

**17.4982 DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** The definitions in this section apply to sections 17.4981 to 17.4998.

Subd. 2. **Approved laboratory methods.** "Approved laboratory methods" means methods described in the latest edition of the "Procedures for the Detection and Identification of Certain Fish Pathogens" published by the American Fisheries Society Fish Health Section known as the Fish Health Blue Book.

Subd. 2a. **Aquaculture therapeutics.** "Aquaculture therapeutics" means drugs, medications, and disease control chemicals that are approved for aquaculture use by the United States Food and Drug Administration or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Subd. 3. **Aquarium facilities.** "Aquarium facilities" means facilities that rear or hold private aquatic life for sale for aquarium or display purposes.

Subd. 4. **Aquatic farm.** "Aquatic farm" means a licensed facility used for hatching, raising, rearing, and culturing private aquatic life in waters and preparing aquatic life for sale, including, but not limited to, ponds, vats, tanks, raceways, and other indoor or outdoor facilities that an aquatic farmer owns or waters of which an aquatic farmer has the use.

Subd. 5. **Aquatic life.** "Aquatic life" has the meaning given to "private aquatic life" in section 17.47, subdivision 7, and for purposes of commercial transactions, aquatic life is livestock.

Subd. 6. **Certifiable diseases.** "Certifiable diseases" include channel catfish virus, bacterial kidney disease, bacterial furunculosis, enteric redmouth disease, enteric septicemia of catfish, infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus, infectious pancreatic necrosis virus, whirling disease, proliferative kidney disease, viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus, epizootic epitheliotropic virus, ceratomyxosis, and any emergency disease.

Subd. 7. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of natural resources.

Subd. 8. **Containment facility.** "Containment facility" means a licensed facility for salmonids or catfish that complies with clauses (1), (3), and (4), or clauses (2), (3), and (4):

(1) disinfects its effluent to the standards in section 17.4991 before the effluent is discharged to public waters;

(2) does not discharge to public waters or to waters of the state directly connected to public waters;

(3) raises aquatic life that is prohibited from being released into the wild and must be kept in a facility approved by the commissioner unless processed for food consumption;

(4) contains aquatic life requiring a fish health inspection prior to transportation.

Subd. 8a. **Emergency enzootic disease area.** "Emergency enzootic disease area" means an enzootic disease area that harbors an emergency fish disease. Trout, salmon, or catfish species are from an emergency enzootic disease area only if the individual species in question can carry one or more of the emergency fish disease pathogens present.

Subd. 9. **Emergency fish disease.** "Emergency fish disease" means designated fish diseases not already present in this state that could impact populations of aquatic life if inadvertently released by infected aquatic life, including channel catfish virus, viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus, infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus, infectious pancreatic necrosis virus, whirling disease, ceratomyxosis, proliferative kidney disease, and epizootic epitheliotropic virus disease.

Subd. 10. **Enzootic disease area.** "Enzootic disease area" means an area with well-defined geographic boundaries which harbors one or more certifiable diseases pathogens.

Subd. 11. **Fish Health Blue Book.** "Fish Health Blue Book" means the standardized set of procedures and guidelines established and published by the American Fisheries Society Fish Health Section for the detection and isolation of fish pathogens.

Subd. 12. **Fish health inspection.** "Fish health inspection" means an on-site, statistically based sampling in accordance with processes in the Fish Health Blue Book for all lots of fish in a facility. The inspection must include at least viral testing of ovarian fluids at the 95 percent confidence level of detecting two percent incidence of disease (ovarian fluids must be sampled for certification of viral hemorrhagic septicemia and infectious hematopoietic necrosis). Bacterial diseases must be sampled at the 95 percent confidence level with a five percent incidence of disease. The inspection must be performed by a fish health inspector in cooperation with the producer with subsequent examination of the collected tissues and fluids for the detection of certifiable diseases.

Subd. 13. **Fish health inspector.** "Fish health inspector" means an individual certified as a fish health inspector by the American Fisheries Society or state, federal, or provincial resource management agency, except that a certification may not be made by an inspector who has a conflict of interest in connection with the outcome of the certification.

Subd. 14. **Game fish.** "Game fish" has the meaning given in section 97A.015, subdivision 25, except that green or orange spotted sunfish are not game fish for purposes of determining fish of significant public value.

Subd. 15. **Intensive culture.** "Intensive culture" means the rearing of fish at densities greater than can be supported in the natural environment.

Subd. 16. **Licensed facility.** "Licensed facility" means a licensed aquatic farm, including all licensed waters.

Subd. 17. **Lot.** "Lot" means a group of fish of the same species and age that originated from the same discrete spawning population and that always have shared a common water supply, or various age groups of adult brood stock of the same species that have shared the same containers for one brood cycle.

Subd. 18. **Minnows.** "Minnows" has the meaning given in section 97A.015, subdivision 29, except the 12-inch restriction on sucker minnows does not apply.

Subd. 18a. **Nonindigenous species.** "Nonindigenous species" means a species of fish or other aquatic life that is:

- (1) not known to have been historically present in the state;
- (2) not known to be naturally occurring in a particular part of the state; or
- (3) designated by rule as a prohibited or regulated invasive species.

Subd. 18b. **Nonindigenous strain.** "Nonindigenous strain" means a species of fish or other aquatic life that:

- (1) has an original source outside of this state and contiguous states;
- (2) is an unnaturally occurring hybrid or genetically engineered species; or
- (3) in areas north of marked State Highway 210, is a walleye, the original source of which is from south of marked State Highway 210 or from outside the state.

Subd. 18c. **Processing.** "Processing" means rendering a species of aquatic life for food, bait, or other purposes so that it is no longer alive.

Subd. 19. **Public waters.** "Public waters" has the meaning given in section 103G.005, subdivision 15.

Subd. 20. **Quarantine facility.** "Quarantine facility" means a culture system that is enclosed in a building and is separated from other fish culture facilities where fish can be isolated and maintained while preventing their introduction and pathogen introduction into the environment.

Subd. 21. **Standard facility.** "Standard facility" means a licensed facility that is not a quarantine or containment facility.

Subd. 22. **Waters of the state.** "Waters of the state" has the meaning given in section 103G.005, subdivision 17.

**History:** *1992 c 566 s 2; 1993 c 226 s 1-3; 1996 c 410 s 3-7; 1997 c 226 s 1-3; 2004 c 243 s 1*