

Fisheries and Aquaculture

Identification of Infectious Salmon Anemia confirmed in land-based aquaculture facilities

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Fisheries and Aquaculture is confirming the identification of Infectious Salmon Anemia (ISA) at two small independently owned, land-based aquaculture facilities in Nova Scotia in February.

Operators reported a concern to veterinarians who conducted testing. As soon as initial tests indicated the suspected cause of infection was the virus, the sites were quarantined.

The affected fish were euthanized and removed in a secure manner. The process followed protocols and was supervised by veterinarians who will continue ongoing monitoring.

The department implemented provincial regulations and followed practices recommended by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to ensure effective remediation. The virus must be reported under federal regulations and the province notified the CFIA.

In addition, the department has also notified relevant agencies.

The virus poses no risk to humans and is endemic to Atlantic Canada. Infectious Salmon Anemia was first detected in Atlantic Canada in 1996. The disease-causing version of the virus has not been detected in Nova Scotia since 2012.

As a move to more transparency, public notices will be posted to the Aquaculture Laws and Regulations website at:

<https://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>