



FHS NEWS – May 2026

Fish Health Section website: <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/>

Fish Health Section Facebook Site: <https://facebook.com/FishHealthSectionAFS>

Fish Health Section Instagram: afs_fishhealthsection

Fish Health Section on LinkedIn: Please join us at LinkedIn Login, Sign in or search for us and ask to join.

Fish Health Section Twitter/X feed: @AFSFishHealth

Fish Health Section Fishbook Group: <https://fishbook.fisheries.org/groups/fish-health-section/>

A new AFS networking platform now allows fisheries professionals to share and collaborate on research projects, as well as form networking groups. The Fisheries Collaboration Network, nicknamed Fishbook, is now open for all to create accounts. Upload your research projects in progress or even those still in the conceptual stage, receive comments and find collaborators. Check out the Fish Health Section Group.

Now is the time to renew your AFS & FHS memberships. To continue receiving the monthly newsletter, please renew your memberships in AFS and the FHS at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/afs/member/index.cfm>. May is the last grace month, non-members will be purged from the listserv in June.

AFS-FHS Call for Nominations:

If you value this organization and its opportunities, we encourage you to consider serving on a committee. Our committees are in **URGENT** need of additional nominations. At this time, we need nominees for the following positions:

- Vice President (4 year term)
- Testing Standards Committee (3 year term)

Our committees play a vital role in planning meetings and events, supporting members and keeping our organization running smoothly. Please contact Alison Johnson (aajohnson@utah.gov) to self nominate or nominate another member by **Wednesday, May 27th, 2026**.

Thank you for your support and commitment to our Section.

Sincerely,
The Nominating and Balloting Committee

The AFS-FHS Summer Seminar Series is back for 2026! We will again be awarding Best Student Presentation Awards to support student travel, made possible by our generous sponsors!

This year, we are returning to the general seminar format, consisting of 12-minute talks with 3-minute Q&As. We will host 3 student or early-career presentations each week.

Seminars will take place on Zoom on **Thursday afternoons (12-1 pm Central Time)** and run from May 14th to Aug 13th. Eligibility for the best presentation awards will be limited to **active AFS-FHS student members**, so make sure your membership is up-to-date!

Want to be notified of upcoming seminars?

Join the AFS Summer Student Seminar Listserv to receive announcements regarding upcoming seminars and abstracts.

The seminars are free and open to the public - please forward these announcements to your networks. The seminar calendar and

Zoom access information will be available mid-April.

Important links:

[AFS-FHS Student Seminar Series Listserv](#)

[Seminar calendar and Zoom access information](#)

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. See you this summer!

Matt Griffin (matt.griffin@msstate.edu)

Megan Shavali (shavali1@msu.edu)

Nick Phelps (phelp083@umn.edu)

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES

65th Western Fish Disease Workshop And Continuing Education Tacoma, Washington June 2-4, 2026

Registration and Booking Information

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the USGS Western Fisheries Research Center, and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission invite you to attend a full day AFS Fish Health Section Continuing Education session on Aquatic Parasitology on June 2, 2026, followed by the 65th Western Fish Disease Workshop on June 3-4, 2026. Both will be held at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, Washington.

The costs will be as follows:

CE: \$145 in-person, TBD for virtual attendees
Early Registration (until May 24th) and Abstract Deadline (until May 15th): \$370
Late Registration (closes May 26th): \$420

Please follow this link to get more details, register and see schedule:

[65th Western Fish Disease CE and Workshop](#)

Hotel Accommodations: A block of rooms is being held at the Hotel Murano (<https://www.hotelmuranotacoma.com/>) at the government rate of \$136/night. Please call the reservations department at 253-238-8000 (please identify yourself as part of The Western Fish Disease Workshop) or make reservation requests online ([Western Fish Disease Workshop 2026 Booking Link](#)). Any requests for special room arrangements must be made at the time of this call or online booking.

The deadline for making reservations at the meeting rate is 6 PM, Sunday, May 10th, 2026.

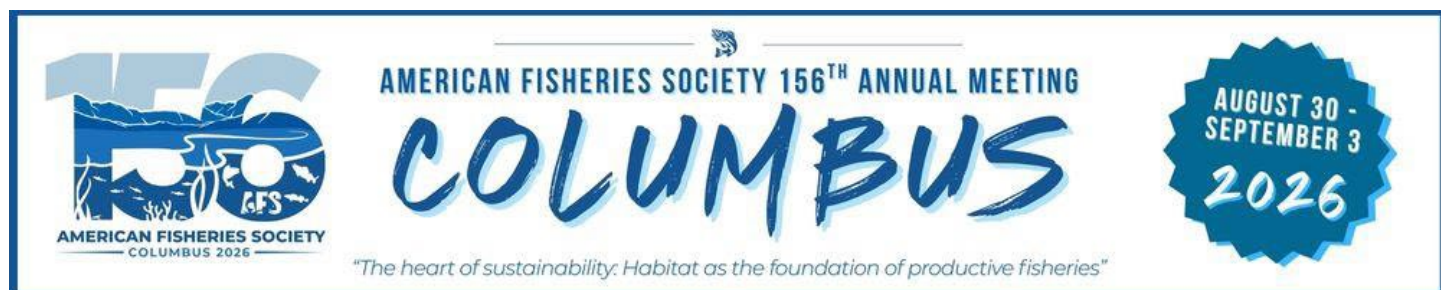
Contact Information:

If you have any questions please contact one of the following:

Tony Capps, WDFW, Tony.Capps@dfw.wa.gov

Paul Hershberger, USGS WFRC, phershberger@usgs.gov

Marcia House, NWIFC, mhouse@nwifc.org



CALLING ALL FISH CULTURE AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS!

The **Fish Culture Section** and **Fish Health Section** invite you to join us at the 2026 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society for a special symposium:

Connecting Fish Culture, Health, and Habitat for Improved Fisheries Enhancement Outcomes

Fish health strongly influences the success of fisheries enhancement programs and the performance of cultured fish after release. Hatcheries represent unique habitats where physical, chemical, and biological conditions—including temperature, photoperiod, water chemistry, flow regimes, and pathogen pressure—shape fish condition, stress, and disease dynamics.

This symposium will examine how hatchery environments and culture practices influence fish health and fisheries enhancement outcomes. Using habitat as a common framework, the session will explore how ponds, raceways, and other production systems function as complex environments where water quality, facility design, microbiology, and day-to-day operations affect fish performance.

We invite presentations from fish culturists, fish health professionals, habitat scientists, engineers, and fisheries managers addressing hatchery environments, fish health, facility design, biosecurity, and connections between hatchery systems and surrounding ecosystems.

Abstracts are due April 22. Visit <https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/call-for-abstracts/> for more information and to submit your abstract.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING WITH YOU IN COLUMBUS!



International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health

American Fisheries Society
Fish Health Section

Bodø, Norway
21-25 September, 2026

10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health (ISA AH)

The Science and Practice of Fish Health and Welfare—From Physiology to the Farm

September 21-25, 2026—Radisson Blu Hotel—Bodø, Norway

Website: <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/isaah/>

Registration: <https://www.xcdsystem.com/afs/attendee/index.cfm?ID=amGUk78>

Early Registration Deadline: 23 June 2026, Hotel Reservation Deadline: 23 June 2026

Join us for the 10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health (ISA AH), the premier global forum for advancing the science and practice of aquatic animal health. The symposium brings

together experts from academia, government, and industry to share new discoveries, innovative technologies, and practical solutions that promote the health and sustainability of aquatic animal populations.

The program will feature plenary sessions, symposia, technical presentations, workshops, and networking events designed to foster collaboration and inspire new approaches to fish health and welfare. For more information, please see attached .pdf.

The Organizing Committee invites researchers, practitioners, and students to submit abstracts for the **10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health (ISAAH-10)**, which will be held **September 21–25, 2026 in Bodo, Norway**.

ISAAH is the premier international forum for advancing the science and practice of aquatic animal health. The meeting brings together experts from academia, government, and industry to share new discoveries, emerging technologies, and practical solutions that support the health and sustainability of aquatic animal populations.

For program inquiries, contact **Esteban Soto Martinez** (sotomartinez@ucdavis.edu) or **Matt Griffin** (matt.griffin@msstate.edu) with the subject line "ISAAH-10 Program".

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 8 June 2026

The abstract submission deadline has been extended to 8 June 2026! Abstracts are welcomed on all aspects of aquatic animal health and welfare. Submit your abstract today via the [ISAAH abstract submission portal](#) and share your work and insights with your peers!

Attend a workshop to learn even more! Workshops are being held on September 21 to provide opportunities for in-depth learning. Include a workshop when you [register for ISAAH](#). Already registered for ISAAH? You can update your registration at any time to include a workshop.

The [Fish Pathology Workshop](#) is designed for entry and midlevel fish health researchers and workers, as well as students. Demonstrations on diagnostic necropsy protocol with reference to diagnostic lab submissions will be the focus in the morning, using Atlantic salmon and Wolffish specimens. The afternoon session will include sessions on Zebrafish histo-anatomy and physiology as well as case studies of unusual Atlantic salmon and Wolffish pathologies.

[Fundamentals of Nutrition: Better Feeds for Healthier Fish](#) will offer fish health professionals a working knowledge of fish nutrition and guidance for achieving better outcomes in the field. The workshop will cover core nutritional principles, common nutritional diseases, interactions between nutrition and infectious diseases, and practical strategies for improving fish health and performance.

Include a workshop when you [register for ISAAH](#). Already registered for ISAAH? You can update your registration at any time to include a workshop.

JOBS/GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Laboratory Technician/Lab Manager

I have a fish health opportunity for a Laboratory Technician/Lab Manager available in my lab at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. The position will involve a mix of field and experimental

research focused on fish disease ecology. Use the link below to learn more about the position and to apply.

<https://jobs.hr.cornell.edu/us/en/job/WDR-00058789>

Please share with anyone that you think would be interested. Feel free to email me (Janlovy@cornell.edu) if you have any specific questions. Thanks!

Jan Lovy, Ph.D.
Associate Professor in Aquatic Animal Health
Department of Public and Ecosystem Health
Faculty Affiliate, Cornell K. Lisa Yang Center for Wildlife Health
Cornell University, College of Veterinary Medicine
Ithaca, NY 14853, United States

Master of Science

University of Idaho
Applications close June 31, 2026

One Master of Science (MSc) position is available at University of Idaho (start date: August 2026). The students will be hosted by the Fish Health Lab (P.I. Dr. Viadanna; https://verso.uidaho.edu/esploro/profile/pedro_de_oliveira_viadanna/overview?institution=01ALLIANC E_UID) in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Sciences, College of Natural Resources. In terms of research, my lab is interested in all aspects related to fish health, including farmed and wild fish. We are currently developing new diagnostic tests, developing disease models, and evaluating the fish immune system. For the MSc, the student will focus on the mechanisms of inflammation and allergy in fish and develop tools to mitigate them.

See attached .pdf for more details.

Zebrafish Related Job Announcements

<https://wiki.zfin.org/display/jobs/Zebrafish-Related+Job+Announcements>

RESOURCES/NEWS

Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) Updates are available by request:

The AADAP Updates feature news on aquaculture drugs currently in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process, AADAP programmatic updates, and aquaculture drug use guidance information. If you would like to sign up to receive the AADAP Update, please email to be paige_maskill@fws.gov added to our email listserv.

One Master of Science (MSc) position is available at University of Idaho (start date: August 2026). The students will be hosted by the Fish Health Lab (P.I. Dr. Viadanna; https://verso.uidaho.edu/esploro/profile/pedro_de_oliveira_viadanna/overview?institution=01ALLIANCE_UID) in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Sciences, College of Natural Resources. In terms of research, my lab is interested in all aspects related to fish health, including farmed and wild fish. We are currently developing new diagnostic tests, developing disease models, and evaluating the fish immune system. For the MSc, the student will focus on the mechanisms of inflammation and allergy in fish and develop tools to mitigate them.

Responsibilities and tasks

The student will work primarily with rainbow trout, a high-value freshwater aquaculture species and Idaho's most produced fish. Its biology demands high-protein diets, which drive up production costs — a challenge the industry is increasingly addressing by shifting toward soybean-based protein sources. Soybeans are an exceptional protein source for animal nutrition, but they contain antinutritional factors, including allergenic proteins such as beta-conglycinin, which significantly constrain their dietary inclusion rates.

In this project, the students will learn how to raise rainbow trout in a recirculation system, how to prepare special feeds, protein extraction, histopathology, fish immunology techniques, and molecular techniques (including qPCR, mRNA extraction, DNA extraction, and whole genome sequencing). Overall, the students will be expected to conduct broad research followed by the writing of a detailed thesis. The student will also have a chance to participate in other projects that my lab conducts.

Approval and Enrollment

This graduate appointment is subject to academic approval, and the candidate will be enrolled in the MSc program within the College of Natural Resources. For information about our program, please see: <https://www.uidaho.edu/natural-resources/academics>

Salary and appointment terms

These projects will be carried out at the Aquaculture Research Institute and the Department of Fish and Wildlife Science, which is situated in Moscow, Idaho. The students will begin coursework and research in Aug. 2026.

Further information

For further information about the project, please contact Dr. Pedro Viadanna at pedroviadanna@uidaho.edu.

REQUIREMENTS

Qualifications

We are looking for motivated candidates who have:

- Bachelor's degree in biology or similar discipline
- Knowledge of aquaculture and fish immunology
- Proven ability to carry out goal-oriented work and be fluent with data management systems (i.e., Excel, Word, statistical analysis)
- Lab competences in molecular biology would be considered an asset - please clarify your experiences in the "motivating letter"
- Practical husbandry experiences with aquatic organisms will be an asset
- Good co-operation ability

Application

Please submit your application no later than **31 Jun 2026 at 11:59 PM PDT**. Applications must be e-mailed to pedroviadanna@uidaho.edu as "**one**" **pdf file** containing all materials to be given consideration. The file must include:

- Cover letter motivating the application (please include your background, interests, goals)
- Curriculum vitae with contact information (e-mail and phone numbers) for three referees
- Unofficial transcripts and GRE scores (refer to: <https://www.ets.org/gre>)

CONTACT INFORMATION

University of Idaho
Pedro Viadanna
pedroviadanna@uidaho.edu

https://verso.uidaho.edu/esploro/profile/pedro_de_oliveira_viadanna/overview?institution=01ALLIANCE_UID



Fish Pathology Workshop - 10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health

Monday September 21 2026 at Nord University Bodø Campus

Workshop Outline



The Fish Pathology Workshop will take place, in conjunction with the 10th ISAHAH, on Monday September 21 2026 at The Noatun laboratory building is a new, modern laboratory facility at the Bodø campus of Nord University. Lectures and laboratories will be delivered by **Dr. David Groman** Section Head of the Aquatic Diagnostic Services at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Prince Edward Island, Canada, **Dr. Jeff Wolf** Senior Pathologist from Experimental Pathology Laboratories, Inc. (EPL®) located in Sterling, Virginia, USA, and **Dr. Ginevra Brocca** Fish Pathology Consultant from Glasgow (UK) (see biographies below). The workshop is designed for entry and midlevel fish health researchers and workers, as well as students. Demonstrations on diagnostic necropsy protocol with reference to diagnostic lab submissions will be the focus in the morning, using Atlantic salmon and Wolffish specimens. The afternoon session will include sessions on Zebrafish histo-anatomy and physiology as well as case studies of unusual Atlantic salmon and Wolffish pathologies. Scanned slides of diagnostically interesting cases will be available for participants to follow during afternoon lectures and as such participants are encouraged to bring laptops. An outline is presented below.

The cost for this all-day workshop is **\$ 150 USD** and will include breaks and lunch on-site at Nord University. Registrants will be provided details of transportation from Bodø to Noatun [Laboratory Building](#) prior to the start of the conference. See below preliminary information below on the location.



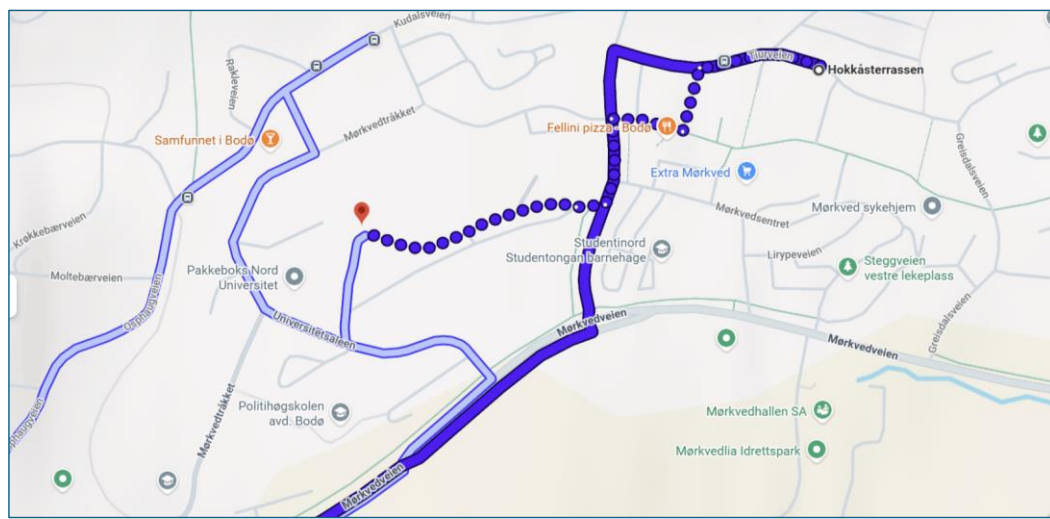
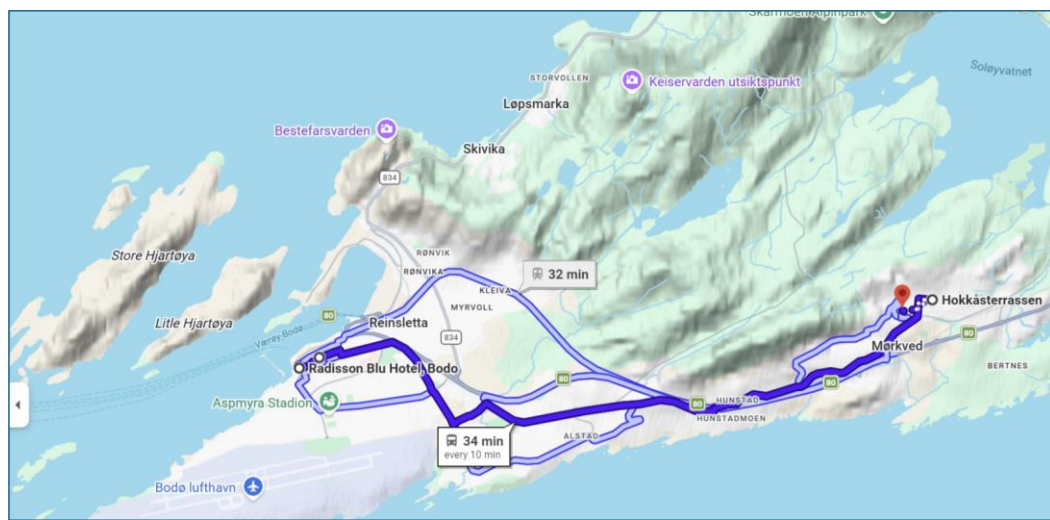
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Monday September 21 2026 at Nord University Bodø Campus



10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health





Fish Pathology Workshop - 10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health

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8:00 am – 8:30 am

Participant's arrival and sign in.

8:30 am – 9:00 am (Dr. Groman and Dr. Brocca)

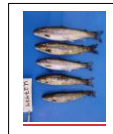
Production fin-fish necropsy protocols with comments on sampling and shipping samples from a diagnostic lab perspective.

9:00 am – 9:30 am (Dr. Wolf)

Contract research fin-fish necropsy protocols with comments on sampling, histopathology data collection, and results reporting from a toxicology lab perspective.

9:30 am – 10:15 am (Drs Groman, Wolf and Brocca)

Atlantic Salmon and Wolffish necropsy demonstrations.



10:15 am – 10:30 am Beverage Break

10:30 am – 12:00 noon (Groman, Wolf and Brocca)

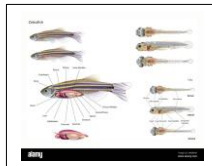
Participant's necropsy laboratory with oversight.

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Lunch Break – **Provided** locally on Campus.

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (Dr. Wolf)

Zebrafish histo-anatomy and physiology presentation.



3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Beverage Break

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm (Drs Groman and Brocca)

Lectures on selected Atlantic Salmon and Wolffish disease cases. Gross and Histopathology examples.

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Participant Questions and Answers



10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health





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JEFFREY C. WOLF, D.V.M., DIPLOMATE, A.C.V.P.

CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER, MANAGER OF PATHOLOGY VIRGINIA, SENIOR PATHOLOGIST

Jeffrey C. Wolf received his D.V.M. degree from Michigan State University, and his graduate pathology training at the University of Florida and Virginia Tech. He earned ACVP accreditation in 1997. Currently, he is the Chief Scientific Officer for Experimental Pathology Laboratories Inc (EPL) company, and the Manager of Pathology at the EPL's Virginia facility.

Dr. Wolf's primary area of expertise is toxicologic pathology of aquatic animals. For over twenty years his principal focus has involved reproductive and thyroid endocrine disruption studies that utilize various species of fish, frogs, and birds, including both native and laboratory specimens. In this role, he contributed to the development of regulatory guidance documents used for the FSTRA, MEOGRT, LAGDA, and JQTT assays.

Dr. Wolf chaired SETAC's Endocrine Disruptor and Risk Assessment Interest Group and is currently a co-editor of the Journal of Aquatic Animal Health, chair of the INHAND Non-Rodent Fish Working Group, a member of the editorial boards of Toxicologic Pathology and the Journal of Toxicologic Pathology, and a Courtesy Assistant Professor at the University of Florida. Dr. Wolf has been a member of the Aquavet II faculty for more than 20 years and is the author or co-author of greater than 100 peer-reviewed papers.



10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health





Fish Pathology Workshop - 10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health

Monday September 21 2026 at Nord University Bodø Campus



DAVID BRUCE GROMAN, BA, MSC, PHD, AFS-CFP

FISH PATHOLOGIST AND SECTION HEAD – AQUATIC DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES AT THE ATLANTIC VETERINARY COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

David B Groman received his BA in Biology at Lafayette College, USA; MSc in Pathobiology from the University of Connecticut, USA); and, PhD in Fish Health & Aquaculture from the University of Idaho, USA). He was a US Fulbright Scholar at the University of Iceland and is an American Fisheries Society Certified Fisheries Professional (CFP) as well as a US Fish & Wildlife Service certified Title-50 Inspector.

Dr. Groman has been working in the field of wild and aquaculture fish pathology for over 45 years, following his undergraduate training at Lafayette College (USA) he began his post-graduate career at the Northeast Wildlife Disease Center at the University of Connecticut (USA) in 1976-1980 and continued onto the US National Fisheries Academy in 1978-1979, University of Idaho (USA) 1979-1983 and the University of Iceland 1983-1984. He brings a wide variety of fish health and fish pathology experiences to his current job in Aquatic Diagnostic Services at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), University of Prince Edward Island (Canada) having worked on fish health projects and diagnostic cases in Atlantic Canada & Worldwide since arriving to the AVC in 1988.

Since 1996 Dr. Groman has been Section Head of Aquatic Diagnostic Services at the AVC, and in this role has reviewed thousands of fish disease cases, including those from a large variety of wild fin-fish and shellfish. In this regard, Dr. Groman would offer the aquatic animal health clients and companies a breath of experience in the field of fish disease, which can be applied equally to both potential research projects.



10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health





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Monday September 21 2026 at Nord University Bodø Campus



GINEVRA BROCCA, DVM, PHD, DIPLOMATE, ACVP

FISH AND SHELLFISH PATHOLOGY CONSULTANT – GLASGOW (UK)

Ginevra Brocca received her DVM degree and PhD in Veterinary Sciences from the University of Padua (Italy), where her doctoral research focused on the molecular pathology of oral melanoma in dogs. Following her PhD, she began specializing in fish pathology during a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Padua, during which she also supported the activities of the Post-Degree Veterinary Specialization School in Breeding, Hygiene, Pathology of Fish and Control of Derived Products.

Dr. Brocca subsequently joined the Aquatic Diagnostic Services at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), University of Prince Edward Island (Canada), where she worked as a diagnostic fish pathologist for 3.5 years alongside Dr. David Groman. She carried out her veterinary anatomic pathology training in both Italy and Canada, earning the diploma of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) in 2024. Her diagnostic caseload at the AVC included a large variety of finfish and shellfish, with particular focus on salmonids, Atlantic halibut, and wolffish.

Since relocating to Scotland, Dr. Brocca has continued to work as a consultant in fish and shellfish pathology, while also collaborating remotely with the Aquatic Diagnostic Services. Her hands-on experience with wolffish pathology, accumulated through years of diagnostic work at the AVC, makes her a key contributor to this workshop.



10th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health

