

SEPTEMBER 2009

USA COMMENTS

CHAPTER 4.1.

ZONING AND COMPARTMENTALISATION

Article 4.1.3.

1. ...
2. A protection zone may be established to preserve the health status of aquatic animals in a free country or zone, from adjacent countries or zones of different aquatic animal health status. Measures should be implemented based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration to prevent introduction of the pathogenic agent. These measures should include intensified movement control and surveillance and may also include vaccination, special identification, raised awareness or other measures.

The application of these measures can be in the entire free zone or in a defined area within and/or outside the free zone.

General comment : Further review is needed to clarify the use of “epidemiological measures,” “intensified movement control,” “special identification” and “raised awareness.”

Rationale : The added text explaining the use of “epidemiological measures,” “intensified movement control,” “special identification” and “raised awareness” are so ambiguous as to make standardized implementation by any country very difficult. Please also see our comments to the Glossary chapter for suggested changes to the new definition of “protection zone.”