
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2 APPROVED

SOURCE: USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE

**SUBJECT MATTER: AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY: FISH HEALTH SECTION
“SUGGESTED PROCEDURES FOR THE DETECTION AND
IDENTIFICATION OF CERTAIN FINFISH AND SHELLFISH
PATHOGENS (BLUE BOOK)”**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The American Fisheries Society – Fish Health Section’s “Suggested Procedures for the Detection and Identification of Certain Finfish and Shellfish Pathogens (Blue Book)” manual was created to address salmonid pathogens. This manual may not address a changing aquaculture sector and is being used in a way not originally intended. For example, it is being used by states to regulate aquatic animal health testing, inspection, and movement.

The American Fisheries Society – Fish Health Section has begun a process to evaluate whether to make changes to the “Blue Book” and has approved the establishment of an ad-hoc committee to gather information. As the aquaculture industry is expected to grow dramatically in the United States, there is an opportunity to provide improved guidance to a broader range of stakeholders.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association encourages the American Fisheries Society – Fish Health Section to complete a re-evaluation of the “Suggested Procedures for the Detection and Identification of Certain Finfish and Shellfish Pathogens (Blue Book)” in consideration of its use by the aquaculture sector as well as by fisheries.