



Aquatic Animal Health Division  
59 Camelot Drive  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0Y9

## DIRECTIVE

**Effective Date:** January 19, 2011

**Subject:** Mandatory Notification of Reportable Aquatic Animal Diseases

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This Directive is to advise Canadians who own or work with aquatic animals of the requirements with respect to Reportable aquatic animal diseases in Canada. Regulated aquatic animal diseases are limited to finfish, molluscs, and crustaceans. Canadians who own or have possession, care, or control of aquatic animals are required to notify the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) when they suspect or detect a Reportable aquatic animal disease.

Amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations* and *Reportable Diseases Regulations* were published in *Canada Gazette, Part II*, on December 22, 2010, and January 5, 2011, respectively. They can be found at <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2011/2011-01-05/html/sor-dors310-eng.html>, and in the Background section of this Directive.

The regulatory requirements are as follows:

5. (1) A person who owns or has the possession, care or control of an animal shall notify the nearest veterinary inspector of the presence of a reportable disease or toxic substance, or any fact indicating its presence, in or around the animal, immediately after the person becomes aware of the presence or fact (*Health of Animals Act*).

Canadians should notify the veterinary inspector, located at their nearest CFIA Animal Health Office, of suspicion or detection of a Reportable disease. The CFIA website provides a list of all CFIA Animal Health Offices in Canada at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/hasan/offbure.shtml>.

This directive will remain in effect until the Mandatory Notification and Suspect Phase Disease Response Policy for the National Aquatic Animal Health Program is updated to reflect any changes in policy, or is superseded by another directive.

If you have any specific questions about this Directive, please contact Dr. Kim Klotins by telephone at 613-221-1398 or by email at [Kim.Klotins@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:Kim.Klotins@inspection.gc.ca).

Further information on the National Aquatic Animal Health Program and mandatory notification can be found at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/aqua/aquae.shtml>.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kim Klotins  
Acting National Manager  
Disease Control Contingency Planning  
Aquatic Animal Health Division

## BACKGROUND

The Government of Canada is committed to protecting the country's aquatic animal resources and to facilitating safe trade in fish and seafood. As a result, recent amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations* have been published in *Canada Gazette, Part II*, on December 22, 2010, and the *Reportable Diseases Regulations* on January 5, 2011.

The amendments authorize the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to implement the National Aquatic Animal Health Program (NAAHP). This science-based program addresses finfish, mollusc, and crustacean diseases that pose serious risks to Canada's aquatic animal resources.

These changes are in line with the existing terrestrial animal health program. They will ensure Canada meets the standards set by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) for preventing disease spread from the trade of live animals or high risk commodities.

The regulated aquatic animal diseases are listed in Tables 1–3.

TABLE 1 Reportable Diseases	
Disease	Aquatic Animal
<i>Bonamia ostreae</i>	Mollusc
Ceratomyxosis ( <i>Ceratomyxa shasta</i> )	Finfish
Epiizootic haematopoietic necrosis	Finfish
<i>Haplosporidium nelsoni</i>	Mollusc
Infectious haematopoietic necrosis	Finfish
Infectious pancreatic necrosis	Finfish
Infectious salmon anaemia	Finfish
Koi herpesvirus disease	Finfish
<i>Marteilia refringens</i>	Mollusc
<i>Marteiliodes chungmuensis</i>	Mollusc
<i>Mikrocytos mackini</i>	Mollusc
<i>Perkinsus marinus</i>	Mollusc
<i>Perkinsus olseni</i>	Mollusc
Spring viraemia of carp	Finfish
Taura syndrome	Crustacean
Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	Finfish
Whirling disease ( <i>Myxobolus cerebralis</i> )	Finfish
White spot disease	Crustacean
White sturgeon iridoviral disease	Finfish
Yellow head disease	Crustacean



**TABLE 2 Immediately Notifiable Diseases**

Disease	Aquatic Animal
Abalone viral mortality (Abalone Herpes-like Virus)	Mollusc
<i>Bonamia exitiosa</i>	Mollusc
<i>Bonamia roughleyi</i>	Mollusc
Brown ring disease ( <i>Vibrio tapetis</i> )	Mollusc
Crayfish plague ( <i>Aphanomyces astaci</i> )	Crustacean
Epizootic ulcerative syndrome ( <i>Aphanomyces invadans</i> )	Finfish
Gyrodactylosis ( <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> )	Finfish
Infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis (Infectious hypodermal and Haematopoietic necrosis virus)	Crustacean
Infectious myonecrosis (Infectious myonecrosis virus)	Crustacean
<i>Marteilia sydneyi</i>	Mollusc
Necrotizing hepatopancreatitis	Crustacean
<i>Oncorhynchus masou</i> virus disease (Oncorhynchus masou disease virus)	Finfish
Red sea bream iridoviral disease (Red Sea bream iridovirus)	Finfish
White tail disease (White tail virus)	Crustacean
Withering syndrome of abalone ( <i>Xenohaliotis californiensis</i> )	Mollusc

**TABLE 3 Annually Notifiable Diseases**

Disease	Aquatic Animal
Bacterial kidney disease ( <i>Renibacterium salmoninarum</i> )	Finfish
Enteric red mouth disease ( <i>Yersinia ruckeri</i> )	Finfish
Furunculosis ( <i>Aeromonas salmonicida</i> )	Finfish
QPX disease (Quahog parasite unknown)	Mollusc
Seaside organism ( <i>Haplosporidium costale</i> )	Mollusc
Streptococcosis ( <i>Streptococcus iniae</i> )	Finfish