54th Joint Western Fish Disease Workshop & AFS Fish Health Section Meeting
Port Townsend, Washington
June 18-20, 2013

Please join us for the 54th Joint Western Fish Disease Workshop & AFS Fish Health Section Meeting, which will be held June 18-20, 2013 in Port Townsend, Washington (http://jeffcountychamber.org/building-community/port-townsend/), at the Northwest Maritime Center (http://www.nwmaritime.org/). The drive from Seattle (**link to pdf titled 'driving directions'**) includes a beautiful ferry ride across Puget Sound.

Preliminary Agenda:

Tuesday June 18, 2013

9:00 am – 4:00pm: Continuing Education - Freshwater and Marine Biotoxins

6:00pm – 8:00pm: Meeting registration and Social Reception

Wednesday June 19, 2013

~8:00am – 4:00pm*: 54th Joint Western Fish Disease Workshop & AFS Fish Health Section Meeting

6:00pm – 10:00pm: Banquet

Thursday June 20, 2013

~8:00am – 4:00pm*: 54th Joint Western Fish Disease Workshop & AFS Fish Health Section Meeting

*Meeting times on Wednesday and Thursday are approximate, and will be adjusted after all abstracts are received.

Meeting Registration (due May 15, 2013):

Registration this year is through 123signup (https://www.123signup.com/register?id=bchkv); secure payment can be made using major credit cards. Your registration fee of $200 includes lunch on Wednesday and Thursday (June 19-20) and a banquet ticket for Wednesday evening. Additional banquet tickets can be purchased for $40. Registration for the Continuing Education class (Freshwater and Marine Biotoxins) on Tuesday June 18) is an additional $75. Please note that the **CE session is limited to 70 participants**, so please register early if you would like to attend.

Lodging:

Port Townsend is a vacation destination in Washington state; visitors are drawn to its charming Victorian and maritime history. Part of this charm includes the small Victorian hotels and B&B's scattered throughout the downtown area. We have made special arrangements, including reduced lodging rates, with several participating establishments (**link to PDF titled 'lodging choices'**). All of these establishments are within easy walking distance to the meeting. Please make your lodging arrangements by calling these establishments directly and mention that you will be attending the Western Fish Disease Workshop. **Room blocks at each of these establishments are reserved through April 19, 2013. Please reserve your lodging before this date to assure that you will have a room at the agreed-upon price.**

Abstract submission (due May 15, 2013)

Please submit scientific abstracts as an email attachment, to Paul Hershberger (phershberger@usgs.gov), with "WFDW Abstract" as the e-mail subject line. Indicate at the bottom of your abstract the type of presentation you will give, oral or poster, and if you are student presenter. Please compose your abstract in the following format (next page):

EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE ON THE SUSCEPTIBILITY OF PACIFIC HERRING TO VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA (VHS)

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An inverse relationship between water temperature and susceptibility of Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) to VHS was indicated by controlled exposure studies where cumulative mortalities, viral shedding rates, and viral persistence in tissues of survivors were greatest at the coolest exposure temperatures. Among replicated groups of specific pathogen-free (SPF) Pacific herring maintained at 8, 11, and 14°C, cumulative mortalities after waterborne exposure to VHSV were 78%, 39%, and 13%, respectively. The prevalence of survivors with VHSV-positive tissues 23d post-exposure was 64%, 16%, and 0%, respectively, with viral prevalence typically higher in brain tissues than in kidney / spleen pools. Similarly, the geometric mean viral titers in brain tissues and kidney / spleen pools decreased with temperature, and kidney / spleen titers were generally 10-fold lower than those in brain tissues at each temperature. The magnitude of viral shedding was inversely related to temperature, with mean waterborne VHSV titers in the temperature replicates peaking at 347, 220, and 87 PFU / mL, respectively. The effect of relatively small temperature changes on the susceptibility of a natural host to VHS provides insights into conditions that preface periodic VHSV epizootics in wild populations throughout the NE Pacific.

*presenter

Oral presentation preferred.

Student presenter.