



Fisheries Orders

Natural Resources Commission
Meeting
Jan. 14, 2021



Fisheries Orders

For Information Only

- 245: Fish Disease Control



Fisheries Orders 245

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- Goal: Enhance biosecurity of bait supply and adjust specific provisions based on updated scientific information
- Order was previously updated in 2016 and expires on March 31, 2021
- Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHSv) detected in the bait supply under current testing requirements
- Several recommendations meant to reduce the spread of fish diseases
 - Also reflects updates to statute (Part 413 of NREPA)



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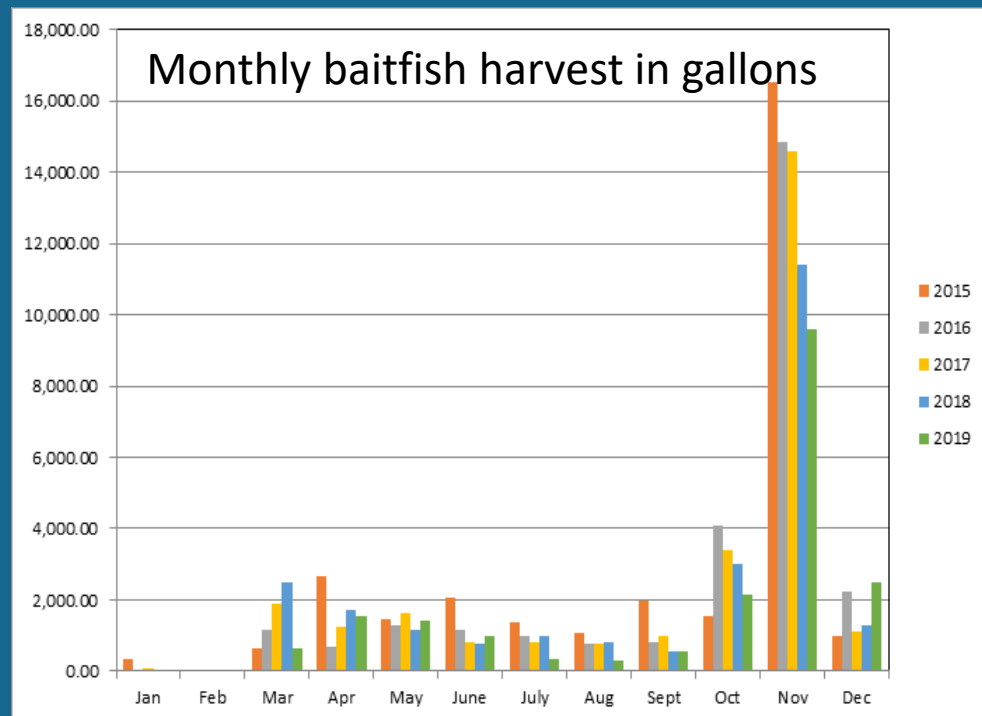
- Increase baitfish testing requirements to increase ability to detect fish pathogens before they spread through the statewide bait supply
 - Maintain testing of baitfish collected in Nov. and Dec.
 - Expand that same testing requirement to include Oct. & Jan. - May.
 - Require baitfish testing once a month from June-Sept. for baitfish collected from 8 zones, if harvest occurs in that zone.



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- Commercial baitfish collection in MI
 - 56 licensed commercial baitfish catchers in 2019
 - Primarily Great Lakes waters
- 2019 Harvest
 - Approx. 20,000 gallons
 - ~940 shiners per gallon
 - Mostly Emerald Shiners
- Approx. 450 retail bait shops



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- Add species to list of VHSv susceptible fish within the Fish Health Guidance Document

Species include:

- Anchovies, Atlantic herring, Atlantic menhaden, Eulachon, Gizzard shad, and Pacific herring



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- Recommendations for frozen baitfish
 - Increase testing and labeling requirements
 - Require species identification and location of harvest for all imported frozen bait
 - Add labeling requirements to specify that frozen bait was tested for VHSV, if the species is susceptible to the VHSV
 - If testing is required, require VHSV testing certification number on the label of frozen bait packages



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Recommendations for baitfish labeling

- Revise the bait labeling requirements for VHSV susceptible fish
- Require labeling to include the VHSV testing certification number for the following bait:
 - All bait collected from the Great Lakes and tributary streams up to the first fish passage barrier;
 - All bait collected from the following inland waters: Budd Lake (Clare Co.) and Baseline Lake (Livingston and Washtenaw Co.)
 - All bait collected outside of Michigan, including frozen bait, must be labeled as indicated:
 - Species must be documented on the package
 - Origin of collection must be listed on the package



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- Remove all Koi Herpes Virus (KHV) regulations
 - Previously had limited information available KHV, but now know that KHV is not transmitted to native baitfish species.
 - Therefore, negligible risk to species in MI's bait supply





Thank you!

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