

## Communication from Michigan Dept of Agriculture

### Topic: Dual Registered/Licensed Facilities

### Requirement for Importing

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We can work toward a better format of the information and the addition of more detail. For now, we need to look at the intended use of the fish. The "gray area" is bait coming to aquaculture facilities that is held for an extended time. At some point this crosses from bait to aquaculture. For now, the agencies can handle individual situations on a case by case basis. The overall goals are to keep diseases out of Michigan for aquaculture and wild fish and to promote economically viable aquaculture and sport fishing industries while protecting Michigan's resources.

### MDA

- Only cover "aquaculture" going to licensed aquaculture facilities.
- Only allow species on the approved list. May make an exception if OK with DNR.
- Shipment needs a health certificate from a licensed, accredited veterinarian- good for 30 days.
- We need evidence of no VHS, IHN, PKD, and ceratomyxosis (i.e. the emergency fish diseases) for 2 years.
- We require VHS testing per the federal order from all states (not just the 8 Great Lakes states).
- We require that the shipper notify us before the fish come so we can verify appropriate VHS testing. Once we do this, we issue a permit number that goes on the health certificate (ie a prior entry permit number).

### DNR - Stocking

- Private Stocking of Public Water Permits are needed for all waters with permanent inlets.
- Fish are coming directly into our state and being directly stocked.
- Fish need to be certified disease free for specific listed diseases either on a lot basis or "farm" basis with sufficient sample size for the species being stocked.

- Certifications are good for one year for the lot being sold or for the "farm" certification.
- Lot certifications require 120 fish samples.
- "Farm" certifications require a minimum of 60 for each species being imported and total sample size will depend on size of facility and other species on site.
- Fish species and stocking must be pre-approved and permits require notification of stocking.

#### **DNR-Bait**

- All imported baitfish on the Fisheries Order 245 species list must be certified VHS free and this is done on a lot basis.