

Commercial Aquaculture Health Program Standards

CAHPS Concept Principles



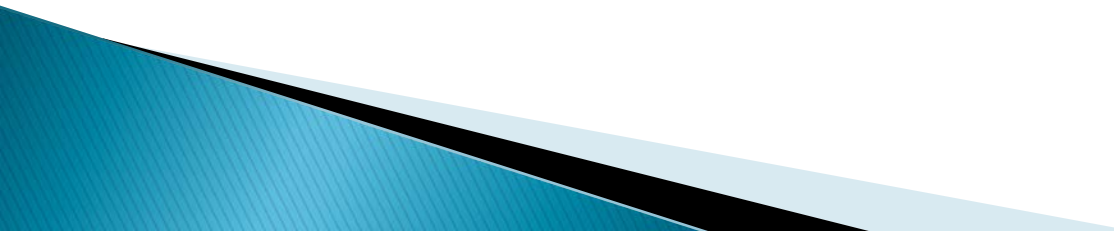
United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Commercial Aquaculture

- »» The business of farming aquatic animals for sale or trade, with some sort of intervention in the rearing or farming process.

CAHPS Concept

▶ Five Principles:

1. Aquatic animal health team
 2. Risk characterization & management
 3. Surveillance
 4. Investigation and reporting
 5. Response
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CAHPS Concept

- ▶ **Aquatic animal health team (AAHT)**
 - Actively engaged with site
 - Comprised of:
 - Veterinarians, AFS certified professionals, laboratorians, & other subject matter experts
 - Has a designated leader
 - Develops AAHT communication plan
 - Assists with Site-Specific Health Plan

CAHPS Concept

- ▶ **Risk Characterization & Management**
 - Guided by the AAHT
 - Identifies pathogens of concern & site-specific risks
 - Develops strategies & training for early disease detection
 - Identifies threshold triggers for disease investigation
 - Results in a written biosecurity plan

CAHPS Concept

▶ Surveillance

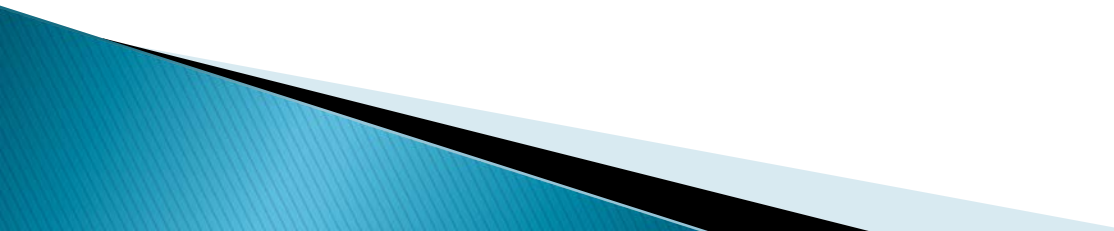
- Guided by the AAHT
- Sampling strategies are specific to site & species
 - Meets criteria for trade if CAHPS not accepted
- Based on site-specific surveillance plan
- Addresses any OIE-listed disease for susceptible species

CAHPS Concept

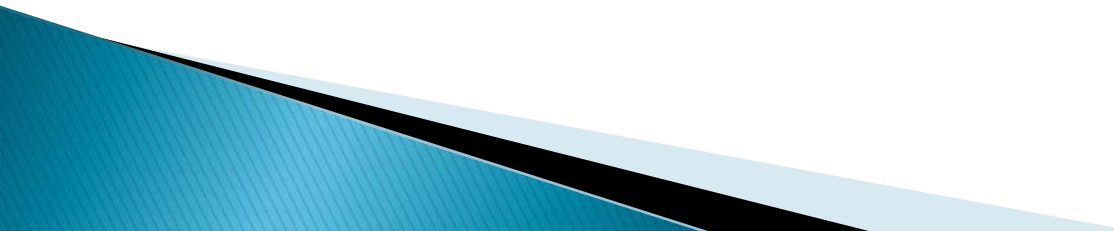
- ▶ **Investigation and Reporting**
 - Led and guided by leadership of AAHT
 - Triggered when thresholds are exceeded
 - Investigation varies depending on scope of problem
 - Reports OIE-listed or emerging diseases to appropriate officials

CAHPS Concept

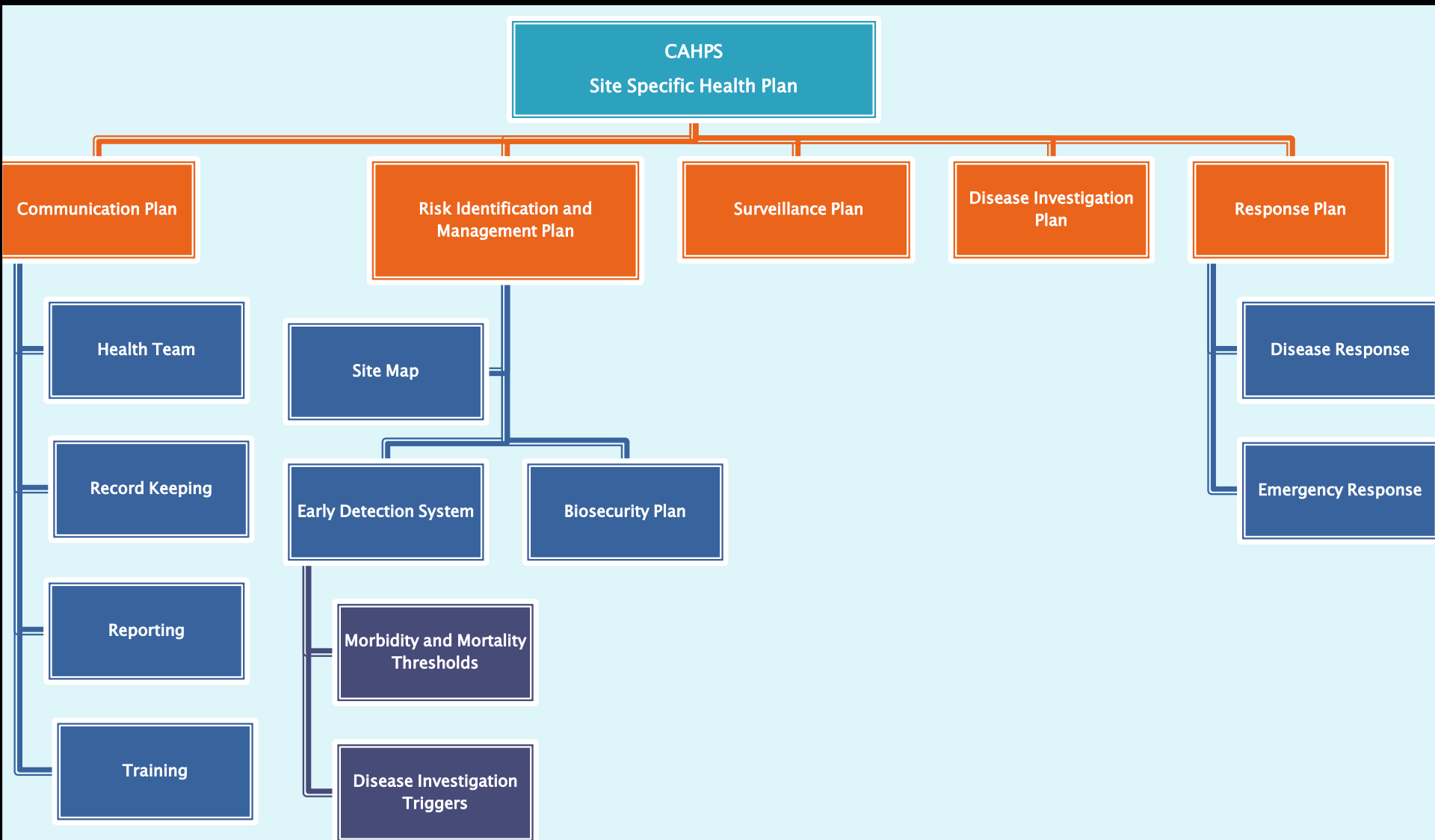
▶ Response

- Led and guided by leadership of AAHT unless otherwise determined
 - Dependent on the pathogen identified & the impact of pathogen
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CAHPS Concept

- ▶ Commercial aquaculture sites implement five principles of CAHPS *and* develop a site-specific health plan to become an **ESTABLISHMENT**
 - ▶ Animals are low risk for specific pathogens because of surveillance and biosecurity
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CAHPS Concept: Site Specific Health Plan



CAHPS Beyond Establishment

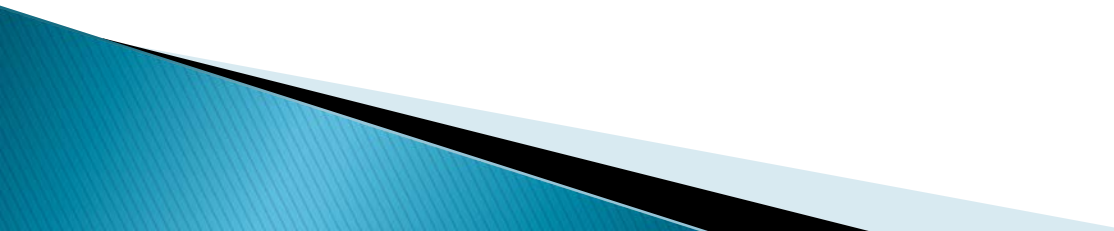
▶ Zone

- Region around a site (defined by biogeographic boundaries) with ongoing surveillance
 - Or, historic freedom, or lack of susceptible species, or passive surveillance
- Partnership and data-sharing
- Collaboration with industry, states, tribes, federal agencies, trade partners
- Allows ESTABLISHMENT to claim a disease-free status for specific pathogens and eventually may be able to reduce testing

CAHPS Beyond Establishment

- ▶ **Compartment**
 - Sites may have risks but appropriate barriers are implemented
 - Allows ESTABLISHMENT to claim a disease-free status for specific pathogens through surveillance and biosecurity management
 - Eventually may be able to reduce testing

CAHPS

- ▶ Voluntary, non-regulatory
 - ▶ Not for every aquaculture business or site
 - ▶ Living document
 - ▶ Implementation will need cooperation beyond NAA and APHIS
 - Buy-in
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CAHPS Next Steps

- ▶ Your input is needed!
 - APHIS VS Aquaculture webpage
 - <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/aquaculture>
 - [Email: VS.SPRS.Feedback@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:VS.SPRS.Feedback@aphis.usda.gov)
 - ▶ Focus groups to –
 - Refine standards
 - Create partnerships and buy-in
 - Tackle implementation and compliance
 - ▶ Ongoing efforts
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