. from 36/36 morts, 2/4 virus exposed survivors, 0/5 controls



Percent survival of individuals (n = 20/treatment) exposed to PSRV isolate. Bath exposure was 10<sup>7</sup> PFU/ml (low) or 10<sup>8</sup> PFU/ml (high); experiment duration = 21 d.

## 2009 BPSFH Epizootic – Summary

- 2009 BPSFH PS epizootic attributed to a FV-3 like agent
- Induced gross & microscopic lesions, virion architecture, & in vitro characteristics typical of systemic FVs
- Virus isolated from hatchery PS in Sept, Oct, & Dec 2009 during & after active outbreak. PS lots destroyed.
- Oct 28 2009: 8 adult bullfrogs tested for ranavirus by PCR (all negative).
- Sept 2010: Given the untreated intake water 31 adult bullfrogs, 26 adult plains leopard frogs, & 4 plains leopard frog tadpoles from adjacent watersheds were cultured for virus (all negative).

## Mysterious 2001 BPSFH PS epizootic

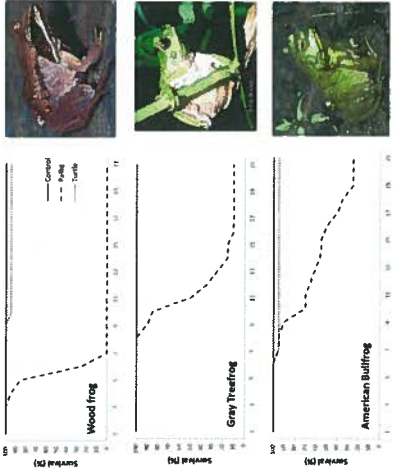
- Epizootic began in July with rising water temperatures
  - All raceways experience 100% mortality
  - Samples negative (-) for MRSIV
  - Mixed bag of bact. cultured but mort. continued despite repeated antib. Tx
  - External & internal hemorrhagic lesions
  - Necrosis of hematopoietic tissues and mesentery
  - Virus isolated on several cell lines
  - Negative staining SEM revealed icosahedral particles (~160 nm)
  - Comparison of the 2001/2009 full MCP seq. revealed they are identical!!!
- PSRV continues to threaten conservation effort
- What is the source of the virus???
- Sympatric amphibians contaminating hatchery intake H<sub>2</sub>O in 01 & 09 (2x HS)
- Adult population infected & pass vertically to progeny during maternal spawning
- Another hatchery reservoir?

### Host Range of Frog Virus 3 like Agents

Frog Virus 3 like agents	Host Class	Host	Host common name	MCP % ID
Frog Virus 3 (FV3)	Amphibia	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Leopard frog	/
Reinwood Pupa Virus (RPV)	Amphibia	<i>Rana aurora</i>	Northern red-legged frog	100
Tadpole Edema Virus (TEV)	Amphibia	<i>Rana catesbeiana</i>	Bullfrog	99.6
<i>Rana temporaria</i> United Kingdom Virus (RUK)	Amphibia	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	European common frog	99.4
<i>Rana grylio</i> virus (RGV)	Amphibia	<i>Rana grylio</i>	Pig frog	99.2
<i>Rana unicolora</i> virus	Amphibia	<i>Rana unicolora</i>	Southern leopard frog	100
<i>Rana clamitans</i> virus	Amphibia	<i>Rana clamitans</i>	Green frog	100
<i>Bufo boreas</i> United Kingdom Virus (BUK)	Amphibia	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	European toad	100
<i>Bufo marinus</i> Venezuelan Indonesian 1	Amphibia	<i>Bufo marinus</i>	Cane toad	99.2
<i>Demoglyphus eubademiacutus</i> Virus	Amphibia	<i>D. quadrangulatus</i>	Bacbelly salamander	99.1
Box turtle virus 3 (TV3)	Reptilia	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>	Eastern box turtle	100
Tortoise virus 5 (TV5)	Reptilia	<i>Testudo horsfieldi</i>	Russian tortoise	99.1
Goopher tortoise virus	Reptilia	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Goopher tortoise virus	100
Burmese star tortoise virus	Reptilia	<i>Geochelone platymura</i>	Burmese star tortoise	100
Leopard tortoise Virus	Reptilia	<i>Geochelone pardalis</i>	Leopard tortoise	99.4
Splashed turtle Indonesian (STW)	Reptilia	<i>Trionyx sinensis</i>	Chinese softshell turtle	99.7
Sickleback Virus (SBV)	Osteichthys	<i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i>	Threespine stickleback	100
Pallid sturgeon larvae virus (PSLV)	Osteichthys	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>	Pallid sturgeon	100



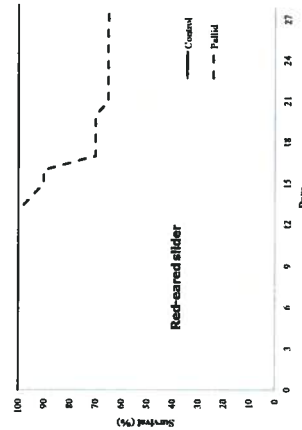
### PSRV (FV3) Lethal to Amphibians



Decreasing Susceptibility to FV3

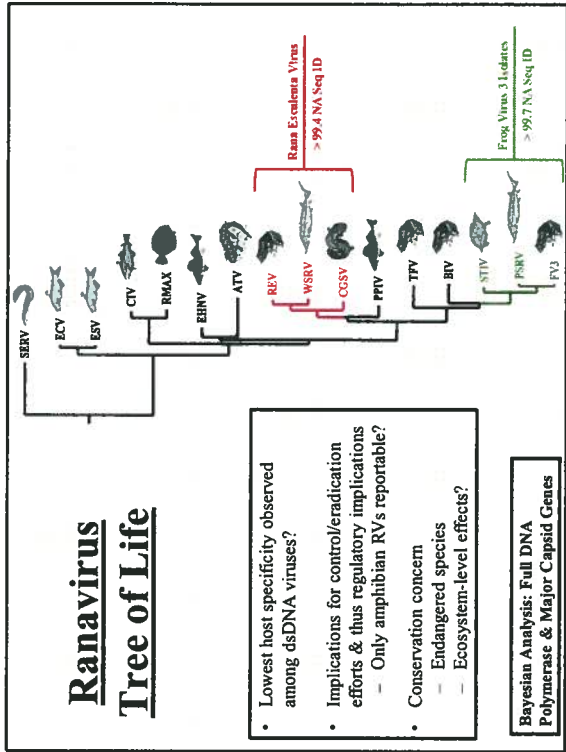
Percent survival of individuals (n = 20/treatment) exposed to one of two ranavirus isolates. Bath exposure was 10<sup>6</sup> PFU/ml; experiment duration = 21 d.

### PSRV (FV3) Lethal to Reptiles



Percent survival of individuals (n = 20/treatment) exposed to PSRV (FV3). Bath exposure was 10<sup>6</sup> PFU/ml; experiment duration = 28 d.

### Ranavirus Tree of Life



## Significance

- Ranaviruses are a global threat to both cultured & feral populations of poikilothermic vertebrates (fish, amphibians, & reptiles)
- RVs are especially concerning emerging pathogens given their high virulence & low host specificity (interclass host shifts/reservoirs)
- These epizootics are especially concerning given the federally endangered status of pallid sturgeon
- Temperature is an important cofactor in disease manifestation
- Survivors may become viral carriers

## Future Directions

- **FV3-like Epizootics in Sturgeon**
  - White Sturgeon RV (1998 CA epizootic)
  - 2001 Pallid Sturgeon RV (2001 MO Hatchery Epizootic)
  - Russian/Lake Sturgeon RV (2004 GA Hatchery Epizootic)
  - Pallid Sturgeon RV (2009 MO Hatchery Epizootic)
- **FV3-like Isolates in Other Species**
  - Northern Pike RV (VHSV Surveillance)
  - Fathead Minnow RV (VHSV Surveillance)
  - Walleye RV (VHSV Surveillance)



## Acknowledgments

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- Maki Jenkins

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- Dr. Roy Yanong
- Dr. Kathleen Hartman
- Craig Watson
- Debbie Foulder

**Thanks for your attention! Questions?**



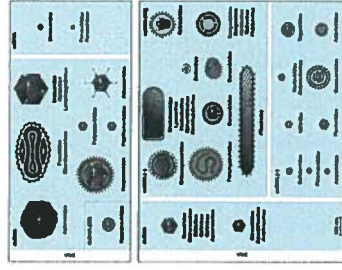

## Exploring the Phylogenomic Diversity of Emerging Fish Viruses

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 UF College of Veterinary Medicine  
 Department of Infectious Diseases and Pathology



## Objectives

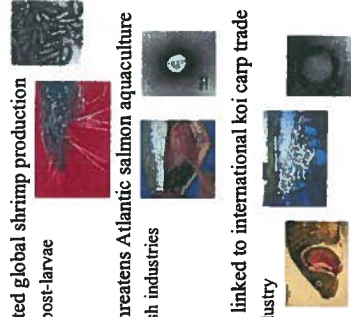
- Sequencing revolution is advancing the discovery & understanding of emerging fish pathogens (viruses)



- PCR/Shotgun Cloning/Sanger
- Illumina/454
- Pifalls/Caveats/Lessons*
- Emerging Fish Viruses
  - DNA
    - Alloherpesviridae, Iridoviridae, Adenoviridae, Mimiviridae, Poxviridae, Papillomaviridae*
  - RNA
    - Picornaviridae, Orthomyxoviridae, Bunyaviridae*

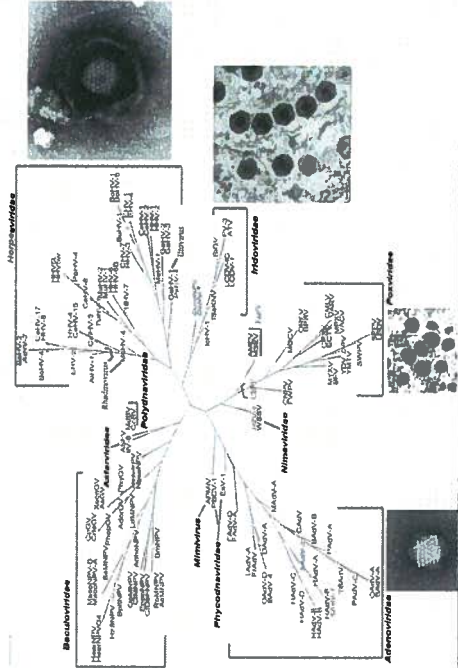
## Global Aquaculture Challenges

- Emerging viral diseases are the single greatest threat to global aquaculture
  - Losses due to disease >\$3 billion/yr (World Bank 1997)
- White spot syndrome has devastated global shrimp production
  - Spread (22 countries) via trade in post-larvae (losses >\$1 billion/yr)
- Infectious salmon anemia virus threatens Atlantic salmon aquaculture
  - Untold losses to angling & food fish industries
- Koi herpesvirus disease (KHVD) linked to international koi carp trade
  - Epizootics threaten global carp industry (ornamental, food, sport fisheries)



## Tree of Life for dsDNA Viruses

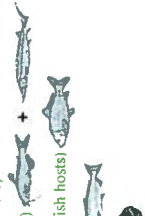
(Gao and Qi 2007)









## Order Herpesvirales Characteristics

- Diverse assemblage of large dsDNA viruses
- Virion: enveloped icosahedral capsid (90-110 nm)
- Recent taxonomic changes to the order *Herpesvirales*
  - Family *Herpesviridae* (mammalian, reptilian, & avian hosts)
    - \* 3 subfamilies (*Alpha-*, *Beta-*, *Gammaherpesvirinae*)
  - Family *Alloherpesviridae* (fish & amphibian hosts)
    - \* Genus *Ictalurivirus* (caulfish and sturgeon hosts)
    - \* Genus *Cyprinivirus* (common carp/koi & goldfish hosts)
    - \* Genus *Salmonivirus* (salmon & trout hosts)
    - \* Genus *Batrachovirus* (leopard frog hosts)
  - Family *Malacoherpesviridae* (invertebrate hosts)
    - \* Genus *Ostreocivirus*



## Emergence of Koi herpesvirus (KHV)

- Mass mortality in common carp varieties (*Cyprinus carpio carpio/koi*)
  - Warmwater disease (20 - 28 C)
  - Incubation period 7-14 d
  - High mortality (70-100%)
  - Spread globally since 1996
- Carp aquaculture impacted (3.4 Million tonnes/yr)
  - 
  - 
- Carp sport fishery impacted (1 \$Billion/yr)
  - 
  - 
- International ornamental koi commerce impacted (1 \$Billion/yr)
- Reportable to OIE & USDA/APHIS 



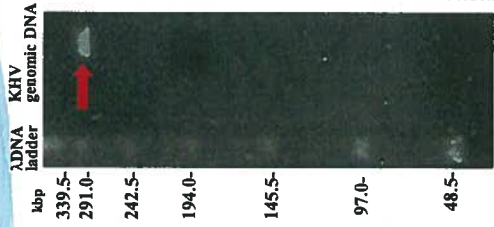
## Novel Herpesvirus or Not???



- Named Koi Herpesvirus (KHV)
  - Host, pathology, virion morphogenesis & architecture
- Other carp HVs
  - Sano et al. 1985 (**CyHV1**)
  - Jung & Miyazaki 1985 (**CyHV2**)
- KHV renamed Carp Nephritis & Gill Necrosis Virus (CNGV) (Ronen et al. 2003)
  - Large genome size (295 kbp)
  - Preliminary PCR/Sanger sequencing suggests KHV/CNGV may represent a novel dsDNA group...

## Herpesvirus Genomics

- Family *Herpesviridae*
  - 53 mammal & bird herpesvirus genomes (150 - 250 kbp)
  - 5 fish & amphibian herpesvirus genomes (134 - 295 kbp)
- KHV sequence (4 genes sequenced by PCR/Sanger) reveals closest relatives are CyHV1 & 2 (Waltzek et al. 2005)
- KHV genome sequenced by shotgun cloning/Sanger (Aoki et al. 2007)
  - 295 kbp, 22 kbp terminal repeats, 156 ORFs
  - Immunomodulatory genes ( $\nu$ TNFR1 & 2,  $\nu$ IL-10,  $\nu$ IR)
    - \* 14 conserved core genes\*
    - \* Glycoproteins
    - \* Capsid structural proteins (triplex, MCP, capsid protease)
    - \* Replication proteins (primase, helicase, polymerase)
    - \* DNA packaging protein (terminase)
- Phylogenetics of the fish & amphibian herpesviruses (Waltzek et al. 2009)
  - Partial DNA polymerase & terminase sequences compared for 15 herpesviruses by PCR/Sanger

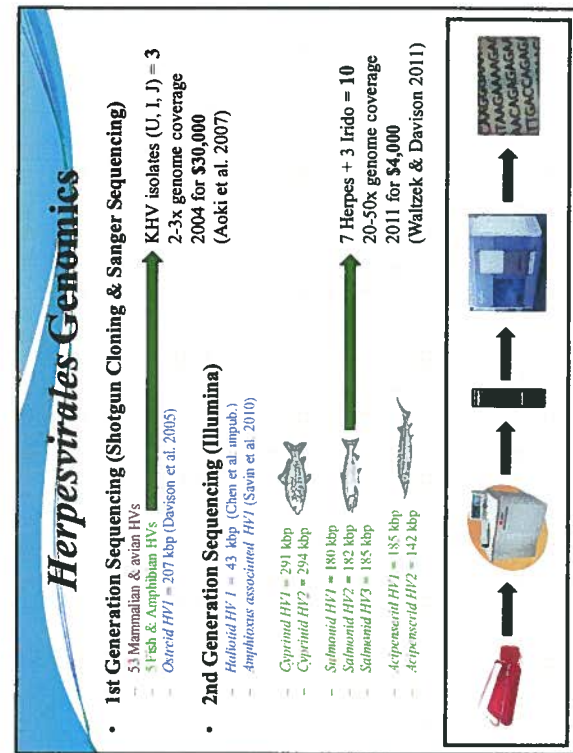
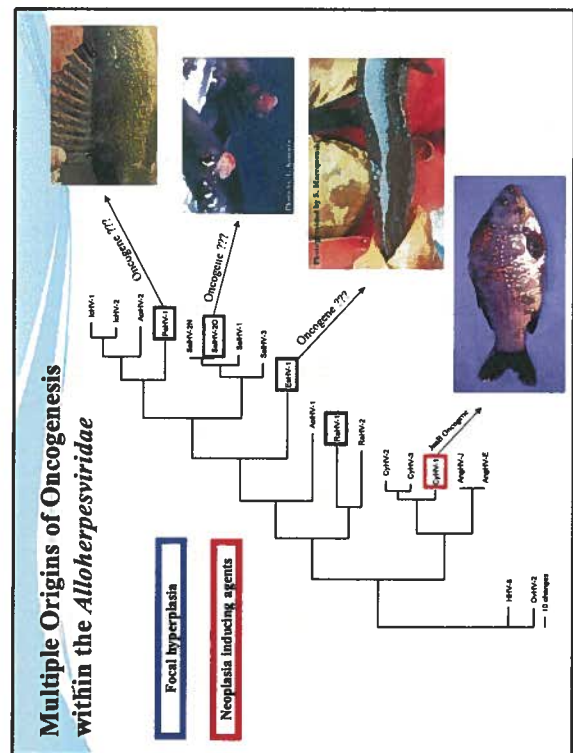
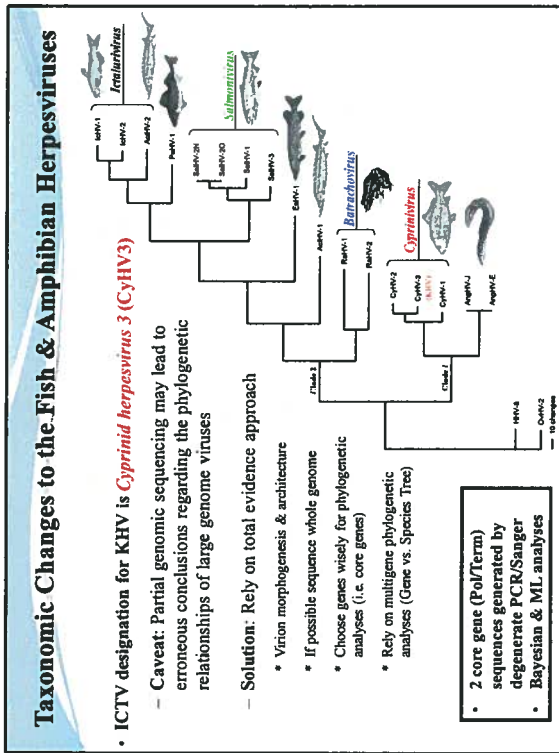


Aoki et al. 2007

## Fish & Amphibian Herpesviruses

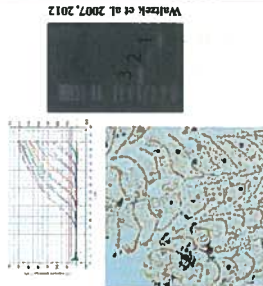
List in accordance with the 9th Report of the ICTV

Designation	Host	Reference
Cyprinid herpesvirus 1 (CyHV1, CHV)	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Sano et al. 1985
Cyprinid herpesvirus 2 (CyHV2, GFHRV)	<i>Cyprinus auratus</i>	Jung & Miyazaki 1995
Cyprinid herpesvirus 3 (CyHV3, KHV, CNGV)	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Hadravský et al. 2000
Ictalurid herpesvirus 1 (IcHV1, CCV)	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	Fijan et al. 1970
Ictalurid herpesvirus 2 (IcHV2)	<i>Ameiurus melanocephalus</i>	Hadravský et al. 2003
Anguillid herpesvirus 1 (AngHV1)	<i>Anguilla japonica</i> & <i>anguilla</i>	Sano et al. 1988
Acipenserid herpesvirus 1 (AcHV1)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>	Hadravský et al. 1991
Acipenserid herpesvirus 2 (AcHV2)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>	Watsuo et al. 1995
Salmonid herpesvirus 1 (SalHV1)	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Wolf & Taylor 1975
Salmonid herpesvirus 2 (SalHV2/ANVTA)	<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	Sano 1976
Salmonid herpesvirus 3 (SalHV3/OMV)	<i>Oncorhynchus masou</i>	Kimura et al. 1981
Salmonid herpesvirus 4 (SalHV4, EEDV)	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>	McCluskey & Thomas 1999
Salmonid herpesvirus 5 (SalHV5, AS Papilloma virus)	<i>Salmo salar</i>	Shekhtunov et al. 1992
Eelid herpesvirus 1 (EaHV1)	<i>Anguilla japonica</i> & <i>anguilla</i>	Yamanaka et al. 1983
Percid herpesvirus 1 (PeHV1)	<i>Sizostedion vitreum</i>	Kelley et al. 1983
Rainbow trout herpesvirus 1 (RaHV1)	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Grunoff et al. 1989
Rainbow trout herpesvirus 2 (RaHV2)	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Rafferty 1965



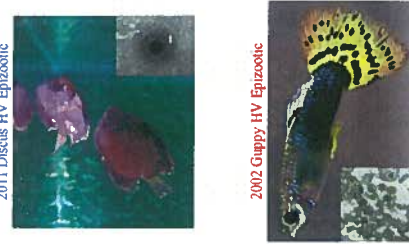
### Alloherpesvirus Genomics: Improved Diagnostics

- Sequencing KHV (CyHV3) & close relatives CyHV1-2 (Waltzek et al. 2005) allowed the development & validation of rapid/specific/sensitive
  - Single Round PCR\* (Yuasa et al. 2005; Beronius et al. 2005)
  - Nested (Bergmann et al. 2006; El-Maoui et al. 2007)
  - Multiplex (Bignare et al. 2009)
  - Real-Time TaqMan PCR (Ghad et al. 2004)
  - LAMP (Gunnabalan et al. 2004; Yoshino et al. 2009)
  - PCR/Southern (Eide et al. 2011)
  - In situ hybridization (Bergmann et al. 2006)
  - DNA Array (Lewtas et al. 2011)
- Sequencing the other fish/amphibian agents allowed consensus primer development for the discovery of emerging alloherpesviruses
  - DNA polymerase (Hanson et al. 2005)
  - Terminase (Waltzek et al. 2009)



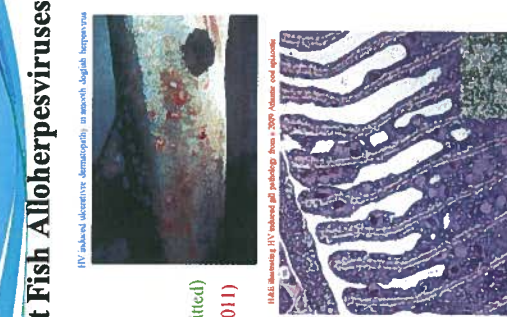
### Emerging Ornamental Alloherpesviruses

- Discus/angelfish HV**
  - Møller and Bloch 1988, Petty and Fraser 2005, Waltzek & Yanong in prep.
- Guppy HV**
  - Waltzek & Hedrick in prep.
- Glass Catfish HV**
  - Waltzek & Kanchanakhan in prep.

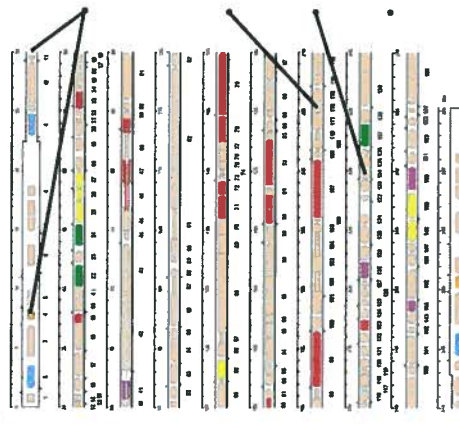


### Emerging Marine Food/Sport Fish Alloherpesviruses

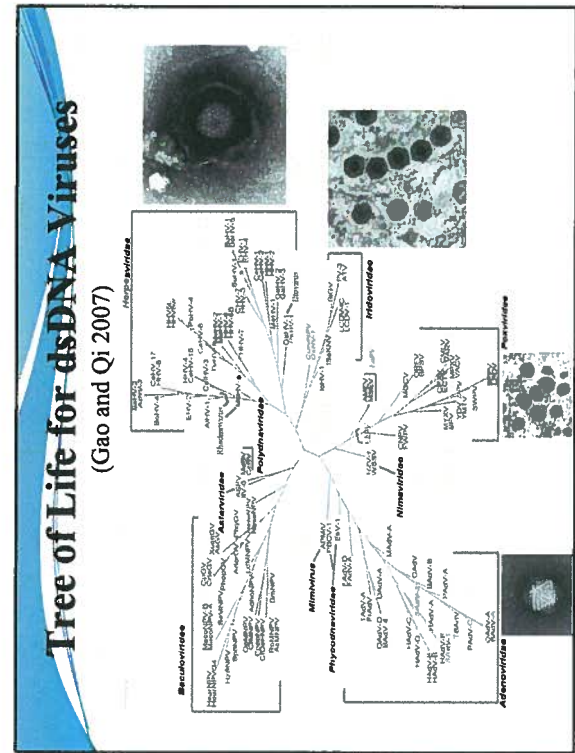
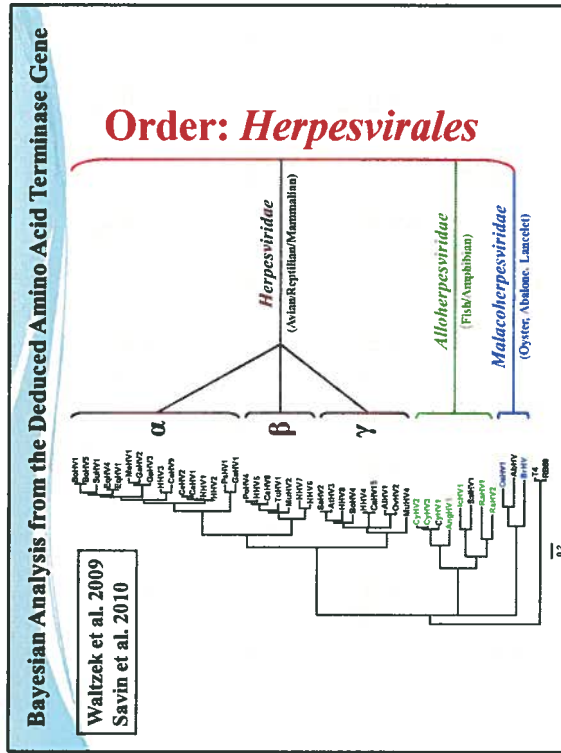
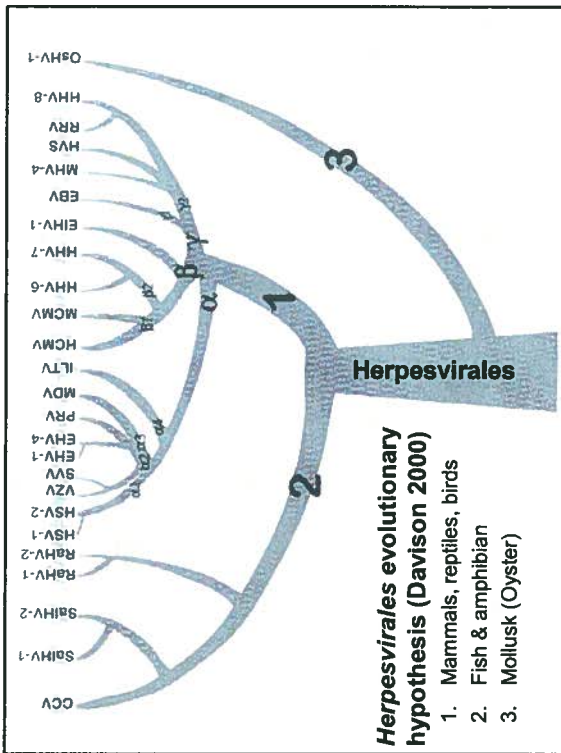
- Smooth dogfish HV
- Japanese flounder HV
- Pilchard HV
- White sea bass HV (Waltzek & Okiihiro submitted)
- Atlantic cod HV (Marcos-Lopez & Waltzek 2011)



### Searching the KHV Genome for Genes Involved in Pathogenesis




- Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptor Genes 1 & 2**
  - Herpes (EBV, CMV), Fox (ORF)
- Virus Interferon Resistance Gene**
  - Poxviruses (VAC, E1)
- Interleukin 10 Gene**
  - Herpes (EBV, CMV, EBV2), Pox (ORF)
- Viral piracy events result in immune evasion & pathogenesis?**



## Family Iridoviridae Characteristics

- Diverse group of Nucleocytoplasmic Large dsDNA Viruses (NCLDV)
- Virion: enveloped icosahedral capsid (120-350 nm)
- Taxonomy
  - Genus *Iridovirus* (arthropod hosts)
  - Genus *Chloriridovirus* (dipteran host)
  - Genus *Lymphocystivirus* (fish hosts)
  - Genus *Megalocytivirus* (fish hosts)
  - Genus *Ranavirus* (fish, amphibian, & reptilian hosts)
  - Unassigned members
    - Missouri River (Pallid) Sturgeon IV (MRSIV/PSIV), White Sturgeon IV (WSIV)

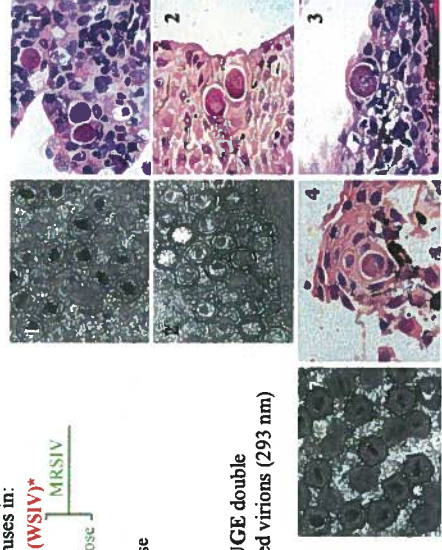


## Sturgeon Iridoviruses

Similar Viruses in:


- White (WSIV)\*
- Pallid
- Shovelnose
- Lake
- Shortnose
- Italian
- Russian

Unique HUGE double encapsidated virions (293 nm)



## White Sturgeon Iridovirus (WSIV) Genomics

- Next Generation Sequencing (454) data
- > 100 genes recovered including structural (MCP) & replication (DNA Pol) proteins
- Most gene sequences show greatest homology with mimiviruses (WSMV):
- Mimiviruses are the giant viruses that infect other microbes (Raouf et al. 2004)
  - Misidentified as intracellular bacteria by light microscopy (0.7 um)
  - Genomes of > 1 million bps!
  - Larger than a wide variety of prokaryotes!
- These sturgeon viruses are the 1<sup>st</sup> mimiviruses pathogenic to a vertebrate
- Giant sturgeon viruses (MRSIV/WSIV) to be reclassified
  - Mimiviruses unknown when sturgeon viruses discovered & named
  - Lesson: Much of what we think we know will soon be challenged as a result of the sequencing revolution

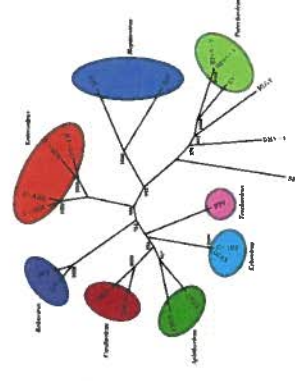


## Discovery of Novel Fish RNA Virus

Sample & Host	Collaborator	454 Sequencing Result
Purified virus from LMB	Audy Goodwin	Complete genome - Novel highly divergent picornavirus (new genus)
Purified virus from GF	Audy Goodwin	Complete genome - Novel highly divergent picornavirus (new genus)
Purified virus from FBM	Audy Goodwin	Complete genome - Identical to above

### Fish Picornaviruses

- Picornaviruses detected in barramundi, grouper, smelt, salmon, turbot
- Bluegill (Barbknecht 2009)
- Common eel (Phillips et al. 2010)
- Cyprinid picornavirus radiation (Pheips et al. in prep.)
  - Fathead minnow, goldfish, shiner



Barbknecht 2009

## Discovery of Novel RNA Viruses

Sample & Host	Collaborator	454 Sequencing Result
Purified virus from Koi	Bill Batts/James Winton	Partial Genome - Novel highly divergent Orthomyxovirus
Purified virus from GF	Bill Batts/James Winton	Complete Genome - Novel highly divergent Orthomyxovirus



### 2nd Fish Orthomyxovirus

- Koi Orthomyxovirus closest relative ISAV

### 1st Fish Bunyaviruses

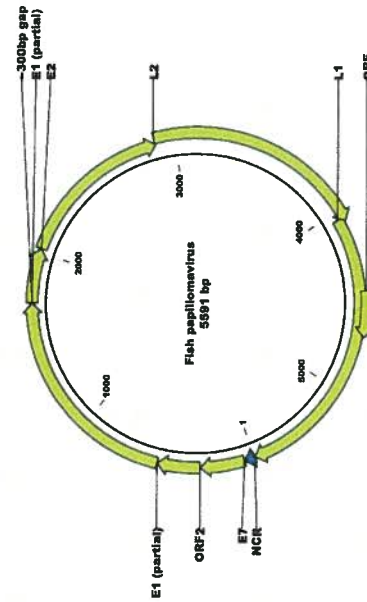
- Distant relative of viruses like Hantaavirus
- Goldfish and White Sticker Bunyaviruses

**KOCH'S POSTULATES NOT FULFILLED! SEAFOOD SAFETY?**

## Significance - Phylogenomic Lessons

- Lack of knowledge of poikilothermic vertebrate viruses is the result of a lack of interest/resources & technology gap
- Sequencing revolution has revealed fish viruses are highly divergent from more familiar lineages indicating their ancient & successful status (e.g. alloverseviruses may predate the invert/vert split some 500 MYA)
- Much of what we think we know will soon be challenged as a result of the sequencing revolution (e.g. creation of the order *Herpesvirales* & WSIV reclassification)
- Sequencing revolution has revealed the importance of total evidence phylogenomic approaches relying on multiple core genes to unravel viral relationships (e.g. some viral genes acquired via exchange with host)
- Future challenges will not be the discovery of novel fish viruses, but proving their significance in disease (Koch's Postulates)

## Thanks For Your Attention! Questions?



## Acknowledgments

### UF Aquatic Animal Health Program/CVM

- Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd
- Dr. Denise Petty
- Dr. Galaxia Cortes-Hinojosa

### University of Arkansas Aquaculture and Fisheries

- Dr. Andrew Goodman



### College of Veterinary Medicine UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



### UF Aquatic Pathobiology Laboratory

- Dr. James Welichan
- Linda Archer



### Blood Systems Research Institute

- Dr. Eric Dehaert
- Dr. Terry Fei Fan Ng



### UM College of Veterinary Medicine

- Dr. Tom Molitor
- Dr. Sagar Goyal
- Dr. Nick Pheips
- Dr. Sunil Kumar



College of Veterinary Medicine UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

### USGS Western Fish Research Center

- Dr. Bill Batts
- Dr. James Winton



**Ontario Fish Health Monitoring  
Update on Virus Isolations**

... and other research interests

Steve Lord,  
Melinda Raymond,  
Roz Stevenson

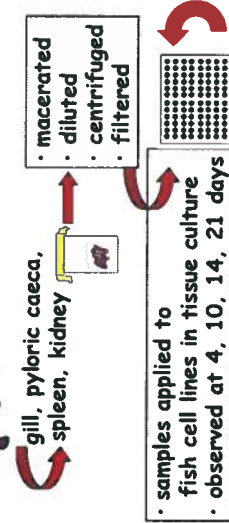
Fish Health Laboratory,  
Department of Molecular & Cellular Biology,  
University of Guelph

*Communicated by Kevin Loftus, Feb 2013*



**Detecting viruses by TISSUE CULTURE**

**CLINICAL SIGNS ?**  
viremia, virus loads in organs



**"WE HAVE LIFT-OFF ! " (CPE)**

Mono-layers of FISH CELL LINES in culture are examined for evidence of **CYTOPATHIC EFFECT**



If CPE is observed, diluted samples are applied to new tissue culture cells, as a test for **CYTOTOXICITY**

Samples may also be **BLIND-PASSAGED** ....



Routine testing for fish viruses has been carried out since 1977 ... and, mostly, it was pretty boring.

Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPNV) was an issue until a hatchery on surface water was closed in the early 1980's.



In 1997 and again in 1999, tissue culture of a routine sample showed CPE, due to **AQUAREOVIRUS**

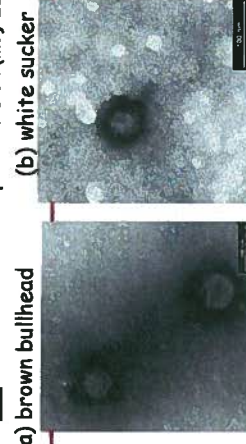
"may you live in interesting times"

Since 2005, three significant viral pathogens were detected in Ontario:

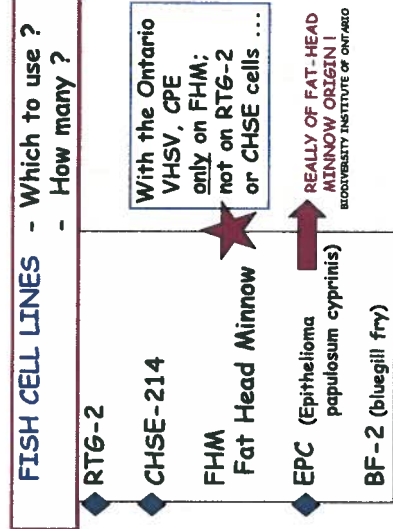
- **Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia virus**  
Great Lakes VHSV IVb  
2005 Bay of Quinte, drum (and others)
- **Koi Herpes virus**  
2007, 2009 - Kawartha Lakes, carp
- **Spring Viremia of Carp**

... and some other viruses were detected as well, by presence of CPE -

v 5583 Samples from VHSV survey work in Hamilton Harbour by John Lumsden and Lowia Al-Hussineh, OVC  
VHSV and two others in a multispecies die-off (May 2007)



• CPE on RTG-2, EPC and CHSE-214  
• icosahedral, ~ 80 nm ... envelope? ... RNA





Isolates from routine screening of wild fish, during egg collections

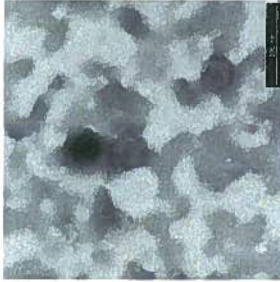
**AQUAREOVIRUS group**

- v5915 coho salmon, Credit River, Lake Ontario 2009 (and chinook in 2010)
- v5909 Atlantic salmon (Lac St. Jean, PQ), 2009, for potential import

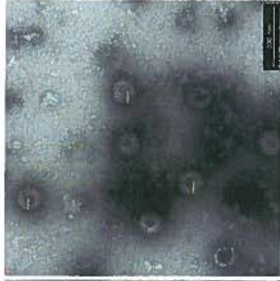
**BACILLIFORM virus**

- v5767 chinook salmon, Credit River, Lake Ontario, 2008
- re-isolated in 2011 and 2012
- also from Credit River coho in 2012

v5909 Atlantic salmon  
Lac St. Jean, PQ Oct 2009



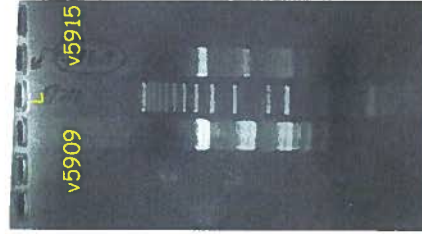
v5915 Coho salmon  
Credit River, Nov 2009



- CPE on EPC, CHSE-214
- icosahedral ~100 nm

**CHARACTERIZING THE VIRUSES**

- electron microscopy of virus particles
  - shape and size
- RNA or DNA ?
  - 5-iodo-2'-deoxyuridine
- Enveloped or unenveloped?
  - chloroform effect on CPE
- Polymerase Chain Reaction and reverse-transcription PCR with diagnostic primers
- Genome organization: Sequences



- RNA viruses
- genome on agarose gel consists of multiple bands in clusters
- patterns for V5909 and v5915 are different

Characteristics fit the Aquareovirus group  
- significance for fish health ?



**v5767 Bacilliform virus from Chinook salmon**



- Credit River, spawning fish Sept 2008
- on RTG-2 only
- RNA virus
- Enveloped

**RT-PCR for using primers for VHSV**

- OUTER PRIMERS → 950 bp VHSV product **X**
- INNER PRIMERS → 558 bp VHSV product **X**

With the inner primers, v5767 *did* show a weakly-amplified 950 bp product.

**NO SEQUENCE HOMOLOGY to VHSV** so presumed to be a random amplification

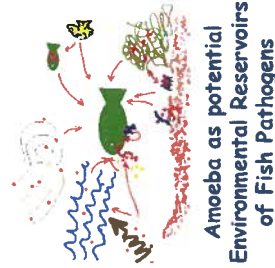
This sequence allowed confirmation that the same virus was re-isolated from Credit River chinook in 2011 and 2012, and coho in 2012.

From the rough sequence, new internal primers were designed, to amplify a 400 bp product from v5767.

- no sequence homology to known viruses
- RT-PCR with primers **negative for VHSV, IHNV ...**

While the bacilliform shape made the **fathead minnow nidovirus** (Iwanowicz & Goodwin 2002) of interest, despite a different CPE.

However, the recently published sequence (Batts, Goodwin & Winton 2012) for this virus has **no homology** with the sequence from v5767 or other sequences available.



Trophozoites of amoeba rapidly form resting cysts, which are resistant to disinfection by chlorination and other biocides. ... and they can carry pathogens!

THE TROJAN HORSE



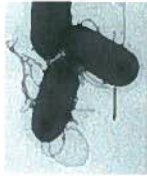
A collaboration with Dr. Lucy Mutharia

*Flavobacterium branchiophilum*



Bacterial Gill Disease bacterium - can we do a better job of culturing those cells from gills ?

THEY ARE THE TINY COLONIES !!



Enteric Redmouth Disease  
*Yersinia ruckeri*



An opportunistic pathogen (stress-associated) with several serological variants

- are they all equally pathogenic ?
- can we tell them apart by genetic tests ?





### USACE Electric barrier system

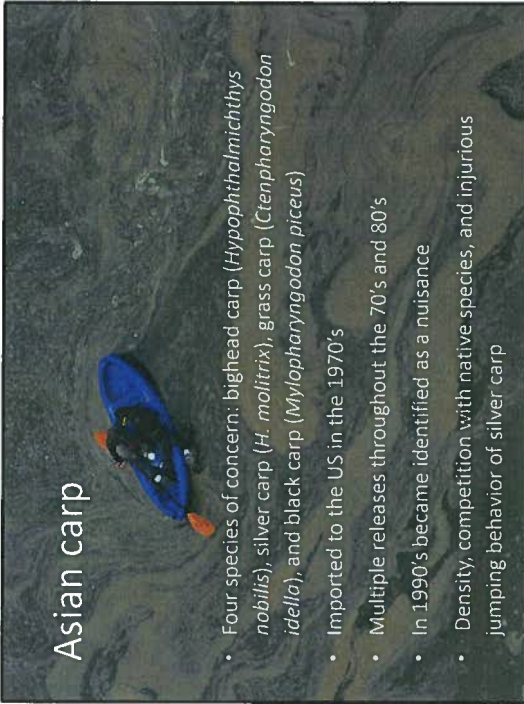
- Motivated by goby invasion
- Demonstration barrier (2002)
- Permanent barrier 2A (2010)
- Permanent barrier 2B (2011)
- All require shut-down for maintenance





## Asian carp

- Four species of concern: bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), silver carp (*H. molitrix*), grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), and black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*)
- Imported to the US in the 1970's
- Multiple releases throughout the 70's and 80's
- In 1990's became identified as a nuisance
- Density, competition with native species, and injurious jumping behavior of silver carp



**If you see this, it's too late!**



## The invasion front

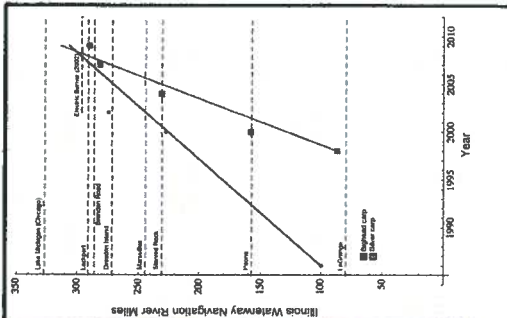
First recorded captures along the leading edge (USGS/USFWS/USACE)

All captures by electrofishing or netting (no eDNA - results included)

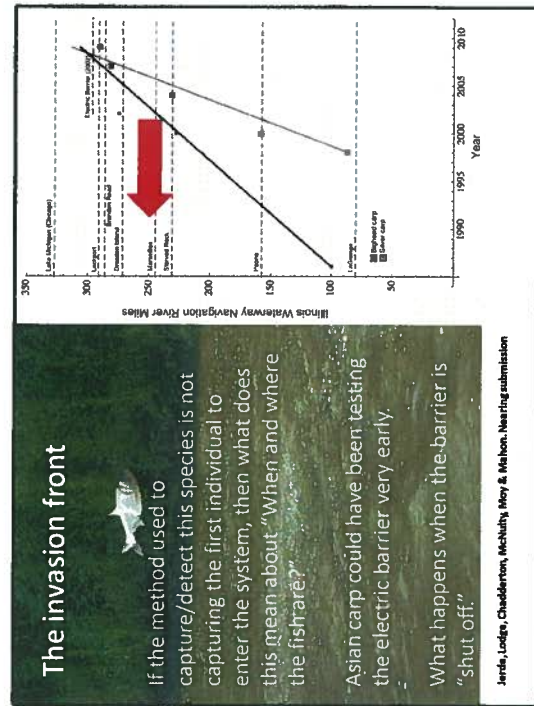
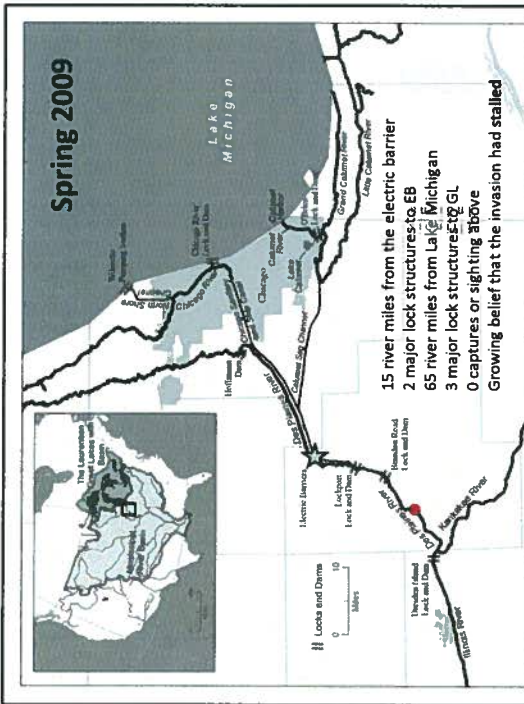
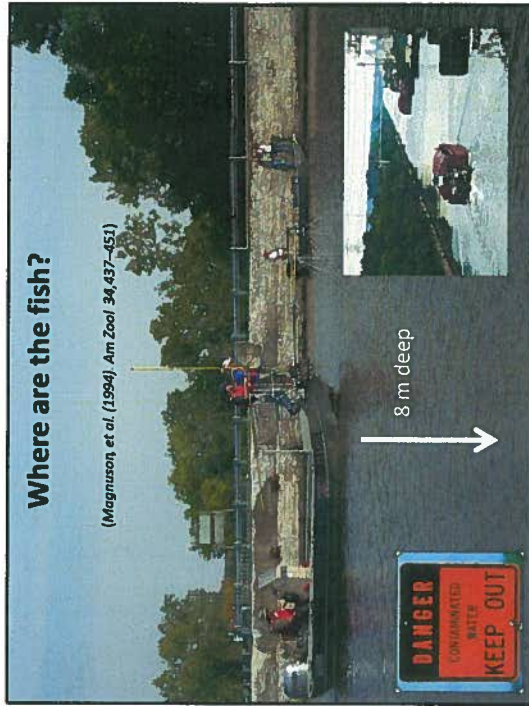
Silver carp: 20.6 (±1.41) river miles / year

Bighead carp: 8.99 (±0.47) river miles / year

Spread rate for both species indicates Asian carp could have been testing the barrier as early as 2007



**Ards, Lodge, Chauderton, McHugh, May & Nelson, Neerling submission**



### Electrofishing detection

"Electrofishing for large bighead carp and silver carp is notoriously difficult, especially where the water is deeper than the electric field. For example, in 2004 in the Lamine River, a slow-moving tributary of the lower Missouri River, trammel nets were used to trap telemetered fish in short segments (approximately 200 m) of the river and two electrofishing boats were used for 2 days in an attempt to capture the fish or to force them into the nets. The attempt was unsuccessful at capturing the telemetered fish, and the fish were traced apparently moving under the electrofishing boats on multiple occasions (D. Chapman, USGS, personal observation)"

From Moy, Polls, & Dettmers. 2011. The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Aquatic Nuisance Species Dispersal Barrier. In Invasive Asian Carps in North America (Chapman & Hoff, eds.) pg 136.

## The eDNA research group

Christopher Jerde, University of Notre Dame  
 David Lodge, University of Notre Dame  
 Andrew Mahon, Central Michigan University  
 Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature Conservancy

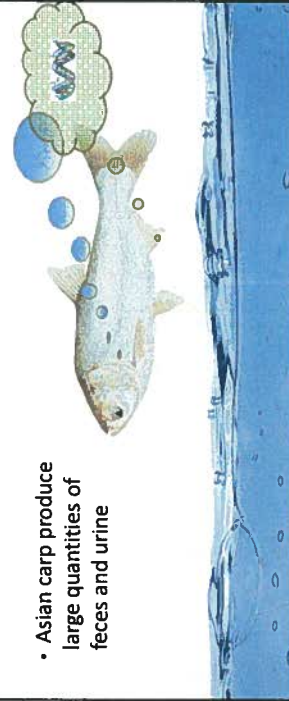


## The Idea! All organisms shed DNA



## Using eDNA for detection of invasive carp


- Fish naturally shed sloughed cells in mucus, scales, feces, and urine
- Some cellular material will remain in suspension and can be collected
- Asian carp produce large quantities of feces and urine



## The method



## The outcome

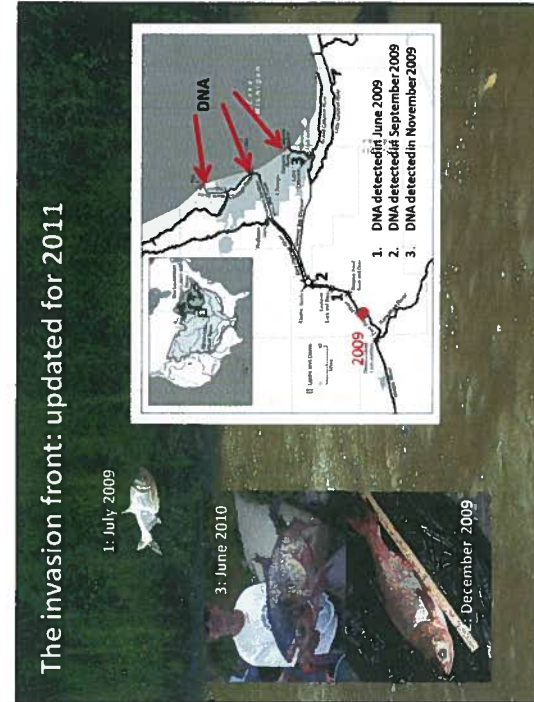
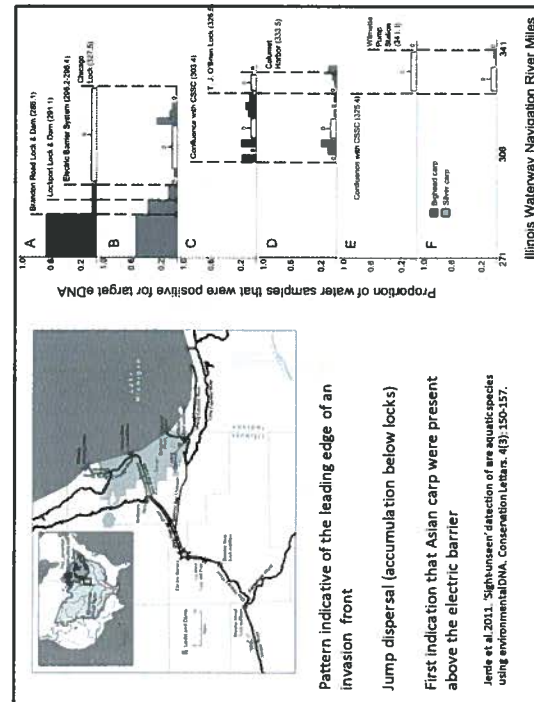


**Inference: Presence of target DNA is an indication of presence of the target organism**

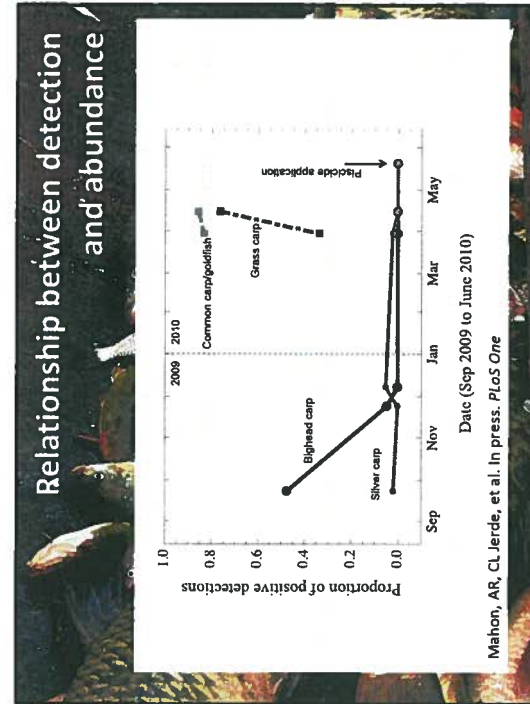
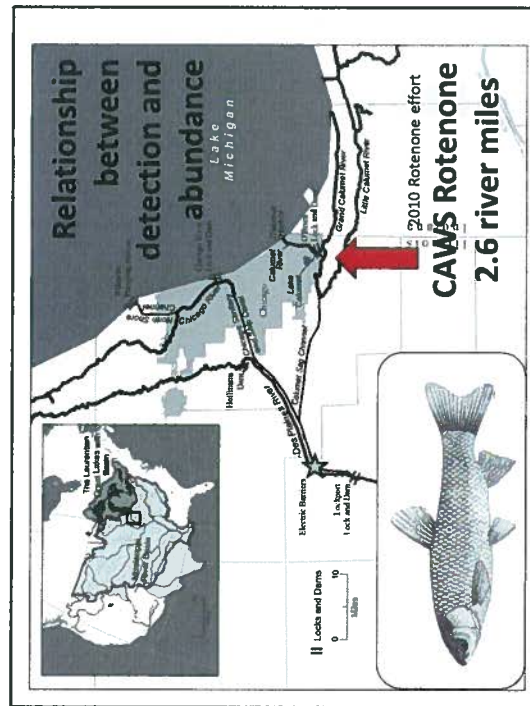
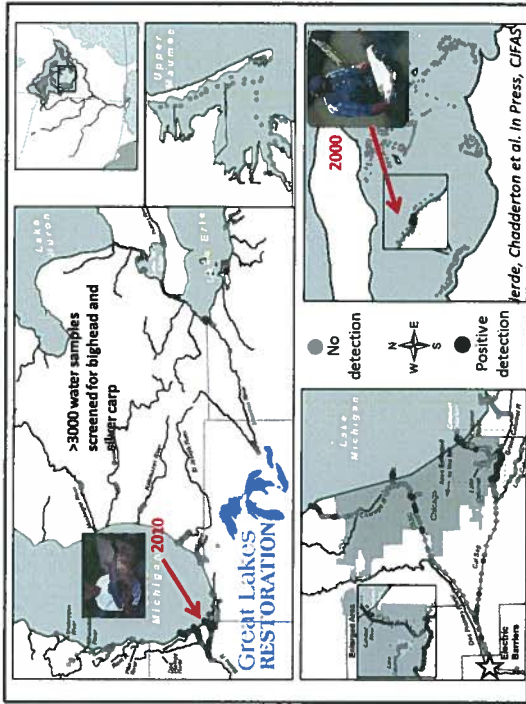
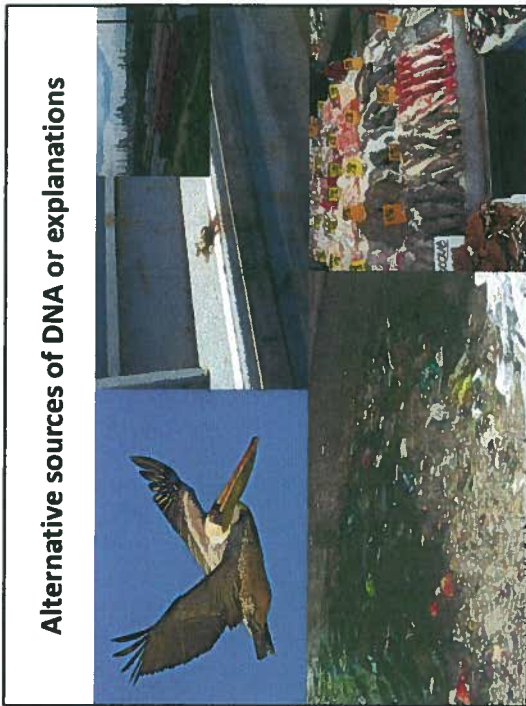
## Study overview

- Molecular markers for bighead (312bp) and silver carp (191bp) tested against available sequences and tissues of known species in the area
- Approximately 1000, 2 liter water samples collected and screened for bighead and silver carp
- Adaptive sampling design with more effort placed at presumptive leading edge of the detection
- June 2009 to May 2010, 15 different sampling trips
- QA/QC: cooler blanks of deionized water, equipment controls for all samples, sequencing of positive samples
- Marker specificity, collection, processing, and screening of eDNA procedures reviewed by independent audit by US EPA (Blume et al. 2010) and by Independent External Peer Review (USACE 2011)

Blume et al. 2010. Laboratory audit report: Lodges Laboratory, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Notre Dame, US Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes National Program Office, Chicago.







**Relationship between detection and abundance**

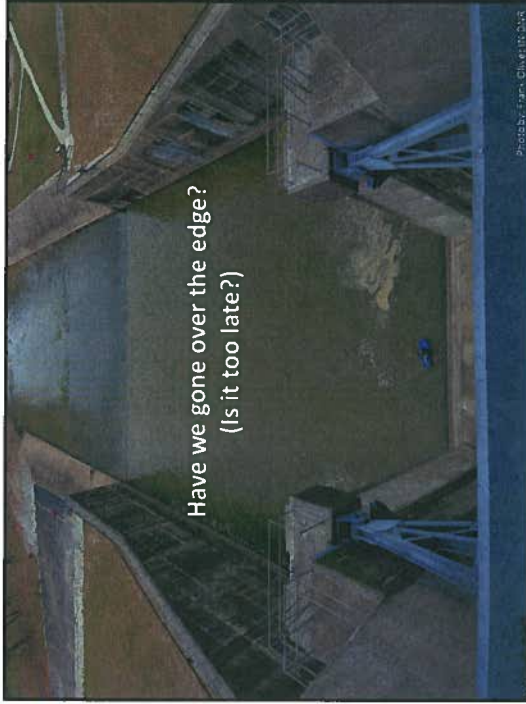


**Tetra-tech**  
 >12,000 CC/GF  
 43 grass carp  
 No bighead carp  
 No silver carp  
 No black carp

~Approximately 50% of water samples tested positive for grass carp DNA.  
 ~Approximately 35% of water samples tested positive for CC/GF DNA

**eDNA detections [amount of DNA] is positively correlated with fish abundance [biomass]**

Waron, A.F., Cl.Jerica, et al. In press. PLoS One  
 Thomassen et al. 2012. Molecular Ecology 21: 2555-2573  
 Tebbe et al. 2012. PLoS One 7: 33555



Have we gone over the edge?  
 (Is it too late?)

Photo by Tom Oliver for iStock

**Current state of the problem:**

1. Evidence from eDNA and captures show that some Asian carp are present in Great Lakes, but numbers and distributions are largely unknown (likely small).
2. The only direct source (swimming fish) is from the CSSC
3. Other sources of introduction are possible (fish stocking, bait, intermittent hydrological connections) but currently unmeasured
4. Changing the operation of the CSSC will be very expensive, but so may be not changing the operation of the CSSC. Need economic evaluations and public input

**Methodological Developments**

- Evaluation of marker sensitivity, calibration, and qPCR advancement
- Non-target surveillance with high throughput sequencing
- Estimating species richness and diversity
- Boarder and cargo inspection
- Real time detection (there's an app for that).

Thomson PF, Kielbaso J, Iversen LL et al. 2012. Monitoring endangered freshwater biodiversity by environmental DNA. Molecular Ecology. 21: 2565-2573.  
 Lodge DM, Turner CR, Jorde CL et al. 2012. Conservation in a cup of water: estimating biodiversity and population abundance with environmental DNA. Molecular Ecology. 21:2555-2558

- ### Fish Health and indirect surveillance
- Smith, Schmidt, Rosen, and Amaral-Zettler 2012. Microbial diversity and potential pathogens in ornamental fish aquarium water. PLoS One 7(9): e39971
  - Found eleven bacterial species of human and fish health concern: *Coxiella burnetii*, *Flavobacterium columnare*, *Legionella birninghamensis*, *L. pneumophila*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *V. mimicus*, *V. vulnificus*, *Aeromonas schubertii*, *A. veronii* *Ahydrophila*, and *Plesiomonas shigelloides*.
  - What about fish haulers, bait dealers, water garden supply centers, hydrological connections,.....

Great Lakes Protection Fund

**DNR**  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources

**Ontario**  
Ministry of Natural Resources

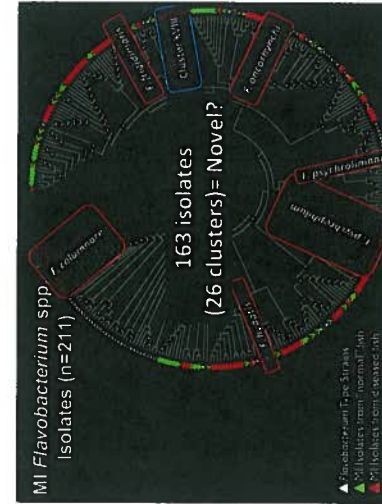
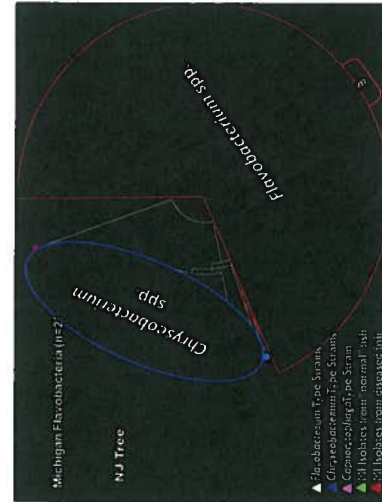
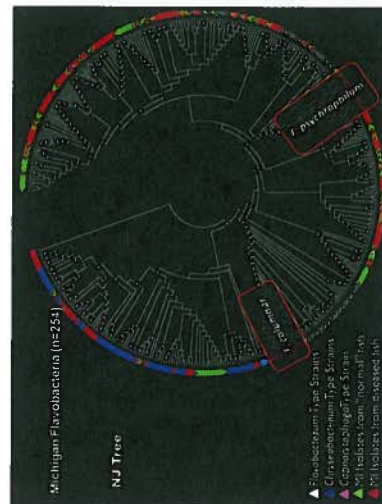
**USGS**  
United States Geological Survey

**Great Lakes Restoration**

USFWS (GLRI): FY10-S-TD24-0169-2  
 NOAA CSOR: #NA09N054780192  
 USACE CESU: #W912HZ-08-2-0014  
 EPA (GLRI): FY11 bait trade eDNA

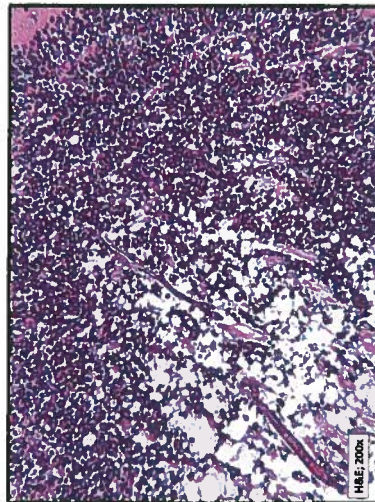
**January 10, 2013 at 1:00 PM**

**Zane arrived**









***Chryseobacterium* sp. T68**

Fatty Acid	T68	<i>C. ginsensoides</i> /mutans	<i>C. gregarium</i>
Iso-C15:0	30.9	50.3	35.1
antiiso-C18:0	2.8	3.8	9.1
16:1 w/c18:1 w7c	26.8	9.5*	-
16:1 w/c	1.5	-	-
C18:0	7.0	-	Tr
Iso-C17:0	2.5	6.2	2.8
Iso-C18:1 0-2-OH	1.4	9.3	10.6
Iso-C17:1 w/c	5.1	-	1.0
18:0 3OH	16.1	21.9	10.0
Iso-C17:0 3-OH	1.8	-	Tr
C17:0 2-OH	-	-	-

***Chryseobacterium* sp. T68**

Assay	T68	T68	<i>C. ginsens.</i>	<i>C. gregarium</i>
pH 5.0	+	+	-	NR
4-5 °C	+	+	-	(+)
37 °C	-	(+)	-	NR
2% NaCl	-	-	-	-
Production of:				
Amalgam	-	-	+	+
Arginine dihydrolase	-	-	+	+
Urease	-	-	+	+
Esterase	+	+	-	-
Cysteine alymidase	+	+	-	-
Degradation of:				
Trypsin	+	+	-	-
α-chymotrypsin	+	+	-	-
Assimilation of:				
D-Maltose	-	-	+	+
Acid from L-Arabinose	-	-	+	+
Acid from D-Sucrose	(+)	-	-	+

*Chryseobacterium* sp. T68

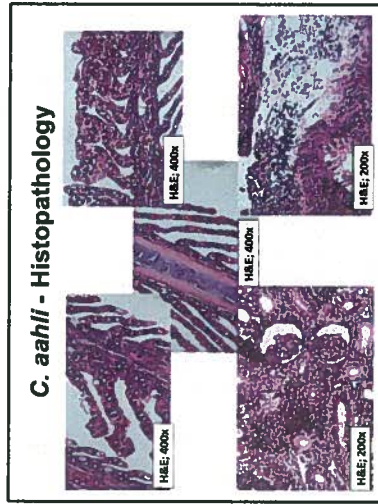


T68 & T62 represent a novel *Chryseobacterium* sp., for which the name *C. aahii* is proposed.

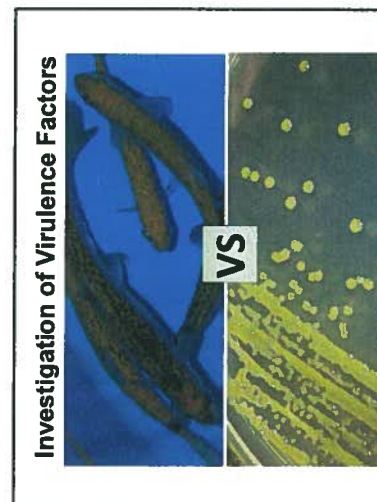
*C. aahii*- Gross Pathology



*C. aahii* - Histopathology



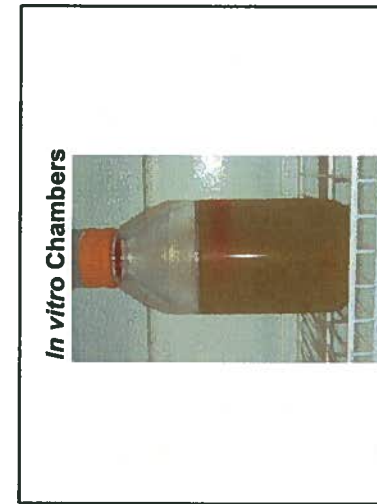
Investigation of Virulence Factors



*F. spartani*- Virulence Factors *in vivo*



*In vitro* Chambers





**In vivo- Chamber Recovery**



**SSH Sequence Results**

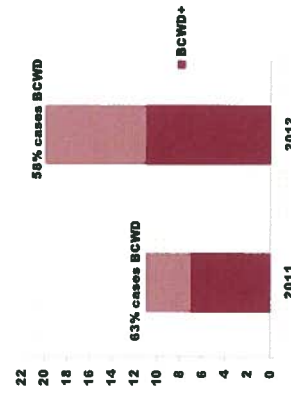
- Genes associated with bacterial cell-activation
- Transposase (*L. arguillarum*, *P. damselae*)
- Transporter protein (*P. damselae*)
- Multiple proteins with unknown functions probably virulence factors



**Bacterial Cold Water Disease (BCWD)**



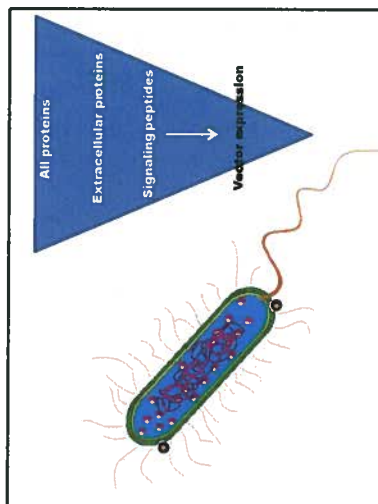
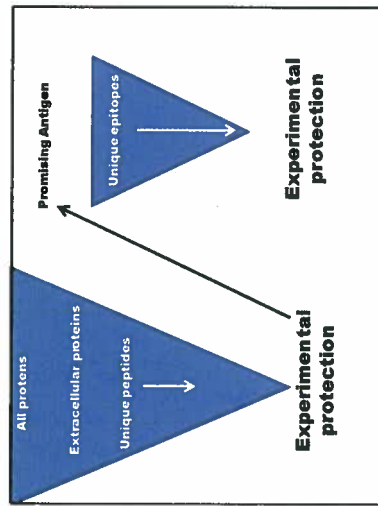
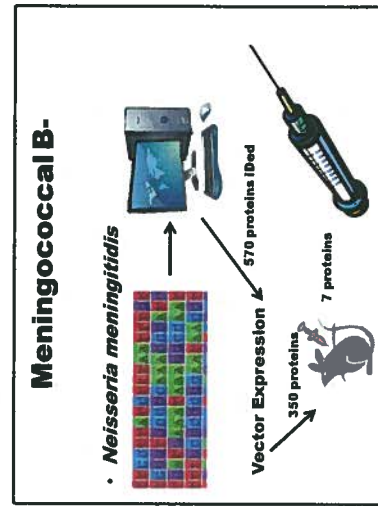
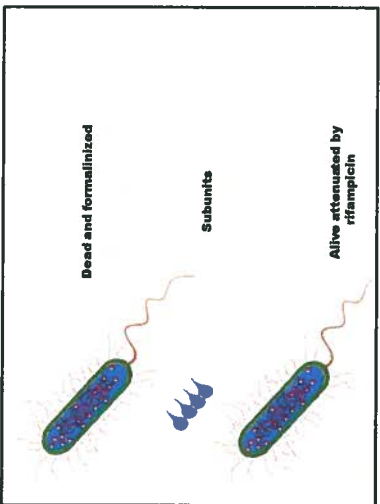
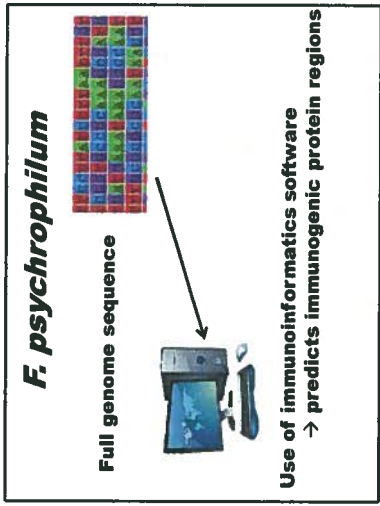
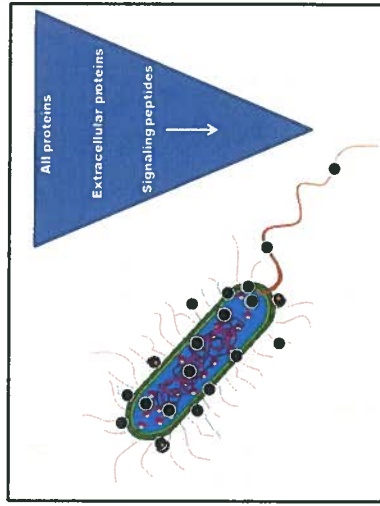
**Diagnostic cases**



- Can be resistant to antibiotic treatments

2011  
2013

2  
4

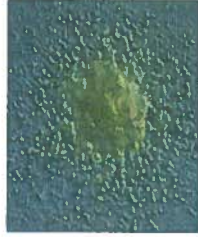


### RV Fish examples

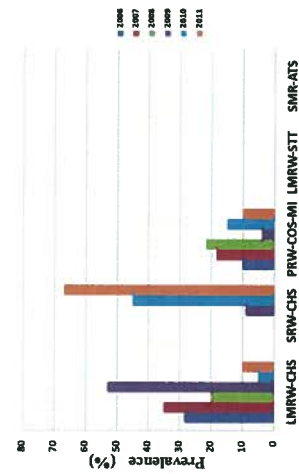
- RV lead to effective vaccine candidates
  - *Photobacterium damselae* (Italy, 2012)
    - 370 proteins IDed
    - 8 expressed via a vector
  - *Edwardsiella tarda* (China, 2012)
    - 16 flagellar proteins IDed
    - 10 expressed via a vector



*Flavobacterium columnare* in Michigan



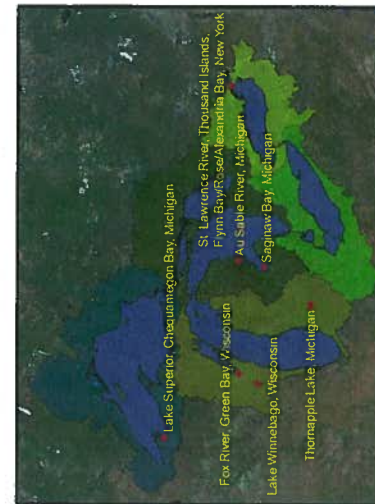
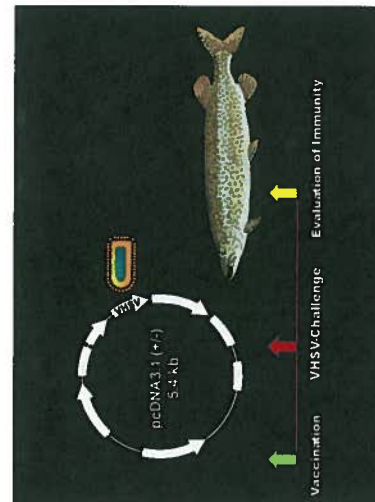
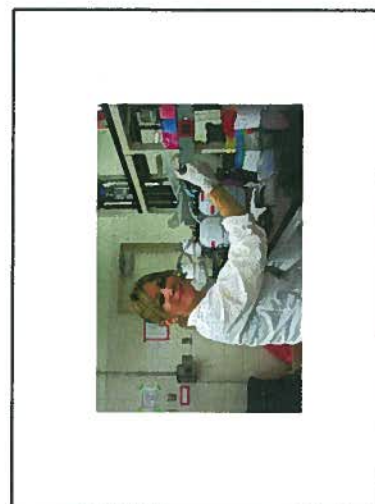
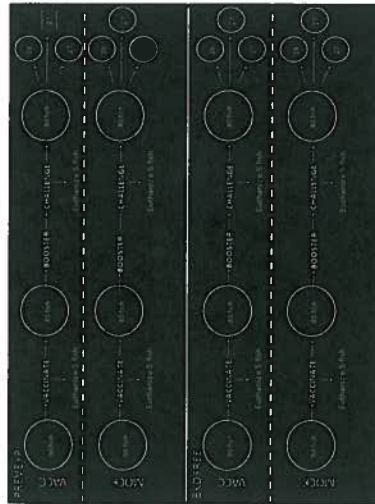
### F. columnare in MI Salmonids

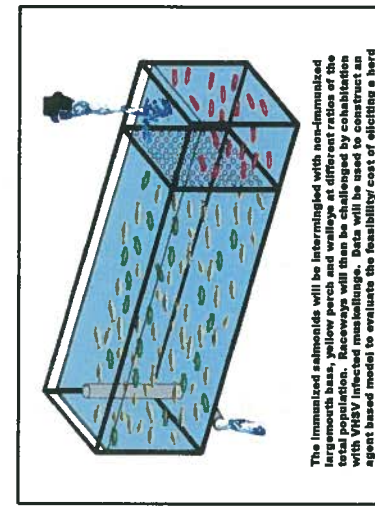
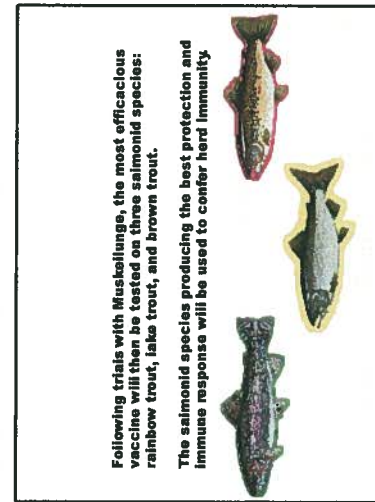
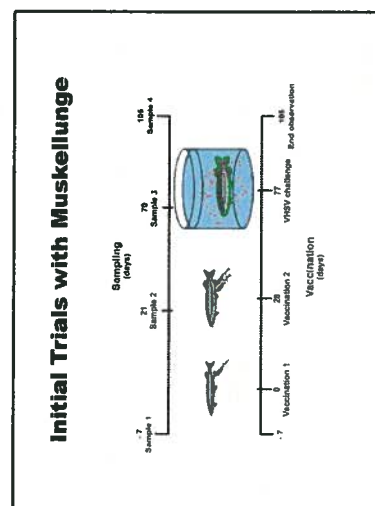
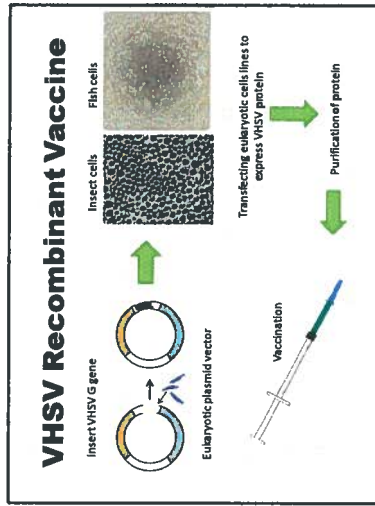






Sample	Prevalence	95% CI	Prevalence	Sample Size
Lethal	80% (142/178)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nonlethal	57% (101/178)	0.53	0.44-0.62	180
Fecal	52% (93/178)	0.44	0.38-0.57	465
Mucus	21% (38/178)	0.17	0.11-0.23	465
Serum	31% (56/178)	0.24	0.18-0.31	1134
Blood	31% (55/178)	0.25	0.18-0.31	1553
				1818
				894
				756
				1824
				500
				791

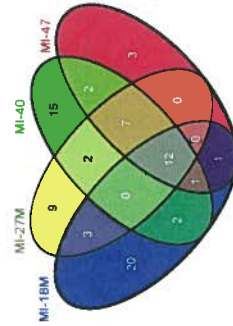




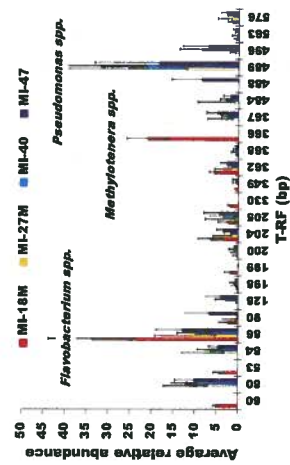
**Diseases of *Diporeia* spp.**

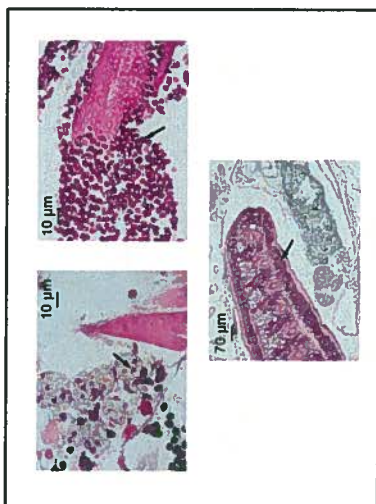
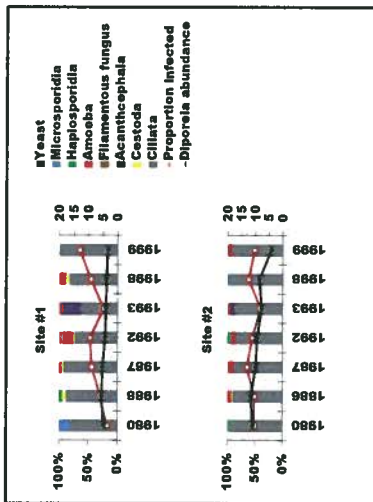
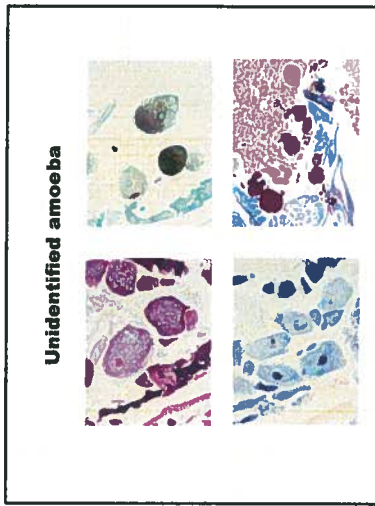


**Parasites of *Diporeia*: 1980-2007**



**Lake Michigan *Diporeia***







**From:** Marcquenski, Susan V - DNR

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2012 12:39 PM

**To:** Jensen, Peter J - DNR; Branstad, David A - DNR; Bremness, Randy L - DNR; Kobernick, Vince H - DNR; Krueger, Deborah L - DNR; Walters, Becky J - DNR; Lindenberger, Gary A - DNR; Kaas, Alfred - DNR; Komassa, John J - DNR; Giehtbrock, David - DNR; Engel, Marty P - DNR; Andre, Matt R - DNR

**Cc:** DNR DL WD FH Fish Brd; Kebus, Myron J - DATCP; McGraw, Paul J - DATCP; Ehlenfeldt, Robert G - DATCP; [Kenneth.Phillips@fws.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Phillips@fws.gov); [ling.shen@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:ling.shen@dnr.state.mn.us); [Corey.Puzach@fws.gov](mailto:Corey.Puzach@fws.gov); [Becky.Lasee@fws.gov](mailto:Becky.Lasee@fws.gov)

**Subject:** Cutthroat trout virus isolated from adult BNT at the St Croix Falls Hatchery

Hello Everyone,

In routine testing of ovarian fluids (150 females sampled as five-fish pools for a total of 30 tubes) from the captive adult brown trout broodstock at the St Croix Falls hatchery this Fall, the La Crosse Fish Health Center isolated and confirmed Cutthroat Trout virus (CTV) in the samples (see Corey Puzach's e-mail below). The St Croix Falls hatchery has reared captive brook and brown trout broodstocks and their progeny for over 30 years and this is the first time a virus has been isolated from fish at the hatchery. Cutthroat trout virus was not isolated from the brook trout broodfish ovarian fluids, nor the fingerling brown trout and brook trout that were sampled in August prior to Fall stocking. There has not been any sign of gross pathology, morbidity or mortality in the adult brown trout at any time this Fall.

This is the first time that CTV has been isolated and confirmed in Wisconsin, and by this memo, we are reporting it as a foreign/ exotic pathogen to DATCP per ATCP 10.66 (1) (a).

One question that has come up is whether this is a new infection or whether it may have been present, but undetected in the recent past. In consultation with Dr Tom Waltzek at the University of Florida, it is possible this is a new infection. We have routinely tested the St Croix Falls broodfish and progeny, and the progeny that were transferred to other DNR hatcheries each year for the past 30+ years and CTV was not isolated. However, Dr Waltzek pointed out that certain cell lines may be more or less susceptible to various viruses, even if they are the "same" cell line, depending on the lineage of the cell line and how many passages of the cells have been made. This year we are using the La Crosse Fish Health Center instead of the WVDL to do most of our virus isolation work. It is possible that their CHSE-214 cell line is slightly different than that of the WVDL, and that might explain why we are detecting this for the first time. Also, the type of cytopathic effect that the virus causes is not dramatic- cells simply enlarge and become grainy as you can see in the attached images from Corey. So it is possible that this subtle form of CPE may have gone unremarked in the past. Dr Waltzek offered to sequence our isolate so that we can compare its genome with other CTV isolates, which may help us figure out the source of the virus. Corey will send our isolate to Dr Waltzek November 26 and the genetic testing will take a few days.

I have attached two scientific papers about CTV. This virus is in the Hepeviridae family, and this family of viruses also includes the human pathogen Hepatitis E virus. CTV has been isolated from ovarian fluids from many species of trout, including brown trout, in Western states and Atlantic salmon from New Brunswick. CTV infections have never been associated with disease or mortality. The virus is very stable in the environment, and anecdotal evidence suggests that infected fish may be life-long carriers, with viral shedding resuming during spawning periods when fish are immunosuppressed by spawning hormones.

## Appendix 6

I have also attached an issue brief on CTV that Ken Phillips and others of the Great Lake Fish Health Committee developed a few years ago to assess the risk to fish in the GL basin. It is an excellent document, with the key message that this virus is not likely a serious pathogen of trout, but its effect on coolwater species is unknown.

There has been no direct or indirect movement of eggs or fish from western states to the St Croix Falls Hatchery. The hatchery is located above the St Croix River and broodstock raceways are not enclosed. The hatchery water supply is obtained from a series of drain tiles that are buried under the city of St Croix Falls. No surface water is used at the hatchery. At present, there is no logical source of the virus. Batts et al. suggest that CTV is likely more widespread in the United States than is currently known.

We had planned to do our routine lethal testing of the SCF brook and brown trout broodstock in early December and will follow through with that December 4 and 5. We will collect tissues for virus isolation and bacteriology. Pending the CTV diagnosis, the hatchery is currently holding fingerling SCF strain brook trout, SCF strain brown trout and Timber Coulee strain brown trout that would usually have been stocked by now. We can include those groups of fish in our sampling if the FM board or DATCP so advises. The hatchery cannot hold these fish indefinitely, so we will need to discuss the disposition of the fish at the hatchery.

I would like to test fish from several locations in the St Croix River for CTV next spring to see if the river might be a reservoir of infection.

Peter Jensen and I have spoken about biosecurity at St Croix Falls and Osceola hatcheries and we feel existing day to day practices will contain the virus at the St Croix Falls hatchery. These practices include using separate equipment when working on different lots of fish, disinfecting equipment, sanitizing hands, and working with the adult brown trout broodstock last, if there is a need to work with more than one group of fish on a given day. Since St Croix Falls and Osceola are a work unit and staff travel daily between hatcheries, staff should have dedicated sets of raingear, waders, etc. for use at each hatchery. Pete and the hatchery staff will need to discuss how they accomplish their weekend rotational work duties, to minimize any spread of the virus between facilities.

In the long term, we will need to reflect on how best to operate the St Croix Falls hatchery and make the best use of its production. It is likely that the virus will persist in the broodfish.

Ken, could you please forward this information to the GLFHC? The St Croix Falls hatchery is not in the Great Lakes basin, but I think the members will want to know about this isolation.

Please let me know if you have any questions,  
Sue

Coho fry



Muskies



**From:** Batts, William [bbatts@usgs.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2013 7:05 PM  
**To:** Barbash, Patricia  
**Cc:** Coll, John; Jim Winton; Yamashita, Coja; William Batts; Gael Kurath  
**Subject:** Bellefonte PA CTV sequencing results

Hi Trish (and all collaborators),

Your Bellefonte PA brown trout isolate (13-019) was indeed a cutthroat trout virus strain. It has a unique sequence signature when compared to nearly 100 other CTV isolates we have processed. It could not be compared to the Atlantic salmon isolate in New Brunswick, since my primer site is not in the GenBank accessioned sequence by Kibenge. They reported a dual infection with ISAV.

The region I compare is 262 nt long and lies between the two primers that you have. Bellefonte CTV is grouping separately from the large sub-lineage "A" that our paper in Virus Research describes with greater than 19 nt differences from the next closest virus isolate. This results in a 7 to 10% nt difference for the majority of those isolates in "A". We are putting together with Scott LaPatra another paper that will describe another sub-lineage "B" from Idaho, which is about 25% nt different from the "A" isolates.

See below for some of the relevant comparisons with the Bellefonte isolate, starting with some viruses that were the closest by a ClustalW distance tree, then includes other relevant isolates, such as ones from brown trout.

	nt different	% different
Glenwood Springs, CO RT 2008	19	7.3
Poudre, CO CTT 2008	19	7.3
Pitkin, CO CTT 2008	20	7.6
Saratoga, WY BNT 2008	25	9.5
Mt Shasta, CA BNT 1988	22	8.4
Ford, WA BNT 1990	24	9.2
Heenan Lake CA CTT 1988 (type strain)	22	8.4
LaPatra UA5 ID (sub-lineage "B")	66	25.2

I hope this makes some sense to you. It would be nice to know how close Bellefonte is to the Wisconsin and New Brunswick isolates. Maybe you can check with the Wisconsin lab to see if they used the same primers that you used. According to our paper, the New Brunswick isolate should have been 7% different than the Heenan Lake 1988 isolate. Not far off of yours compared to the Heenan isolate too (8.4%). The top four (Glenwood to Saratoga) were closer by the distance method program I used, not the ideal one for publication grade data, but usually informative.

Bill

**Draft Epizootic Epitheliotropic Disease Virus (EEDv) at  
Marquette State Fish Hatchery Briefing Paper**

February 3, 2013

**Hatchery Background**

Marquette State Fish Hatchery (MSFH) is located at N46.468056, W87.355833 in Marquette County, Michigan. This facility is the State of Michigan's char broodstock and production unit and rears brook trout (Assinica strain - AS) and lake trout (Lake Superior Inshore Lean – LS and Seneca strains - SE) along with splake. Captive broodstocks are maintained for Assinica strain brook trout and Lake Superior Inshore Lean lake trout. The Lake Superior Lean stocks were derived from wild Lake Superior Lean stocks taken from various locations from the Marquette area west to the Apostle Islands in Wisconsin in 2001, 2003 and 2004. All Seneca strain lake trout are from federal hatchery broodstocks. Of the approximately 250 to 300,000 yearling Seneca strain lake trout reared annually at MSFH, 100,000 of these fish are reared to meet 1836 Tribal Consent Decree requirements. Annual production is between 32,000 to 48,000 kg annually depending on fisheries management needs. FY2012 production is detailed in the following table and the projected FY2013 rearing is similar.

Table 1. FY2012 Marquette State Fish Hatchery Production

<b>Species</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Kgs</b>
BKT AS	A	1,133	650
BKT AS	FF	31,695	913
BKT AS	SF	12,215	100
BKT AS	YR	53,343	4,644
LAT SE	SF	27,045	148
LAT SE	YR	275,964	6,042
LAT LS	A	1,487	1,103
LAT LS	YR	146,571	4,149
SPL	YR	218,397	15,978

The production facility has 14- 7 m<sup>3</sup> indoor tanks (98 m<sup>3</sup> total) and 11- 100 to 114 m<sup>3</sup> outdoor raceways. There are an additional 8 - 100 m<sup>3</sup> outdoor broodstock raceways. The indoor tank room uses up to 6,400 lpm from protected groundwater wells which goes directly to the hatchery

discharge at this time. The outdoor raceways use 100% surface water (Cherry Creek). The broodstock building is at the head of the water flow and receives 11,300 lpm of UV treated Cherry Creek water as first pass water. After passing through broodstock, the water is bypassed to the effluent treatment system with no serial reuse in the production raceways. The rest of the outdoor rearing complex receives 22,700 lpm from Cherry Creek which is not UV treated at this time. The upper production raceways are divided into two groups with five raceways in the first building (RW1-5) and six raceways in the second building (RW6-11). The upper production raceways receive the flow as first pass water and the effluent is serially reused in the lower production raceways before it goes to the effluent treatment ponds.

### **EEDv Background**

Epizootic epitheliotropic disease virus (EEDv) is a hexagonal, unenveloped herpesvirus (Alloherpesviridae) that is 100-105 um in size (Bradley et al. 1989). The virus affects lake trout skin and has not been shown to affect any other species except for lake trout (McAllister and Herman 1989). The virus often kills quickly following non-specific clinical signs such as epithelium lesions (often with fungal infections), lethargy, and unusual swimming patterns (Plumb and Henson 2011). The only internal clinical sign is swelling in the spleen. It is a stress mediated disease agent that causes epizootics at temperatures from 6-15° C with peak activity between 8-10° C (Plumb and Henson 2011). There is evidence for both horizontal (Bradley et al 1989 and McAllister and Herman 1989) and vertical transmission (McAllister 1993 and Kurobe et al 2009). Since this is a herpesvirus, it is likely to stay in a latent form in both cultured and wild reservoirs (Plumb and Henson 2011). Currently, there are no cell culture techniques available for this virus and the only detection methods are PCR assays, full genome sequencing, and histopathology.

The virus was first described in the late 1980s at MSFH along with Iron River and Pendill's Creek National Fish Hatcheries and Bayfield and Westfield State Fish Hatcheries in Wisconsin. The initial epizootic killed approximately 15 million fish in these hatcheries from 1985-1989 (Plumb and Henson 2011). Similar mortality events, although with smaller losses, were also seen at New York State Fish Hatcheries in the early 1980s (John Schachte, NYDEC, Personal Communication). Mortalities from 65-95% in production lake trout were documented from 1985-1987 at MSFH with a total mortality of 4.1 million fish at that facility and similar high mortalities were noted at all affected facilities. It is suspected that the epizootic started in 1983 as the result of extreme drought conditions along with unusual rain events that created nitrogen supersaturation issues at MSFH which caused the loss of 75% of the fingerling lake trout by August 8, 1983. These fish were noted to have some similar clinical signs to those observed later in the epizootic. Additional analysis of historical information for MSFH from the 1950s has found evidence for clinical signs of a pathogen that looks very similar to EEDv and caused some mortality at that time.

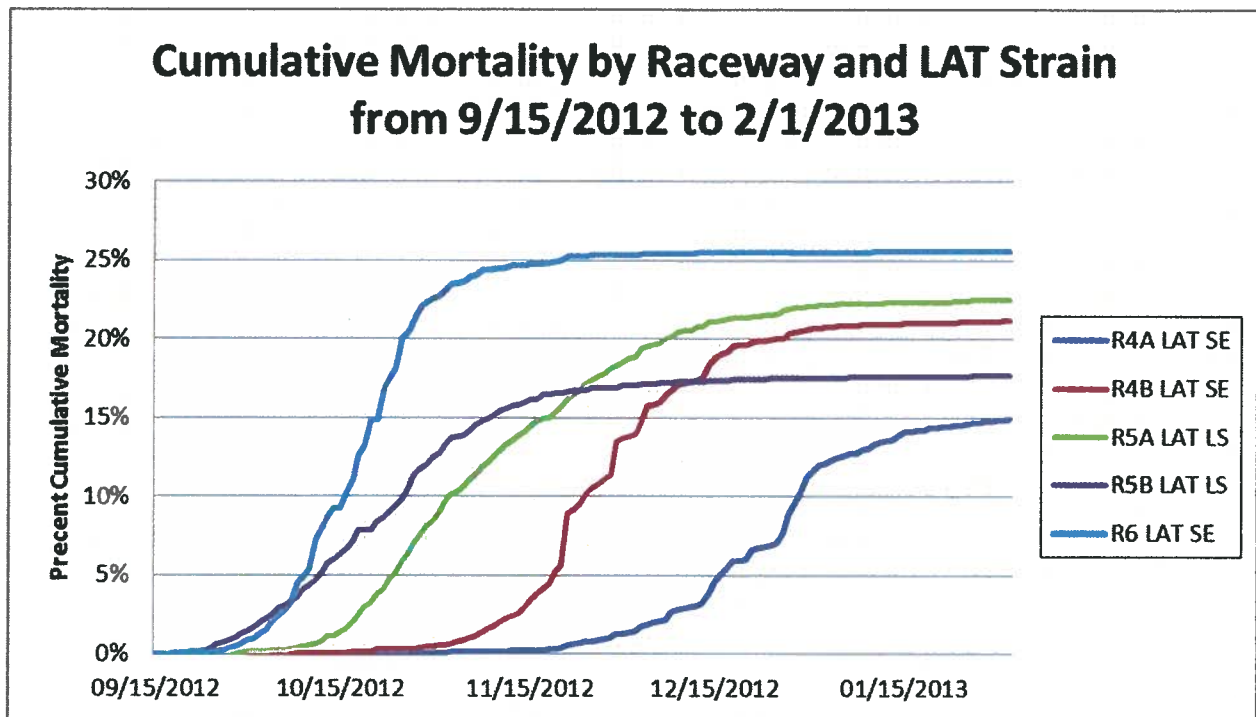
In 1988, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) decided to fully depopulate and disinfect MSFH and to disinfect by chlorination (20 mg/l chlorine) the Cherry Creek watershed upstream of the hatchery through and including the outdoor raceways on June 15, 1989. In May 1988, a total of 232,423 yearling lake trout weighing 5,014 kg (mean size of 46 fish/kg) from MSFH were buried with 1,000 lbs. of quick lime (John Driver, Interoffice Communication May 9, 1988). Similarly in April 1989, 431,500 yearling splake weighing 17,400 kg (mean size of 24.8 fish/kg) and 703,000 fingerling lake trout weighing 10,800 kg (mean size 65.1 fish/kg) were buried in the K&W Landfill in Ontonagon County, Michigan (John Driver, Interoffice Communication April 10, 1989). The outbreak in the 1980s at MSFH has been speculated to be related to high gas supersaturation issues, drought conditions, and likely excessively high rearing densities. The combination of these factors could have created excessive stress that may have triggered the 1980s EEDv epizootic at MSFH.

The most recent prior detection of EEDv in the Great Lakes Basin was from Wisconsin DNR's Bayfield State Fish Hatchery in 2003 and were from Lake Superior Apostle Island stocks. There were also possible detections of EEDv in Wyoming waters and hatcheries in 2009 (Steven Sharon, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Personal Communication). The current opinion among fish health professionals in the US is that EEDv is likely to be an endemic virus to the Great Lakes Basin.

### **MSFH 2012 Disease Chronology to Date**

Initial and unusual increases in lake trout mortality were noted in the period from September 15-20 and mortalities continued to increase through November and December with one raceway series showing increases through early January. Mortalities in all five production lake trout raceways have leveled off and are unchanged for some time. Observations of the fish have also indicated that lesions are healing and fish are recovering from the infection. No other increased mortalities were documented for any of the broodstock or production lots. Figure 1 displays percent mortality by raceway and strain.

Figure 1. Cumulative percent mortality of lake trout at MSFH from September 15, 2012 to January 15, 2013.



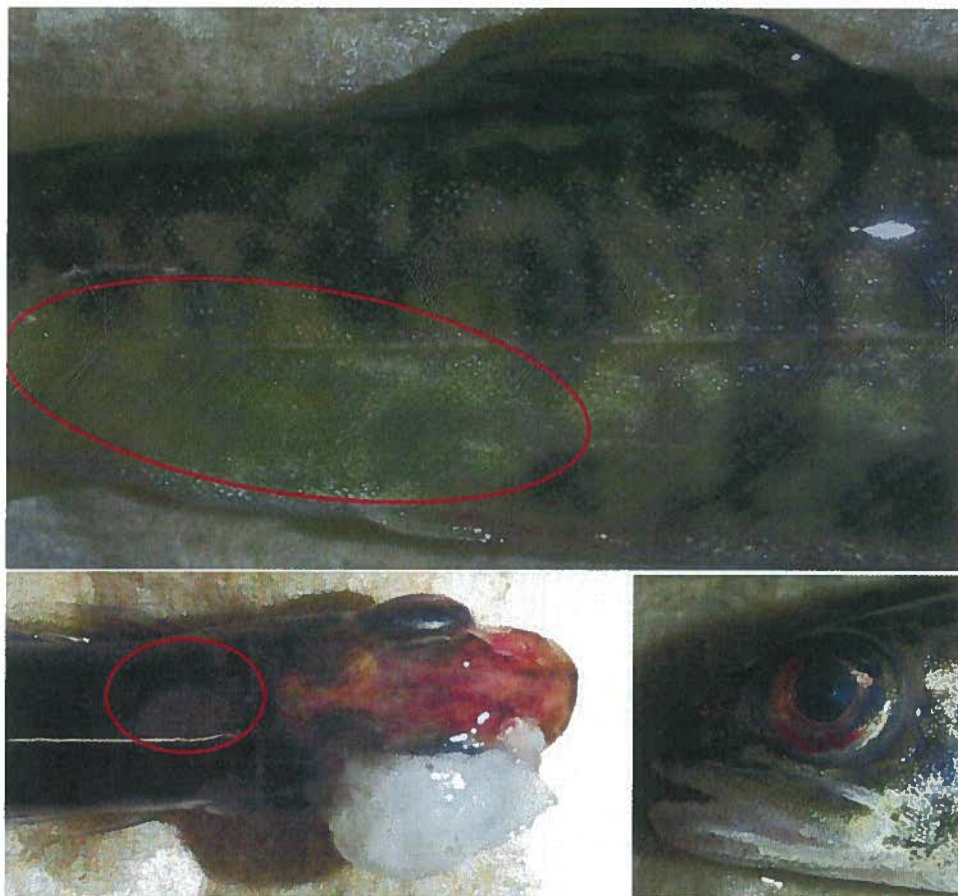
Initially, it was thought that the two MSFH production lots (P-LAT-LS-D-11-MA, P-LAT-SE-D-11-HI-MA) that demonstrated prolonged mortalities had a Bacterial Gill Disease (BGD) or Coldwater Disease (CWD) as they exhibited typical CWD symptoms such as ulceration, secondary fungal infections, and the presence of large levels of *Flavobacterium psychrophilum*. In September, MSFH Staff observed that lake trout in Unit RW5b had what looked like BGD with fish near the surface, stressed, and “jumpy” with staff movement. Fish were sampled from this unit, gills checked and some bacterial presence was confirmed upon examination. A study request was submitted to treat these raceways for the BGD, under the Chloramine-T Investigational New Animal Drug (INAD) program. After a study number was assigned, the raceway was subsequently treated with Chloramine-T on 9/18/2012 and 9/24-26/2012. Fish were sampled from RW5A (LAT-LS), RW5B (LAT-LS), and RW6 (LAT-SE) and sent to Michigan State University-Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory (MSU-AAHL) for analysis on 9/26/2012. MSU-AAHL reported that CWD disease was consistent with the pathology and *Flavobacterium psychrophilum* bacteria were found and the fungal infection was likely a secondary issue. A treatment of Aquaflor was recommended by MSU-AAHL and rearing units RW5A (LAT-LS), RW5B (LAT-LS), and RW6 (LAT-SE) were treated with Aquaflor on 10/08-19/2012 and 10/29-11/4/2012 with little or no effect. Units R4A and R4B (LAT-SE) were treated with Aquaflor on 11/5- 11/15/2012 with no effect. MSFH staff increased biosecurity measures, picked all mortalities at least daily, and increased raceway cleaning.



## Appendix 9

September samples were analyzed and no viruses could be isolated by early November. MSU-AAHL staff noticed dermal changes such as pale patches, hemorrhages in the eye, and patches of fungal infections and suspected EEDV was the causative agent (Figure 2). Additional samples were sent from MSFH to MSU-AAHL on 11/8/2012, shared with Gavin Glenney (USFWS-Lamar), and were presumptively determined to be EEDV positive on 11/14/2012 by him.

Figure 2. Photos of MSFH lake trout with dermal changes (MSU-AADL Lab Photos).



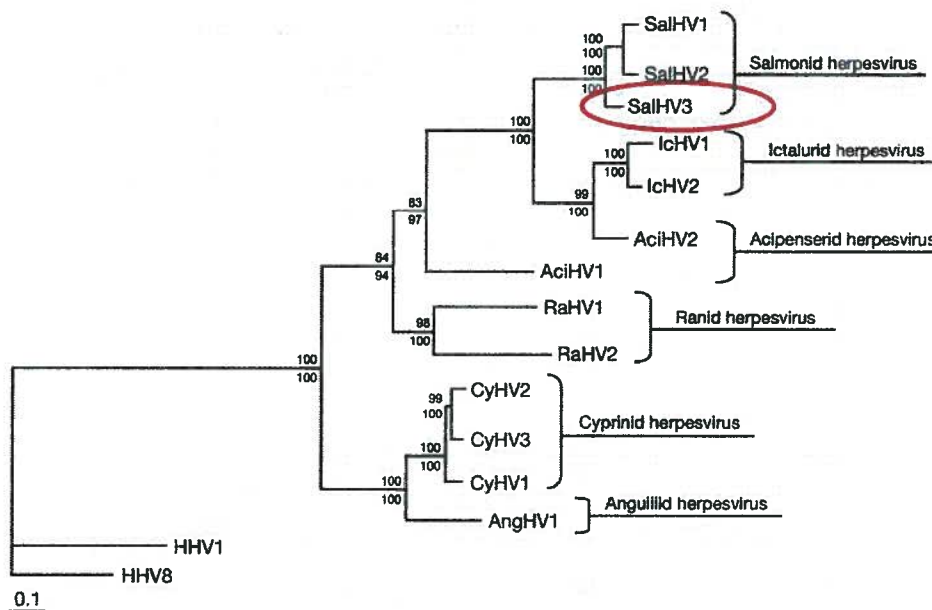
The following 11/14/2012 email message to Dr. Mohamed Faisal summarized Gavin Glenney's findings:

*"I have finished running your samples with the real-time assay and the first round of a nested assay we use. Both tests indicate your samples are positive for EEDV. I separated out the gills and skins you had pooled and ran those individually. For the real-time assay, I ran 8-gills, 8-skins, and the 8-kid.spleen samples for Case 121108-1 (P-LAT-SE-D-11-HI-MA). I only ran 8-skins and 8-kid/spleens for the real-time assay for Case 121108-2 (P-LAT-LS-D-11-MA) due to space constraints on the 96-well plate. Every sample came up positive for EEDV. Some of your samples were hotter than my plasmid, which was nice to see I did not contaminate the samples. It was odd for me to have such hot EEDV samples, since we are used to barely detecting it in the wild fish we generally look at. I then picked 6 of the hottest samples you gave me and ran the first round of a nested assay we have. All these samples were positive for the first round band of 324bp (photo attached). This assay uses a different primer set than the real-time assay, so these samples are both positive by two different primer sets for different location on the same gene. Both of these assays have been*

*tested and have shown negative results for both SALHV I and II, and CCV. However, neither of our assays are published and since we can not culture this virus, we usually sequence to make sure it is not anything else. Did you want us to do this, or would you like to do that in your lab to verify? Do you have easy access to sequencing equipment? We have to schedule a time to use a sequencer in the genetics lab here at the North East Fishery Center, and sometimes it takes a while till the machine is free. Now you know where to get plenty of positive tissues. "*

To confirm this finding, MSU-AAHL sequenced EEDv from the same samples on 11/27/2012. The calculated phylogenetic dendogram (Figure 3) based on this sequencing showed almost 100% identity between MSFH isolates and previous samples from Wisconsin. Sequencing also showed substantial differences with other viruses in the same family which ruled out other potential viruses using data in part from Waltzek et al. (2009).

Figure 3. EEDv phylogenetic dendogram based on Waltzek et al. (2009).



MSU-AAHL has also analyzed fish from Lake Superior strain lake trout that originated from the donor broodstock lake trout that founded the current captive broodstock at MSFH. These fish were brought into the MSU-AAHL Quarantine Facility for fish health clearing and are progeny of 2003-2004 fish from Marquette Harbor MI area reefs. No EEDv have been detected in these fish which indicates that this broodstock did not carry EEDv.

We have examined the available length-weight information for these lake trout lots and overall, they continue to grow at or above expected values.

Some unusual abiotic conditions have been noted at MSFH including a severe long-term drought with likely higher than normal water temperatures and a number of intense precipitation events at about the time of the start of the mortalities which greatly increased sediment loads into the

production fish raceways. Additional analysis will be done on these and other abiotic factors to see if they could be a trigger for outbreaks.

**Next Steps**

The MDNR is treating this epizootic as we would any other restricted disease outbreak. Our strategy is to determine where it is in the hatchery and the prevalence in positive rearing units along with changes in these rates over time. This information will be used to decide the disposition of these fish. Initial position is to use a similar control strategy as we do for Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD) and not stock fish in excess of 10-15% prevalence in Great Lakes waters, although we may use these fish in inland waters. We will also take into consideration the titer levels of the virus as part of the stocking decision.

To obtain the needed information, MDNR and MSU-AAHL developed a tiered sampling strategy to fully delineate the positive parts of the hatchery and to begin the trace back process on the origin of the virus (Appendix 1). The first tier of this strategy was implemented by MSU-AAHL and MDNR staff and non-lethally sampled broodstock and lethally sampled production fish during the week of December 18, 2012. The following samples were collected that week:

**Marquette State Fish Hatchery EEDv Sampling  
12/2012**

Unit	Sex	Species	Lot Year	Lot Size	Likely Positive	Purpose	Sample Size	Pool Size	Total Pools	Lethal/ Nonlethal
BT-3		BKT		1,058	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
BT-4		BKT		1,394	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-01A		BKT		13,384	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-01B		BKT		10,648	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-02A		BKT		12,016	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-02B		BKT		12,256	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-03A		BKT		17,530	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-03B		BKT		16,882	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-04A		LAT-SE		123,747	Yes	Prevalence	60	1	60	L
R-04B		LAT-SE		111,293	Yes	Prevalence	60	1	60	L
R-05A		LAT-LS		69,800	Yes	Prevalence	60	1	60	L
R-05B		LAT-LS		58,883	Yes	Prevalence	60	1	60	L
R-06		LAT-SE		41,396	Yes	Prevalence	60	1	60	L
R-08		SPL		60,062	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-09		SPL		66,694	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-10		SPL		63,191	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-11		SPL		62,644	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	L
R-16A	F	BKT	2010	301	Unknown	P/A	30	5	6	N
R-16B	M	BKT	2010	301	Unknown	P/A	30			
R-17A		BKT		489	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	N
R-17B	F	BKT	2009	87	Unknown	P/A	30			
R-20A	MIX	LAT-LS	2009	419	Unknown	P/A	30	5	6	N
R-20B	MIX	LAT-LS	2004	201	Unknown	P/A	20			
R-21	F	LAT-LS	2003	150	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	N

## Appendix 9

R-22	MIX	LAT-LS	2009	420	Unknown	P/A	20	5	4	N
R-22B	M	LAT-LS	2004	264	Unknown	P/A	20			
R-23	F	LAT-LS	2003	149	Unknown	P/A	60	5	12	N
R-24	M	LAT-LS	2003	125	Unknown	P/A	30	5	6	N
R-25	F	LAT-LS	2001	99	Unknown	P/A	30	5	6	N
R-26	M	LAT-LS	2001	124	Unknown	P/A	30	5	6	N
R-27	F	LAT-LS	2001	100	Unknown	P/A	30	5	6	N
Federal Broodstock		LAT-SE					120	5	24	

Sampling will continue at MSFH as outlined in the sampling plan in Appendix 1.

### Test Results

During the week of December 17, a total of 1620 lake trout, splake and brook trout were collected and submitted for EEDv analysis to the MSU AAHL. A summary of the test results received from Dr. Mohamed Faisal through February 1, 2013 are detailed in Appendix 2

*Brook Trout.* A total of 24 5-fish pools of brook trout from 2 broodstock rearing units and 52 5-fish pools from 6 production rearing units were tested with qPCR. All tests were negative for brook trout. No additional sampling or testing will be done at this time for brook trout.

*Splake.* A total of 12 5-fish pools of splake from 4 rearing units were tested with qPCR and initially 2 of the rearing units (3 of 4 pools) were initially positive for EEDv. Retesting of positive pools and all remaining pools are found to be negative. No additional sampling or testing will be done at this time for splake.

*Lake Trout.* A total of 48 5-fish pools of broodstock lake trout from 10 rearing units were tested with qPCR. Fish from 2 rearing units (RU 22 and 22B – Same physical unit) of broodstock lake trout were positive for EEDv (3 of 4 pools). Additional sampling and testing will be conducted to determine prevalence and intensity.

All 5 rearing units of production lake trout were positive for EEDv. Prevalence for LAT-SE ranged were 58% and 78% for the two raceways with completed samples. The majority of the LAT-SE samples demonstrated low or very low titers with individual samples from one raceway to be completed. Prevalence for LAT-LS ranged were 10% and 97% for the two raceways sampled. Similar to LAT-SE, LAT-LS titers were low or very low for individual samples. There is also some evidence that titer levels are declining with recovery of the fish.

### Literature Cited

Bradley, T.M., D. J. Medina, P.W. Chang, and J. McClain. 1989. Epizootic Epitheliotropic Disease of lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*): history and viral etiology. *Diseases of Aquatic Organisms* 7: 195-201.

## Appendix 9

- Kurobe, T., S. Marcquenski, and R.P. Hedrick. 2009. PCR assay for improved diagnostics of Epizootic Epitheliotropic Disease (EEDV) in lake trout *Salvelinus namaycush*. *Diseases of Aquatic Organisms* 84: 17-24.
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- Waltzek, T.B., G.O. Kelley, M. E. Alfaro, T. Kurobe, A. J. Davison and R. P. Hedrick. 2009. Phylogenetic relationships in the family Alloherpesviridae. *Diseases of Aquatic Organisms* 84: 179-194.

### Appendix 1. Marquette State Fish Hatchery EEDv Sampling Strategy - December 13, 2012

#### First Round of Testing

- Objectives
  - Determine locations of pathogen in hatchery and system including Cherry Creek
  - Determine prevalence in known and presumed infected rearing units
- Test – Samples are arranged in testing order
  - Sample and test non-symptomatic fish randomly in uninfected lots for presence/absence
    - Use sample size of 60 fish in each rearing unit with lots of 5 fish (12 samples)
    - For broodstocks, randomly and non-lethally sample raceways with combined samples where raceways are shared. Use sample size of 60 fish in each raceway with lots of 5 fish (12 samples). We will need Tom Loch's assistance with this sampling.
  - Sample and test non-symptomatic fish randomly in known infected LAT rearing units for prevalence
    - Individually sample fish with a total sample size of 60 fish per rearing unit. Fish should not be pooled.
  - Sample and test LAT-SE federal broodstocks that were source of LAT-SE in production for presence/absence
    - Determine contributing lots of federal fish to fish reared at MSFH.
    - If tissue samples are available from the LaCrosse National Fish Health Laboratory, test at least 60 fish from each lot using pooled samples of 5 fish (12 samples).
    - If tissue samples are not available, randomly and non-lethally sample raceways at the contributing federal hatcheries with combined samples where raceways are shared. Use sample size of 60 fish in each raceway with lots of 5 fish (12 samples).
- Laboratory Methodology
  - qPCR and confirm all positive samples with sequencing or other agreed upon method

#### Second Round of Testing

- Objectives
  - Determine prevalence in known infected rearing units
  - Determine pathogen presence/absence in Cherry Creek
  - Develop data to begin to determine pathogen reservoirs and re-emergence
- Test– Samples are arranged in testing order
  - Sample and test fish randomly in infected rearing units from Round 1 for prevalence
    - Individually sample non-symptomatic fish with a total sample size of 60 fish per rearing unit

- Test archived samples of past production lots of LAT-LS and LAT-SE to determine history of presence/absence of EEDV using 60 fish samples pooled into 5 fish pools of each lot with available tissue.
- If LAT broodstocks are found to be positive in Round 1
  - Test archived broodstock samples back four years at a time until negative for two consecutive years.
  - Use 60 fish samples pooled into 5 fish pools of each lot with available tissue.
- Test archived Cherry Creek samples from last three years for presence/absence
  - Use sample size of 60 fish for each species with lots of 5 fish (12 samples max per species)
- Laboratory Methodology
  - qPCR and confirm all positive samples with sequencing or other agreed upon method

### Third Round of Testing

- Objectives
  - Determine prevalence of EEDV in past production lots of LAT-LS and LAT-SE
  - Determine of pathogen prevalence in Cherry Creek
- Testing
  - Test archived LAT-LS and LAT-SE for lots for which tissue is available using 60 fish samples for each lot.
  - If Cherry Creek is found to be positive in Round 2
    - Test all available archived samples individually
    - Collect and test new samples above and below hatchery with samples sizes of 60 fish per species
- Laboratory Methodology
  - qPCR and confirm all positive samples with sequencing or other agreed upon method

**Appendix 2. Initial EEDV test results for Marquette State Fish Hatchery by Rearing Unit as of February 1, 2013**

**Production Brook Trout** (tissues included pools of gills, kidneys, and spleens):

BT-3 (12 pools of 5 fish) – 0/12 positive by qPCR

BT- 4 (12 pools of 5 fish) - 0/12 positive by qPCR

01A (12 pools of 5 fish)- 0/12 positive by qPCR

01B (12 pools of 5 fish) - 0/12 positive by qPCR

02A (12 pools of 5 fish) - 0/12 positive by qPCR

02B (12 pools of 5 fish) - 0/12 positive by qPCR

03A (12 pools of 5 fish) – 0/12 positive by qPCR

03B (12 pools of 5 fish) – 0/12 positive by qPCR

**Production Splake** (tissues included pools of gills, kidneys, and spleens):

08 (12 pools of 5 fish) – 0/12 positive by qPCR

09 (12 pools of 5 fish)- 0/12 positive by qPCR

10 (12 pools of 5 fish)- 0/12 positive by qPCR

11 (12 pools of 5 fish)- 0/12 positive by qPCR

**Brook Trout Broodstock** (tissues included mucus samples collected from the body and within the opercula of fish):

16A (B-BKT, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

16B (B-BKT, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

17A (B-BKT, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

**Lake Trout Broodstock (LS strain)** (tissues included mucus samples collected from the body and within the opercula of fish):

20A (B-LAT-LS, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

20B (B-LAT-LS, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

21 (B-LAT-LS, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

22 (B-LAT-LS, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 2/4 positive by qPCR



22B (B-LAT-LS, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 1/4 positive by qPCR

23 (B-LAT-LS, 4 pools of 5 fish)- 0/4 positive by qPCR

24 (B-LAT-LS, 6 pools of 5 fish)- 0/6 positive by qPCR

25 (B-LAT-LS, 6 pools of 5 fish)- 0/6 positive by qPCR

26 (B-LAT-LS, 6 pools of 5 fish)- 0/6 positive by qPCR

27 (B-LAT-LS, 6 pools of 5 fish)- 0/6 positive by qPCR

**Production Lake Trout (LAT-SE)** (tissues included gills):

04A- 35/60 individual LAT (K/S, gills) positive - Prevalence = 58.3%

- Titers - 4H-2M-3L-26VL

04B- 4/10 individual LAT (K/S, gills) positive – Individual results pending

06- 47/60 individual LAT (K/S, gills) positive – Prevalence = 78%

- Titers - 1L-46VL

**Production Lake Trout (LAT-LS)** (tissues included gills):

05A- 6/60 individual LAT (K/S, gills) positive – Prevalence – 10%

- Titers – 1 M, 5 VL

05B- 58/60 individual LAT (K/S, gills) positive – Prevalence – 97%

- Titers - 7L-51VL

Table 1. MSFH EEDv results through February 1, 2013.

Unit	Species	Sample #s	Pool?	Tissue Type	qPCR	Viral Titers
BT-3	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
BT-4	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-01A	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-01B	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-02A	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-02B	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-03A	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-03B	BKT	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-04A	LAT-SE	#1-60	indiv	K/S; gill	35/60 indiv	4H-2M- 3L-26VL
R-04B	LAT-SE	#1-60	indiv	K/S; gill	4/10 indiv	
R-05A	LAT-LS	#1-60	indiv	K/S; gill	6/60 indiv	1M-5VL
R-05B	LAT-LS	#1-60	indiv	K/S; gill	58/60 indiv	7L-51VL
R-06	LAT-SE	#1-60	indiv	K/S; gill	47/60 indiv	1L-46VL
R-08	SPL	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-09	SPL	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-10	SPL	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-11	SPL	#1-60	5/p	K/S/G	0/12 pools	
R-16A	BKT	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-16B	BKT	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-17A	BKT	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-20A	LAT-LS	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-20B	LAT-LS	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-21	LAT-LS	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-22	LAT-LS	#1-20	indiv	mucous	2/4 pools	
R-22B	LAT-LS	#1-20	indiv	mucous	1/4 pools	
R-23	LAT-LS	#1-20	indiv	mucous	0/4 pools	
R-24	LAT-LS	#1-30	indiv	mucous	0/6 pools	
R-25	LAT-LS	#1-30	indiv	mucous	0/6 pools	
R-26	LAT-LS	#1-30	indiv	mucous	0/6 pools	
R-27	LAT-LS	#1-30	indiv	mucous	0/6 pools	

H=&gt;1000 copies

M=medium (&gt;100 copies)

L=low (50-100 copies)

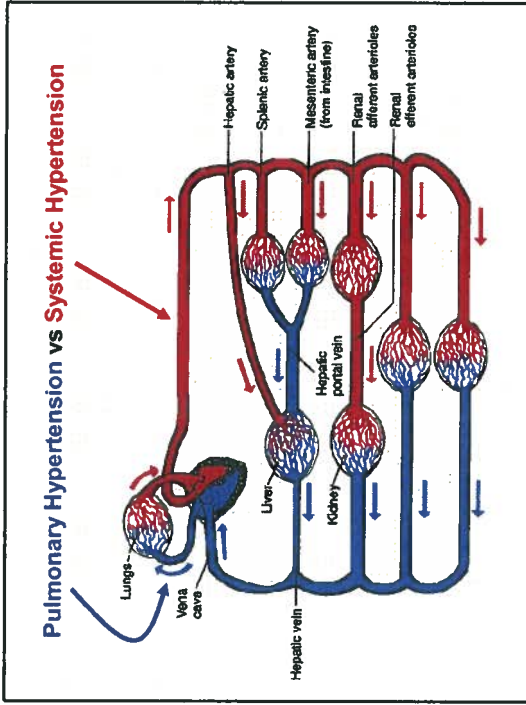
VL=very low (&lt;50copies)

Hydrogen Sulfide – From Aquatic Pollutant to Clinical Therapeutic

- a fish story



Ken Olson  
Indiana University School of Medicine - South Bend  
e-mail: kolson@nd.edu



**Systemic Hypertension: 95% Primary (Cause?)**

**Models**

Humans

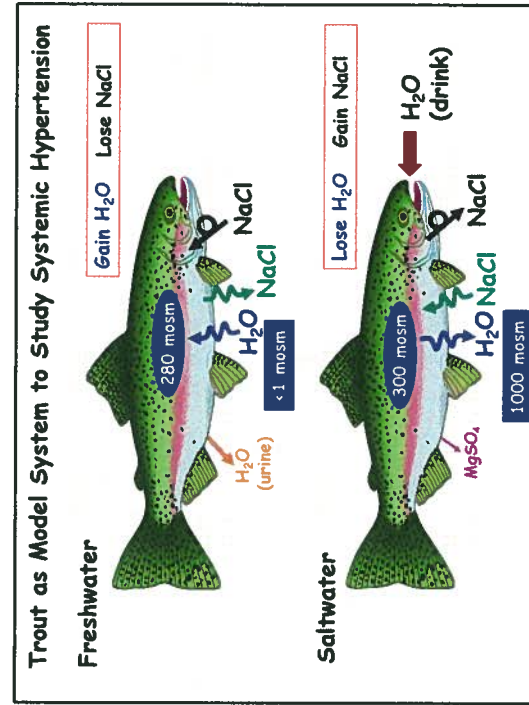
Lab animals (mammals)

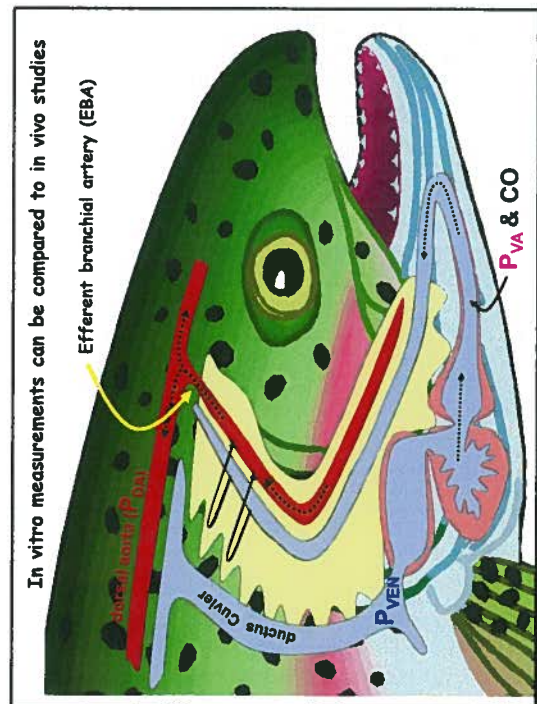
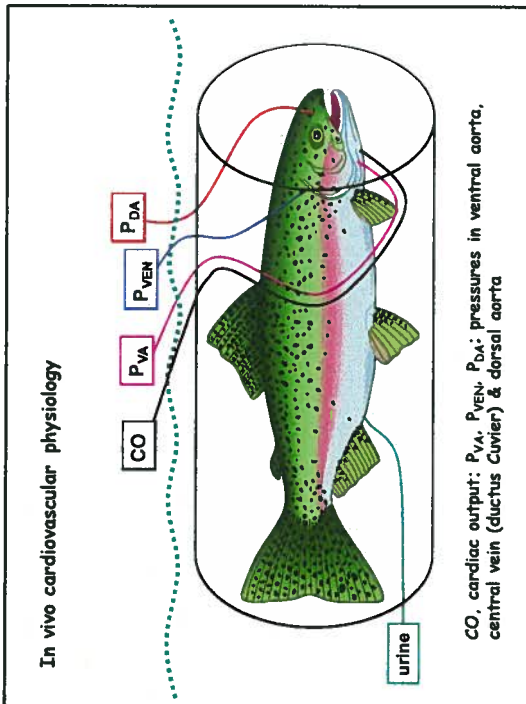
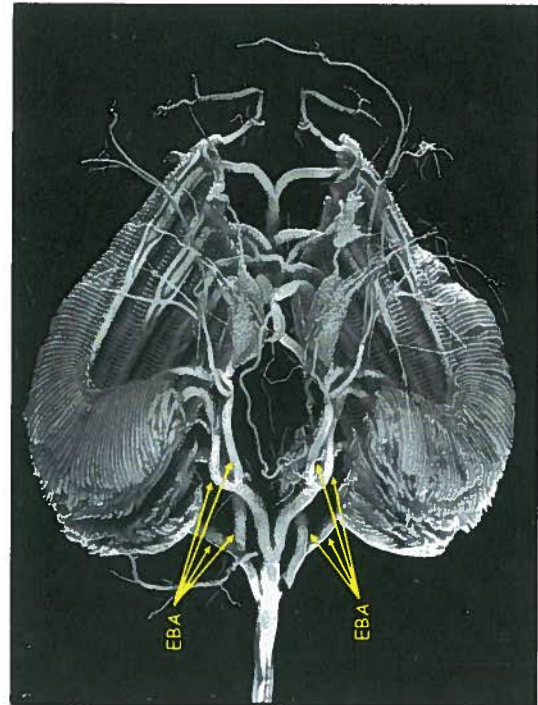
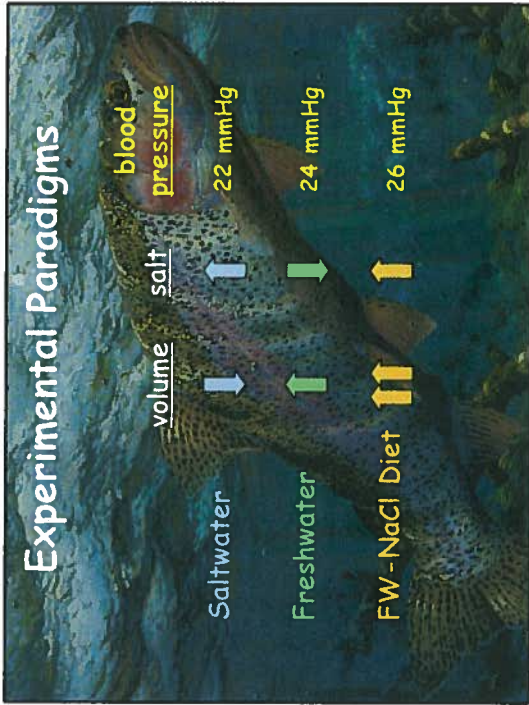
1. Pharmacologically treated
2. Genetically manipulated
3. Surgically modified

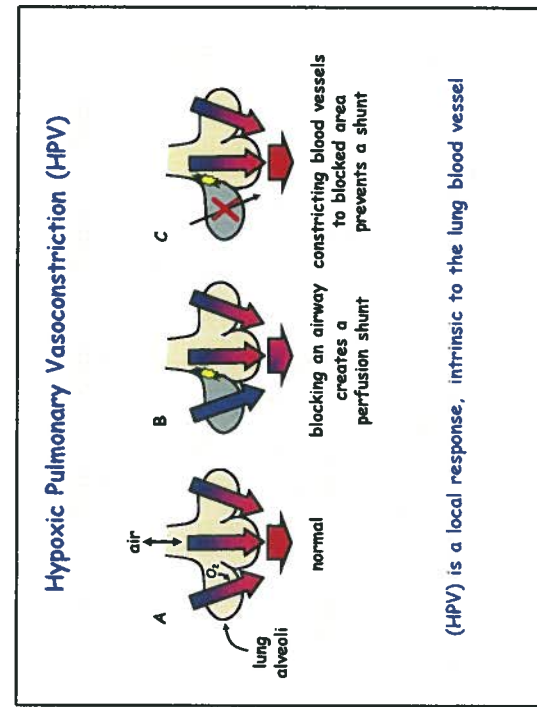
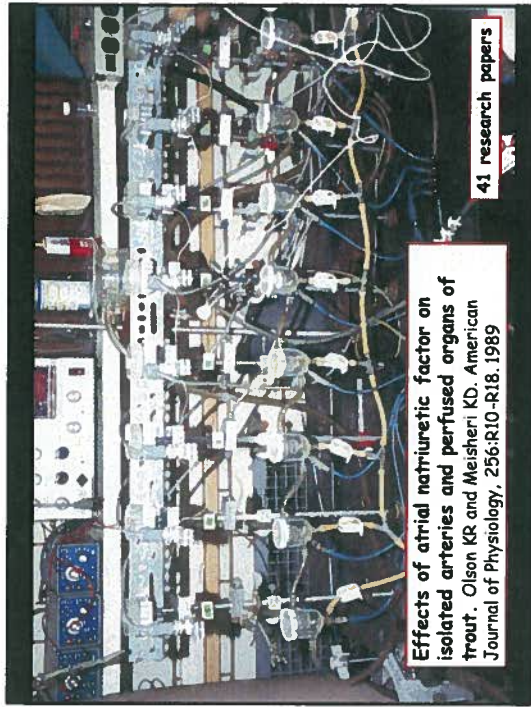
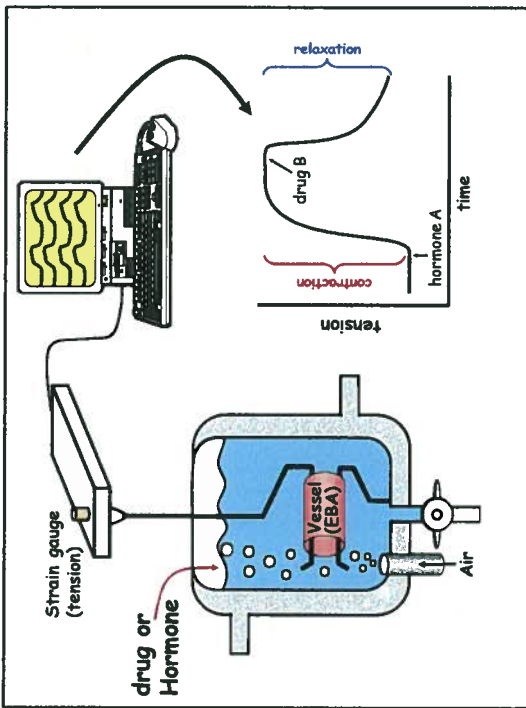
**Pulmonary Hypertension: >80% Secondary (hypoxia)**


**Mechanism?**

**Models: mammalian pulmonary blood vessels**









However, if  $P_{O_2}$  low in all alveoli...

**Global Hypoxic Pulmonary Vasoconstriction**  
leads to **Pulmonary Hypertension**

1. High altitude
2. Ventilatory problems (obesity hypoventilation syndrome, emphysema, diffuse chronic obstructive disease (COPD))
3. Sleep apnea

**Because the mechanism of  $O_2$  sensing is unknown - treatment is difficult**


**$H_2S$**

**Hydrogen sulfide as a biological signal**  
The possible role of hydrogen sulfide as an endogenous smooth muscle relaxant in synergy with nitric oxide. Hosoki et al., *BBRC*, 237:527-531, (1997)

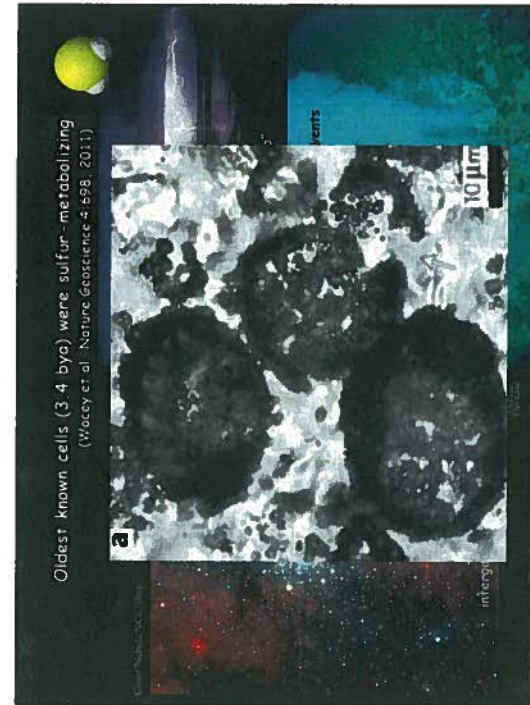
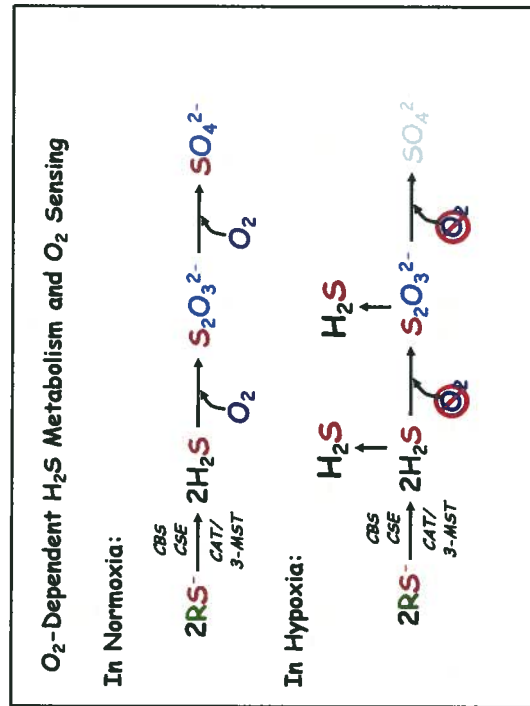
*Am J Physiol Regul Integr Comp Physiol* 286: R678-R685, 2004.  
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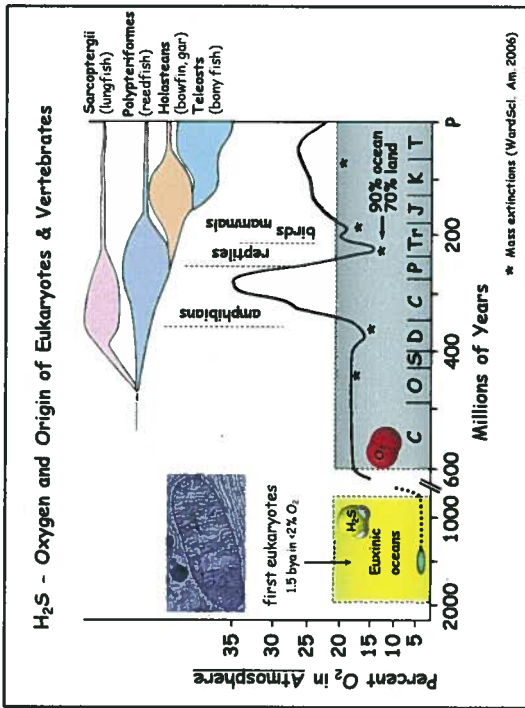
**Hydrogen sulfide as an endogenous regulator of vascular smooth muscle tone in trout**

Ryan A. Dombkowski,<sup>1,2</sup> Michael J. Russell,<sup>1,2</sup> and Kenneth R. Olson<sup>1,2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences and South Bend Center for Medical Education  
<sup>2</sup>Indiana University School of Medicine, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556  
Submitted 25 July 2003; accepted in final form 15 December 2003

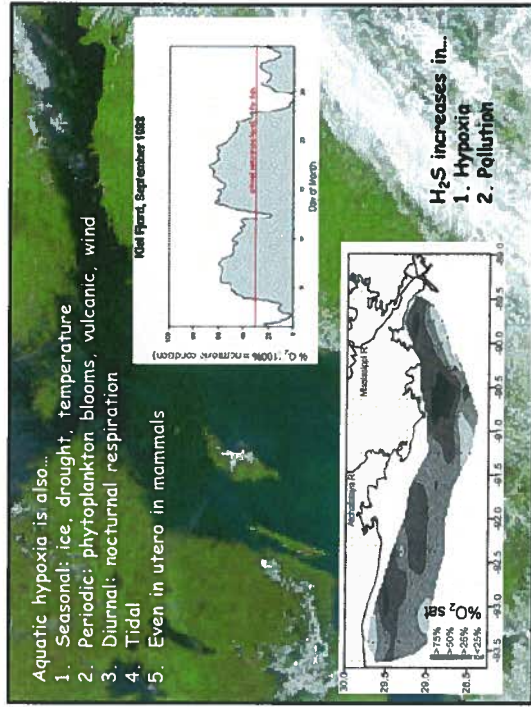


Olson et al., *Am J Physiol* 280: R198, 2001





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## Contaminant Transport to Great Lakes Tributaries by Pacific salmon

D.T. Chaloner<sup>1</sup>, D.J. Janetski<sup>2</sup>, A.H. Moerke<sup>3</sup>, R.R. Rediske<sup>2</sup>, J.P. O'Keefe<sup>2</sup>, and G.A. Lamberti<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Notre Dame*  
<sup>2</sup>*Annis Water Resources Institute, Grand Valley State University*  
<sup>3</sup>*School of Biological Sciences, Lake Superior State University*

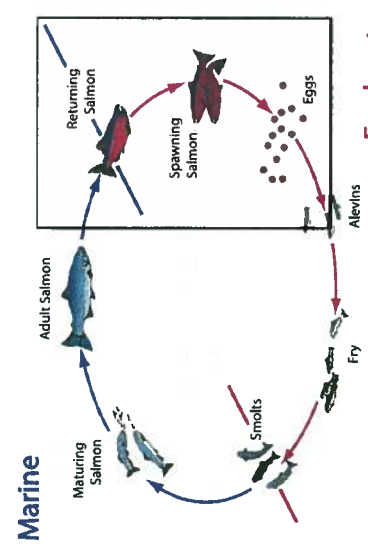


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- **Personnel** – Mike Brueseke, Scott Collins, Kate Harriger, Ted Kratschmer, Tim Spear, Megan Kline, Katie Anweiler, Tim Szweczyk, Dave Sena, Sally Entrekin, Ron Hellenenthal, Shayna Sura, Peter Levi, Jesse Combin, Kelly Garvey, Betsy Frye, Ross Gay, Jessica Koslara, Mark Tonello, Marty Holtgren, Stephanie Ogren, Grant Poole, Chris Eilers, Lee Gillispie, Warren Leech, Jill Leonard, and Lisa O'Connor
- **Agencies** – Annis Water Resources Institute, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Batchewana First Nation of Ojibways, Michigan Division of Natural Resources, Wisconsin DNR, Indiana DNR, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, National Park Service, Thompson Fish Hatchery, USDA Forest Service
- **Funding** – Great Lakes Fishery Trust, Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation, University of Notre Dame Center for Aquatic Conservation



## Pacific Salmon Lifecycle

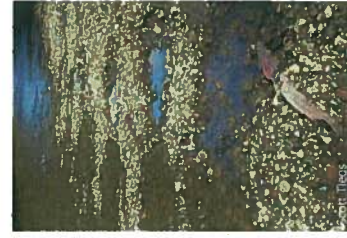


- Anadromous
- Semelparous

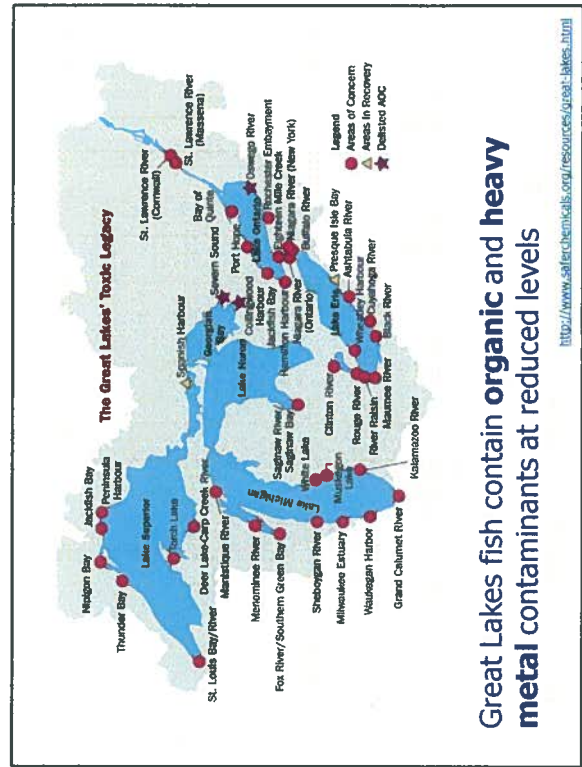
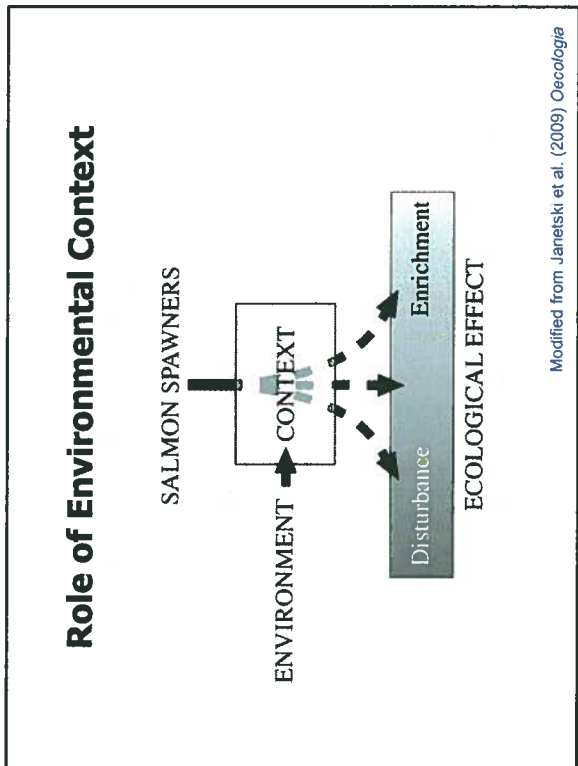
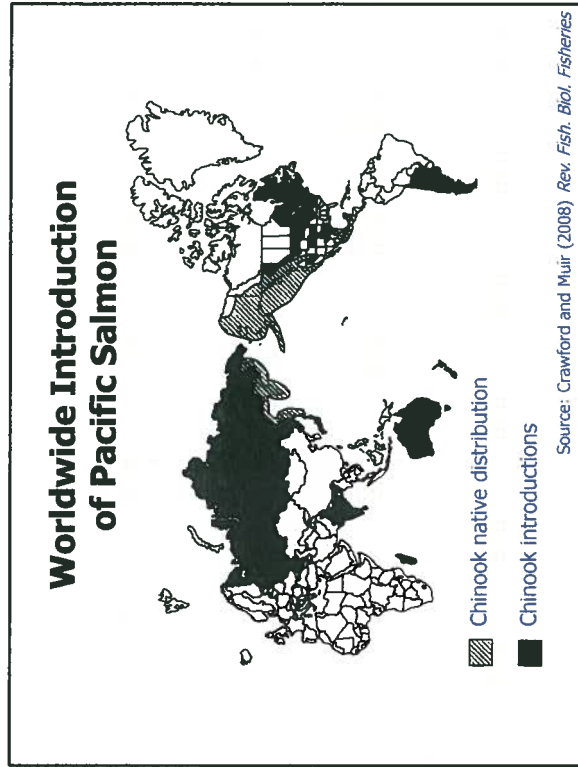
## Ecological Effects of Pacific Salmon Spawners



**Resource subsidies**  
(enrichment)



**Ecosystem engineers**  
(disturbance)



### Great Lakes Environmental Issues

US EPA  
Invasive species

Land use changes

US EPA  
Resource use

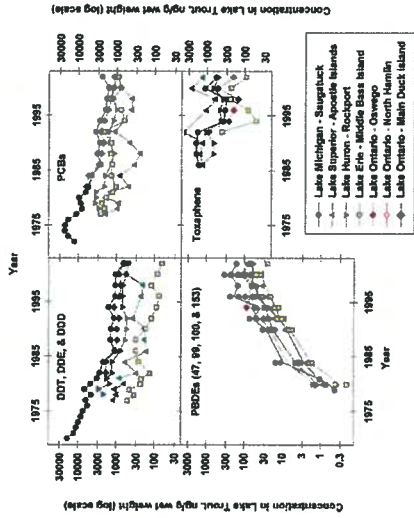
Pollution

Climate change

### Persistent Organic Pollutants

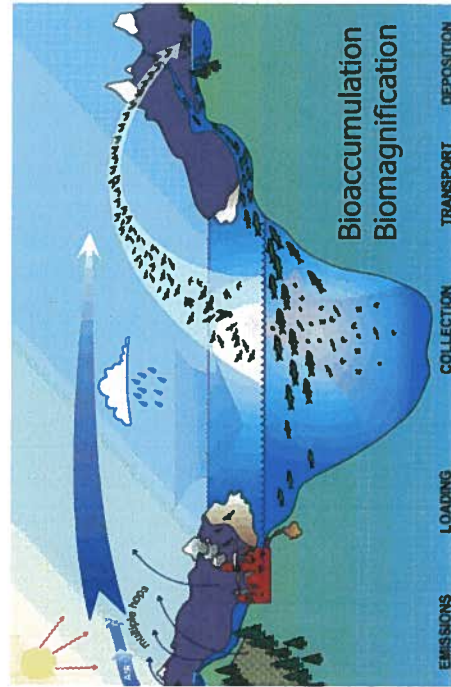
- Persistent organic pollutants (**POPs**) are synthetic organic compounds resistant to breakdown
- Polychlorinated biphenyl (**PCBs**)
  - Fluid in transformers and capacitors
  - Banned 1979
- Polybrominated diphenyl ether (**PBDES**)
  - Flame retardants
  - Banned in some states
- Dichloro diphenyldichloroethylene (**DDEs**)
  - Degradation product of DDT
  - Regulated since 1972

### Great Lakes Organic Contaminants



Source: Carlson et al. (2010). *Env. Sci. Tech.*

### Contaminant Biotransport

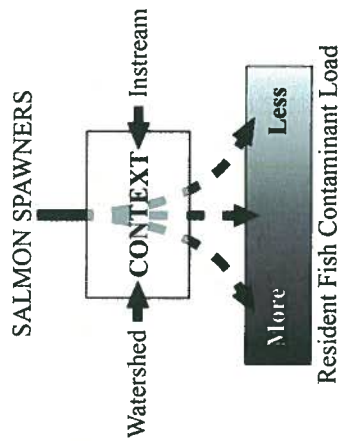


Source: Blais et al. (2007). *Env. Sci. Tech.*

### Contaminant Biotransport by Fish

- Fish are known to transport **organic** (e.g., PCBs) and **metal** (e.g., mercury) anthropogenic contaminants
- Less known about **salmon** biotransport in **Great Lakes**:
  - extent of contaminant transfer to resident fish *e.g., are some fish more impacted than others?*
  - predominant mechanisms of contaminant transfer *e.g., are direct more important than indirect pathways?*
  - role of environmental context in magnifying or mitigating contaminant transfer *e.g., is contaminant transfer more pronounced under specific environmental circumstances?*

### Contaminant Transfer between Fish

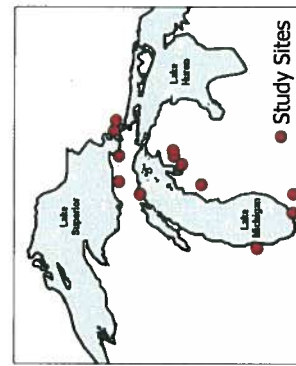


Modified from Janetski et al. (2009) *Oecologia*

### Overall Objectives and Hypotheses

- Determine the extent of POP transfer from salmon spawners to stream resident fish
- *POP load in stream resident fish determined by presence of salmon spawners*
- Establish role of environmental context in POP transfer from spawners to stream resident fish
- *Environmental context determines magnitude of salmon-derived POP load of stream resident fish*

### Study Design

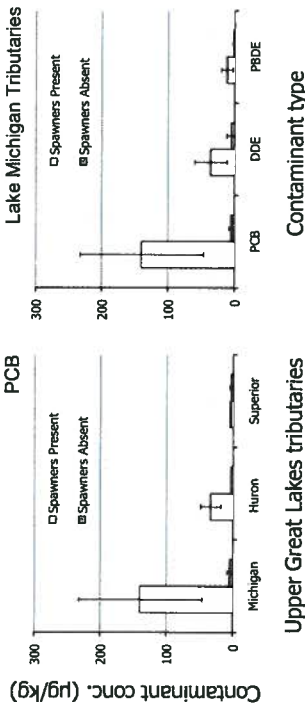


- Study sites:
  - tributaries of upper Great Lakes
  - presence of Chinook and/or coho salmon
  - Salmon migration barrier (e.g., dams)
  - Similar characteristics (e.g., discharge)
- Salmon spawners (Chinook, coho) and stream resident fish (brook trout, dace, sculpin) sampled for analysis

### Sampling Design

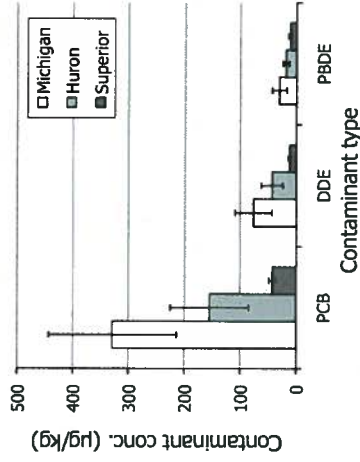
- Sampling design for **stream resident fish**:
    - **before** and **during** salmon runs
    - **upstream** and **downstream** of migration barrier
- 
- Whole fish (minus eggs) ground and analyzed for **major** POPs including PCBs, PDBEs, and DDEs

### Organic Pollutants in Resident Fish: Contrasts among Lakes & Contaminants



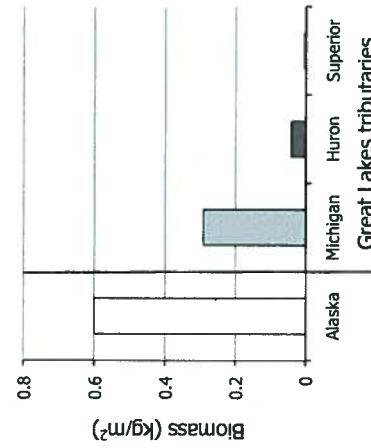
- POP load **higher** in presence of salmon spawners
- POP load in resident fish **differs** among tributaries
- Organic pollutants **differ** in the magnitude of increase

### Organic Pollutants in Salmon Spawners



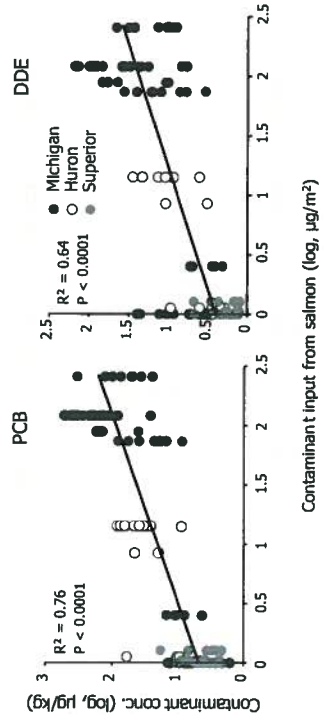
- Salmon POP load **differs** among the upper Great Lakes
- Organic pollutants **differ** in prevalence in salmon

### Salmon Spawner Biomass



- Salmon spawner biomass **less** than in Alaska
- Biomass **variable** across upper Great Lakes tributaries

### Relationship between Salmon Spawner and Resident Fish Contaminant Load



- Contaminant input **predicts** contaminant load of resident fish
- Similar relationship for **all** POPs measured in resident fish



### Broader Context: Wildlife and Human Health

- Salmon and stream resident fish are consumed by both wildlife and humans
- **Consumption advisories** established by state health agencies (e.g., MI Dept of Community Health)
- **No Observable Adverse Effect Concentration** (NOAEC) used to establish safe contaminants concentrations, primarily for wildlife of concern



### Human Fish Consumption Advisories

Basin	Stream-resident fish	
	Salmon	No salmon
Lake Michigan	<b>328</b>	<b>139</b>
Lake Huron	<b>154</b>	34
Lake Superior	36	4

(µg/kg tissue wet weight)

One meal per week advisory for **women and children** is triggered by > 50 µg/kg (Michigan Dept of Community Health)

Lake Michigan fish likely to trigger advisories

### No Observable Adverse Effect Concentration (NOAEC)

Species	With salmon	No salmon
Brook trout	<b>172</b>	4
Dace	<b>303</b>	7
Sculpin	55	4

Dietary NOAEC for **bald eagles** is <143 µg/kg (Giesy et al. 1995) and for **mink** is <72 µg/kg (Giesy et al. 1994)

Stream resident fish exceed NOAEC wildlife advisories

### Conclusions

- Pacific salmon are important **vector** of POPs to Great Lakes tributaries where they spawn
- **Multiple types** of POPs are likely involved, both already **established** and **emerging**
- **Transfer of POPs** from salmon to resident fish probably involves many **direct** and **indirect** pathways
- **Environmental context** may be involved by virtue of salmon biology or local conditions, and deserves further attention



### Implications

- **Stocking** of Pacific salmon in Great Lakes
- Other **existing** (e.g., mercury) and **emerging** pollutants (e.g., pharmaceuticals)
- **Restoration** of ecosystem function and connectivity (e.g., dam removal)
- Native species **conservation** (e.g., brook trout)



### Future Work

- **Expand** dataset to include heavy metals, especially **mercury**, and **more** sites
- Establish **pathway** of contaminant flow
- Explore role of **landscape features**
  - Land-use (e.g., urban versus forest)
  - Geomorphic features (e.g., large wood)
- Develop **predictive model** for managers
  - **mitigate** contaminant transfer to resident fish
  - **manage** the impacts of dam removal

## GL Fish Health Center



- Emerging pathogens
- History and sequence of events not well documented
- No ability to respond to an emerging problem
- Interrupted wildfish surveys
- No evidence-based preventive measures
- Inconsistency in lab testing

## Collaboration

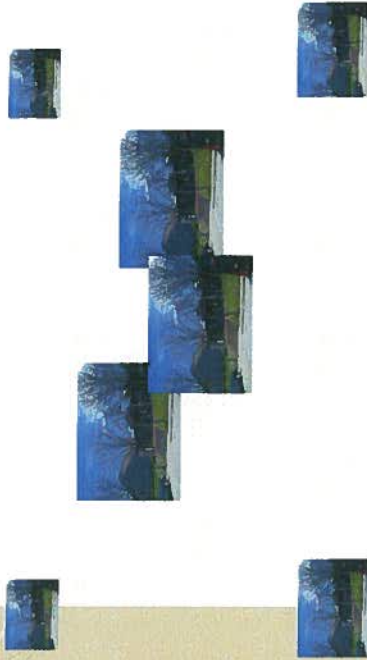
- Networking
- Consortium
- Center with an Executive Board

- No resources
- Expertise and resources are not universal in all GL states
- Retirement
- No political will
- **SEVERE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE**

## From idea to reality

1. Declare as a priority need
2. Find a hub at a place where there is a high likelihood of success
3. Seek seed money: from the host, grant funding agencies, and member agencies
4. Hire a secretary and seek more money
5. Hire a fixed term associate director
6. GLFHC determines satellite laboratories based on needed expertise

## Center and satellites



## Sources of funding

- Center grants (NOAA, EPA, NIH, NSF, DOE, USDA)
- Training grants (T38)
- NGOs
- IDCs

## Expenditures


- Core activities in all centers:
  - Core funding

What would a center do that we currently can not?

- Design long term strategies
- Bring unique expertise together
- Proper training for fish health professionals thereby creating a cadre of specialists
- Brainstorming
- Archive of materials and decisions

What is needed now?

- Two lines that this is a priority!



**Indiana State  
Board of Animal Health**

**“Office of the State Veterinarian”**

Jennifer Strasser, DVM  
District 1 Field Veterinarian  
Aquaculture Director  
jstrasser@boah.in.gov  
(574) 274-3244



**State Board of Animal Health’s  
Charge**

“the prevention, detection, control and eradication of infectious, contagious and communicable diseases affecting the health of animals... and processing and distribution of products derived from animals to control health hazards that may threaten public health”

IC 15-2-1-3.11



**Guiding Principles**


- **Access**
  - To information, resources, answers
- **Expertise**
  - Professionals in touch with constituent issues
- **Outreach**
  - Education, awareness, training
- **Representation**
  - Constituent input on specific issues
- **Responsiveness**
  - Ability to address situations quickly, with priority



**State Board of Animal Health**

**Primary Missions:**

- **Animal Health**
  - Pseudorabies, tuberculosis, scrapie, rabies
- **Food Safety**
  - Meat & Poultry, Dairy Inspection
- **Emergency Preparedness**
  - SAVE, Animal Issues in Disaster, bioterrorism
- **Animal Care**
  - Dog breeders, Livestock standards



**Other Animal Agencies**


- USDA APHIS VS
  - imports/exports
  - national disease programs
  - veterinary accreditation
- State Department of Agriculture**
  - Certified Livestock Producer Program
- State Department of Natural Resources**
  - Indiana's wildlife



**State Board of Animal Health**

**Other lesser-known functions**

- Brand registrations
- Renderer licensing
- Dead animal disposal oversight
- Livestock market licensing



**Board of Animal Health**

**The Board** → **The Agency**



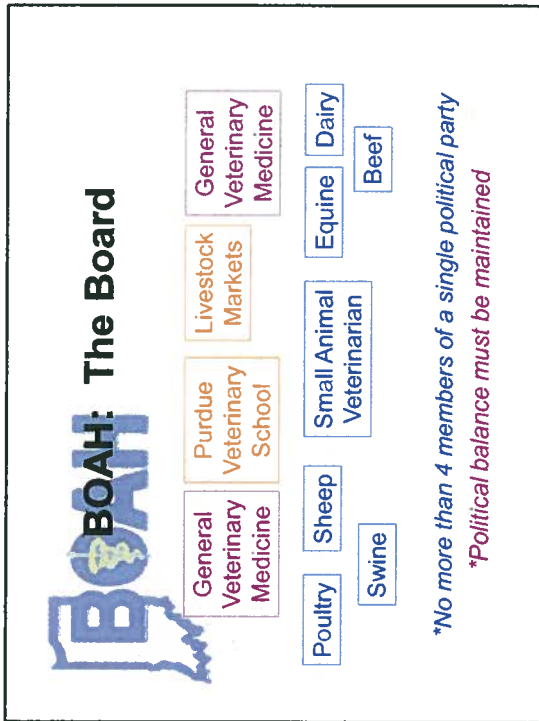
**BOAH: The Board**

**11 members**

- **Appointed by governor**
  - Industry nominations
- **4-year terms**
  - Up to two consecutive terms

**Meets quarterly**

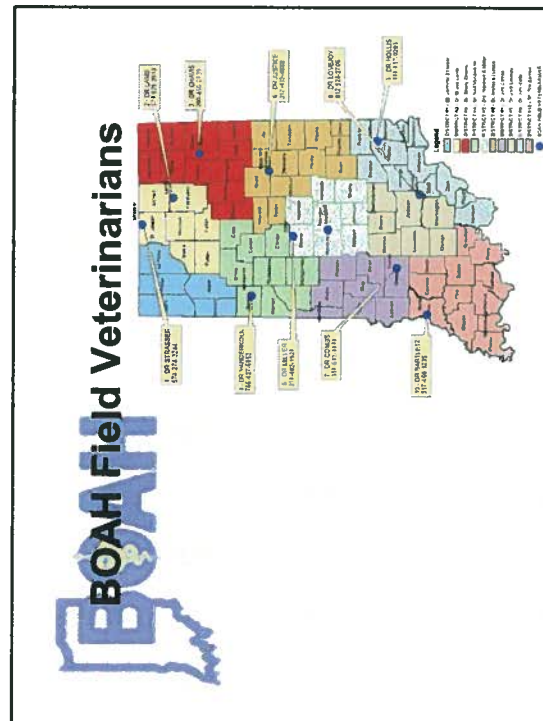
- **January, April, July, October**



### BOAH: The Agency

State Veterinarian is agency head

- 101 staff members
  - Primarily field staff
    - Veterinarians
    - Animal health technicians
    - Meat & poultry, dairy inspectors
  - Administrative/program support




### BOAH Field Veterinarians

- Coordinated multi-agency mapping
  - Indiana Department of Homeland Security
  - Indiana State Department of Health
- BOAH districts coincide with IDHS Districts
  - Assists with disasters and preparedness



### Duties of the Field Veterinarians


- Disease monitoring and sampling
- Oversee a program within BOAH
  - Ex. Scrapie, Johne's, Brucellosis
- Serve on local public health boards
- Investigate neglect situations



### BOAH: Advisory Committees

#### Opportunity for industry input

- Directly to Board representative
- Forum for debate early in process
- Avenue for feedback and information exchange



### BOAH: Advisory Committees

Swine	Bovine/Johne's
Equine	Dairy Processors
Cervid	Companion Animal
Sheep	Livestock Markets
Poultry (ISPA)	Renderers
Farm Animal Care	



### Role in Fish Health


Historically no regulations  
 VHS put aquaculture on radar  
 coordinating Federal Order reqmts  
 Training private veterinarians to  
 work with aquaculture producers  
 Resource for IAAI  
 Work in concert with DNR



**BOAH VHS Surveillance**


Funding - APHIS cooperative agreement  
 APHIS – BOAH – DNR – Purdue ADDL  
 Wild fish only  
 Separate sampling by producers

**BOAH VHS Surveillance**



DNR personnel collected the fish

**BOAH VHS Surveillance**



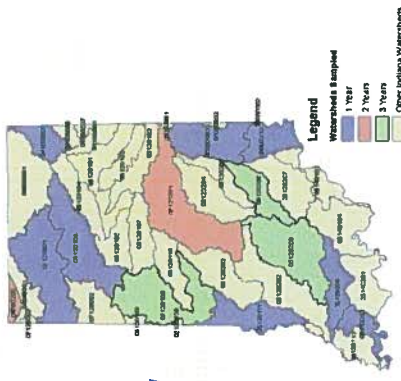
BOAH personnel-transported fish to ADDL & collected samples

**BOAH VHS Surveillance**

**WATERSHEDS – HUC 8 VHS Testing**

2009 through 2012

6 HUC's/ year  
 170 fish/ site



Legend  
 Watersheds Sampled  
 1 Year  
 2 Years  
 3 Years  
 Other Indiana Watersheds

**BOAH** VHS Surveillance



Spring Sampling  
45 – 65 F  
Total of 4103 samples  
22 different species  
**ALL NEGATIVE**

**BOAH** VHS Surveillance

APHIS funding discontinued

DNR - some waters

BOAH – aquaculture operations

**BOAH** Next Steps


Encourage producers to test

Continue educating vets

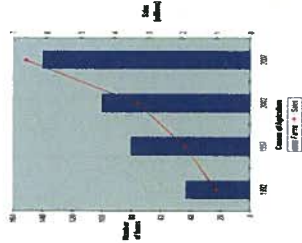
Work with other states to increase uniformity of aquatic regs

Aquaculture advisory committee??

**BOAH** Questions?

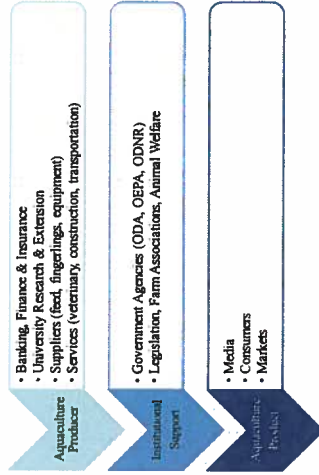


## Aquaculture is Growing in Ohio



- 173 farms with aquaculture permits in 2010
- 80% in business less than 10 years
- 87% plan to maintain or expand production
- 66 farms reported 75 full time employees
- 81 part time employees

## Complex Aquaculture Industry



## Ohio Aquaculture Plan


- **Key Task Force Recommendations**
  - *Aquaculture Health, Food Safety and Marketing*
    - Create a State Aquaculture Coordinator position within the Ohio Department of Agriculture.
    - Provide support for the Ohio Department of Agriculture Aquatic Health Laboratory and Aquatic Health Advisory Committee
  - *Aquaculture Business*
    - Develop a revolving loan program to stimulate new entries into the aquaculture industry.
    - Conduct a Feasibility Study for aquaculture in Ohio
    - Develop enterprise budgets for aquaculture facilities in Ohio by collecting "real-world" production data from aquaculture facilities.
  - *Aquaculture Education*
    - Continue to promote aquaculture education
    - Hocking College Aquaculture Program
    - Finalize the Ohio State University "Triangle Plan"
    - Provide on-farm site consultation and training to assist growers in the industry.
  - *Aquaculture Research*
    - Continue to support funding for applied and basic research addressing identified needs of the industry.




## New Ohio Initiatives

- Ohio produced fish feeds – Premier Feeds
- Ohio produced fish meal replacement - Enviroflight
- Increase awareness in financial industry
- Growth in interest in aquaponics
- Leader in Midwest in aquaculture genetics research
- Aquaculture Boot Camp to train new fish farmers

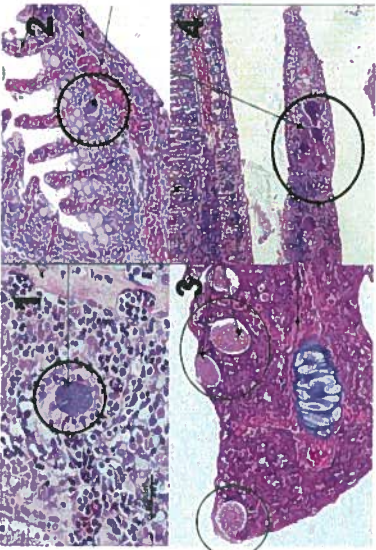
**Epitheliocystis in Lake and Rainbow Trout**



Contador E, Frasca S, Lillie B, Lumsden JS



**Epitheliocystis**

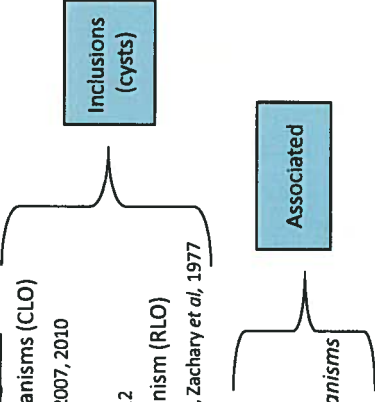


**Epitheliocystis**

- **Epitheliocystis agents**
  - Chlamydia-like organisms (CLO)
    - Draghi *et al*, 2004, 2007, 2010
  - Burkholderiales,
    - Toenshoff *et al*, 2012
  - Rickettsia-like organism (RLO)
    - Paperna *et al*, 1976, Zachary *et al*, 1977
- **Others**
  - Herpes virus
  - Paramyxovirus
  - Myxovirus-like organisms


Inclusions (cysts)

Associated



**Problem # 1**

- OMNR raises Lake trout for stocking in Ontario
- Lake trout epitheliocystis outbreaks in Dec/Jan/Feb, 6 week course
- Presence of intracytoplasmic granular inclusions in branchial epithelial cells occur during the early stages of disease



### Light microscopy

### Lesion summary in LT

**First week**

- > Intracellular inclusions
- > Mild to moderate epithelial cell hypertrophy
- > Epithelial proliferation
- > Mild to moderate necrosis
- > Limited mortality

**Third week**

- > Decreased inclusions
- > Increased inflammatory cell influx
- > Moderate to severe necrosis
- > Increased mortality

**Fifth to sixth week**

- > No inclusions
- > Decrease in inflammatory response
- > Moderate necrosis
- > No mortality

### Problem # 2

> Rainbow trout first epitheliocystis outbreak in Ontario was detected in the summer of 2009. In summer of 2010, it was seen more commonly at several different fish farms

### Hypotheses

1. The etiological agent of epitheliocystis outbreaks in Lake trout during each winter are CLOs
2. The etiological agent of epitheliocystis outbreaks in rainbow trout are CLOs, distinct from those in Lake trout
3. These organisms are found in fish without clinical disease

### Objectives

1. Identify cases of gill disease in Lake trout and rainbow trout with **intracellular bacterial colonies** by light microscopy (epitheliocystis +)
2. Identify the organisms involved in this condition for both fish species and to localize the pathogens to inclusions using electron microscopy, laser capture microdissection, and *in situ* hybridization
3. Develop a qPCR to verify the presence of epitheliocystis agents in clinical affected and healthy fish populations at different times of the year

### Materials & Methods

The flowchart illustrates the workflow: 8 + 5 (samples) → 20 (DNA extraction) → DNA → PCR. A secondary path shows 5 (samples) → F (microscopy) → G (microscopy) → PCR. Another path shows 2 (samples) → G (microscopy) → PCR. The PCR step is represented by a box with a minus sign and a plus sign.

### Methods


The flowchart shows: PCR → Sequence → ISH & qPCR. A parallel path shows: Microscopy → Gimenez & IHC → LCM → DNA → PCR → Sequence → ISH & qPCR. The ISH & qPCR step is represented by a box with a minus sign and a plus sign.

### Results

	Histo H&E	Histo Gimenez	IHC Chla LPS ab.	PCR Chl primers Everet et al, 1999	16S RNA primers Relman et al, 1993
LT	(+) ve n=15/45	(-) ve n=15	(-) ve n=15	(-) ve n=87	(+) ve n=24
RT	(+) ve n=15/20	(-) ve n=5	(-) ve n=5	(+) ve n=10	(+) ve N=9 (6-Braziliomonas cyst and 3 for Flavobacterium)

**Results: PCR**

- 16S universal bacterial primers (800bp)
  - 1: LT B214-11#2
  - 2: LT B214-11#3
  - 3: LT B214-11#4
- + control: *E. coli*
- control: template
- Sequence results:
  - Burkholderiales bacterium 483-L1 JN968376 (Toenshoff *et al*, 2012)



**Results: LCM**

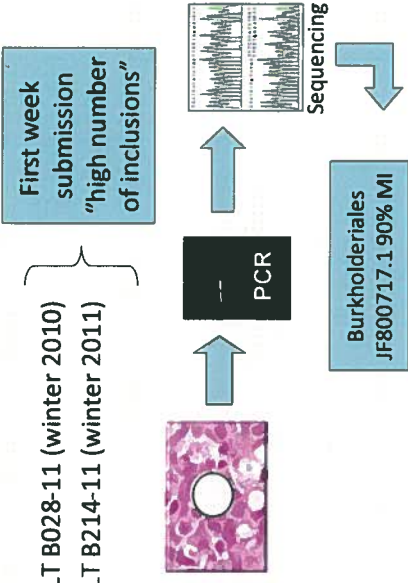
LT B028-11 (winter 2010)  
 LT B214-11 (winter 2011)

First week submission "high number of inclusions"

PCR

Burkholderiales JF800717.1 90% MI

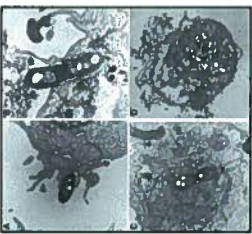
Sequencing



**Results: PCR**


Burkholderiales bacterium 483-L1

- Maximum identity: 90%
- Query coverage: 85%
- Taxonomy:
  - Kingdom: Bacteria
  - Phylum: Proteobacteria
  - Class: Betaproteobacteria
  - Order: Burkholderiales
- Gram negative bacteria
- The order includes several pathogens for animals, humans and plants




**Conclusions**

- Based on PCR and LCM using 16S universal bacterial primers and Chlamydiaceae primers, epitheliocystis is not consistently associated with a CLO in Lake trout.
- Results to date suggest that a Burkholderia-like organism is associated with cases of epitheliocystis
- More studies such as *in situ* hybridization are needed to support these results



**Acknowledgements**

- Fish Pathology Laboratory members- Paul, Lowia, Alex, Jess, Andrew, Ehab, Maureen, Ian, Adrian, Nikki, Dory, Spencer
- Paul Methner, Beth Wright, OMNR
- Animal Health Laboratory
- Funding: OMAFRA AHSI, OMNR, Chilean gov't



**Ongoing/future work**

- Electron microscopy
- ISH probe developed
- qPCR probe to screen bacteria from fish samples collected at different times of the year

