



## ANNOUNCEMENT

### ANNOUNCING NEW NAFV WEBSITE!

Members, we have debuted our new NAFV website. We hope to continue to develop it as an additional tool and resource for our membership.

Please note that this new website also has a totally new member-only forum system. If you have not done so already, please visit our site to create your new login & password.

[www.nafv.org](http://www.nafv.org)

To create login:

[www.nafv.org/m/create-account](http://www.nafv.org/m/create-account)

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## OIE Bulletin Editorial: Eradication of Bovine Tuberculosis - a One Health Issue



Source: OIE - <https://bit.ly/2KnGxSP>

From the statistics published by WHO and the declarations made to the OIE, it is painfully obvious that bovine tuberculosis is still a major disease and a cause of concern for a great many countries, as it represents a socio-economic burden that is costly in terms of human lives and resources. This public health and animal health challenge merits special attention through the prism of a One Health approach.

The OIE is committed to working in partnership with WHO, FAO and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease to make a significant contribution to improving the situation. We are working together to strengthen the capacity of our Member Countries to combat bovine tuberculosis, notably by publishing the Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis. We are also working to ensure that relevant diagnostic tools and technical standards reflect the latest technical advances, both in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and in the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals.

No, bovine tuberculosis is not a disease of the past, including in developed countries. Yes, we must continue to devote the necessary resources to control or even eradicate it.

There is an urgent need to replace the current international standard bovine tuberculin and establish a reference standard for the development of 'second generation' diagnostic tests. This explains why the OIE supports the international collaboration established with the aim of developing and validating a replacement international standard bovine tuberculin. The OIE also supports the research being undertaken to develop innovative approaches to diagnosis and prevention, in particular, through its involvement in the STAR IDAZ platform. Regarding the challenges facing efforts to control bovine and zoonotic tuberculosis, I must emphasise once again that national coordination of actions and coherence of programmes are preconditions for success.

Surveillance, including in wildlife, and the follow-up of notification reports to the OIE are also of major importance in combating the disease, as is synergy with the network of OIE Reference Laboratories that provide crucial support. This issue of Panorama will, I hope, give you a better understanding of the actions being undertaken by the OIE and the way in which they complement one another. The various testimonies presented

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The annual subscription rate is \$50.00 for United States and Canada and \$70.00 for foreign mailing, payable by January 1 each year. Subscriptions are not available to those eligible for membership.

Any non-uniformed veterinarian employed full time by the federal government may become an active member. Dues are \$234.00 annually, payable annually, semi-annually, or by federal payroll deductions (eligibility for payroll deduction is limited to USDA veterinarians—of \$9.00 authorized by signing USDA Form AD 1054 (FSIS) or SF 1187 (APHIS)). Uniformed veterinarians dues are \$150.00 annually. *Active duty* military veterinarians— please contact the NAFV office.

Associate membership may be granted to active members when they retire from federal service. Associate members pay no dues. Associate mailed subscriptions are \$25.00 per year.

The National Association of Federal Veterinarians is a non-profit corporation and the purposes for which it is formed are to promote the veterinary profession, to improve the professional efficiency and material interests of the members, to acquaint the public with the activities of veterinarians in the federal service, and to cooperate with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the United States Animal Health Association and other similar groups with common interests.

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(Continued from Pg. 1, "OIE Bovine")

here reveal the importance of sharing experiences and the need for cooperation between countries. This issue also highlights the efforts being made throughout the world, especially in low- and middle-income countries, to combat bovine tuberculosis and reduce its impact. Lastly, this issue of Panorama devoted to tuberculosis is, in my view, yet another illustration of the commitment by the FAO/OIE/WHO Tripartite, the Directors General of these three organizations having already formalised

their collaboration by signing an agreement on 30 May 2018. I hope you will find this issue instructive and enjoyable.

Monique Éloit  
Director General,  
World Organisation for Animal  
Health (OIE)

Full report here:  
<https://oiebulletin.com/wp-content/uploads/bulletins/panorama-2019-1-en.pdf>

## 2019 AVMA Convention Wrap-Up Annual NAFV Joint Business Meeting with the AAFSPHV

*By Mariana C. Barros | August, 2019*

NAFV held its biannual Joint-Business Meeting at the AVMA Convention on Sunday, August 4, 2019 in Washington, DC. We had nearly 25 members of ours join us, and 42 attendees overall. After the Dr. Katherine Waters & Dr. Kelly Vest provided an update on the AAFSPHV current affairs, NAFV Executive Committee Members, Dr. Barb Porter-Spalding (President) and Dr. Larry Davis (Secretary-Treasurer) opened our meeting with a few words to welcome our special guests pictured below.



**Dr. Burke Healey at our NAFV Business Meeting**

### Dr. Burke Healey, APHIS

Dr. Healey joined our NAFV meeting on his first day as the VS Associate Administrator, and spoke for a few minutes about the good relationship NAFV and APHIS leadership have always enjoyed. He also added that in this new role, he looks forward to continuing this dynamic and strengthening the line of communication between VS and our membership.

### Mr. Paul Kiecker, FSIS

Mr. Kiecker, FSIS Deputy Administrator, also joined our NAFV meeting and spoke for a few minutes about the critical role that veterinarians play in FSIS. Mr. Kiecker also highlighted that he and Administrator Rottenberg share the same goal of making FSIS a career-long choice for federal veterinarians. To this effect, he introduced Dr. Maria Esteras, the new VROC.



**Mr. Paul Kiecker at our NAFV Business Mtg.**



Dr. Maria Esteras at our NAFV Business Meeting

### Dr. Maria Esteras, FSIS

Dr. Esteras, FSIS Veterinary Recruitment Outreach Coordinator (VROC) and NAFV Member, spoke at length about the strategies and plans she has put forth towards the recruitment & retention of Public Health Veterinarians in FSIS. In her short time in this post, she has focused on identifying the main issues plaguing the veterinary workforce in FSIS. Aside from providing support for the new incentives and initiatives that FSIS put forth last year through their PHV Workgroup, Dr. Esteras has been working on reducing the time lags in the hiring and onboarding processes for PHVs, and employee action citations. We look forward to working with Dr. Esteras.

## APHIS Administrator Announces Several Senior Leadership Changes

Source: APHIS, July 22, 2019  
<https://bit.ly/2N4dhrC>

Dear Stakeholders:

I want to share with you several changes taking place in important APHIS leadership positions. Dr. Mark Davidson will be an Associate Administrator, filling the position previously held by Mike Gregoire, who retired earlier this year. Most recently, Dr. Davidson has been serving as Deputy Administrator for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services (MRPBS) after many years in Veterinary Services (VS). In this position, he will oversee the work of VS, Animal Care (AC), and MRPBS. Ms. Bernadette Juarez will be the Deputy Administrator for Biotechnology Regulatory Services, succeeding Dr. Mike Firko, who is retiring at the end of the month. Ms. Juarez has been serving as the Deputy Administrator for AC since early 2016, after earlier service as the Director of APHIS Investigative and Enforcement Services and before that as an attorney with USDA's Office of the General Counsel. While we recruit for a permanent successor, Dr. Betty Goldentyer, currently AC's Associate Deputy Administrator, will serve as Acting Deputy Administrator. Dr. Jerry Rushin will act as AC's Associate Deputy Administrator.

Dr. Jack Shere will also become an Associate Administrator, filling the position previously held by Dr. Mary Bohman, who left the Agency earlier this year. Dr. Shere has been serving as Deputy Administrator for VS and Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) since early 2016 after many years in VS field leadership positions. In his new role, Dr. Shere will concentrate on emergency preparedness and planning, as well as homeland and national security issues. Among his duties will be a special focus on the emerging African swine fever threat throughout the world.

Dr. Burke Healey, currently the VS Associate Deputy Administrator, will succeed Dr. Shere as the VS Deputy Administrator and CVO. Prior to serving in this position, Dr. Healey held several VS field leadership positions and served as the State Veterinarian for Oklahoma.

Dr. Rosemary Sifford, currently the VS Associate Deputy Administrator for Strategy and Policy (S&P), will succeed Dr. Healey as the VS Associate Administrator. Prior to serving in this position, Dr. Sifford served in VS field leadership positions and was also an Agricultural Quarantine Inspection veterinarian for our Plant Protection and Quarantine program. Dr. Sarah Tomlinson, currently the VS Executive Director for S&P, will succeed Dr. Sifford as VS Associate Deputy Administrator for S&P. Prior to serving in this position, Dr. Tomlinson served VS as the Coordinator for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network as well as a veterinary epidemiologist. We will recruit for a permanent successor to Dr. Tomlinson.

Dr. Thomas McKenna, currently Director for District One of VS Field Operations (FiOps), will be a new FiOps Executive Director. He will also serve as the FiOps Acting Associate Deputy Administrator while we recruit for a permanent successor to Dr. Brian McCluskey, who recently left the Agency. All these changes will be effective on August 4, 2019.

I want to express my appreciation for everything these leaders have done in their current and previous positions. They have all contributed to our noble missions of feeding and clothing the world and protecting vulnerable animals. Please join me in wishing them all the best as they embark on their new adventures.

Kevin Shea  
 Administrator

## NAFV Coordinator Spotlight: Dr. Anne Beebe

In this next installment of our Coordinator Spotlight, we introduce you to Dr. Anne Beebe. If you would like to become a Regional Coordinator or join a [membership committee](#), please contact NAFV Associate Executive Vice President, Ms. Mariana C. Barros at [mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org) for more information. You can also read more on our coordinators via the [NAFV Coordinators' Guide](#) found on our website.

### Dr. Anne Beebe, FSIS Coordinator in the Philadelphia District

Dr. Ann Beebe resides near Bethlehem, PA and has a mini circuit consisting of cattle, hog, duck and turkey slaughter and multiple processing establishments. Dr. Beebe's mini circuit includes some less frequently seen processes such as religious exempt product, high pressure processing, and canning. She enjoys the mini circuit because of the daily variety of activities. She particularly enjoys pathology and discussing policy and regulation questions.

Dr. Beebe graduated from Cornell University (Animal Science), N. C. State College of Veterinary Medicine, and completed a residency in small animal clinical behavior at the University of Pennsylvania. She practiced in a limited small animal general practice and specialized in small animal clinical behavior as an independent contractor for 10 years.

Dr. Beebe joined FSIS in 2007. She enjoys talking to other FSIS veterinarians to give advice or opinions, which is why she joined the NAFV coordinator committee. She encourages other veterinarians to think of a career in the Federal government.

Originally, she signed up for NAFV because a DDM talked to her about it at orientation, and was later encouraged to become a coordinator by the now retired DM - Mr. Behney. She enjoys her pets - one dog, two cats and two ferrets. Dr. Beebe has become skilled at boxing thanks to a great instructor, has run 5 1/2 marathons and numerous shorter races. She is a Tough Mudder and Spartan as well as a winter racer (Ugly Mudder and Chilly Cheeks). Dr. Beebe also volunteers at the Old Freemansburg Association to preserve a Lehigh Valley Canal site, and is also a member of the Civil Service Commission in the Borough of Freemansburg. She especially enjoys swimming and boating at a family cottage in upstate New York.



Pictured: Einstein - a sweet soul and Dr. Beebe's great companion.

## TLDR: FSIS Final Response to Petition Submitted by Center for Science in the Public Interest - Processed Meat Cancer Label

Ms. Laura MacCleery  
Policy Director  
Center for Science in the Public Interest

Dear Ms. MacCleery,

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has completed its review of the December 2016 petition submitted by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), requesting that FSIS create regulations requiring warning labels on "processed" meat and poultry products. 1 The petition proposes warning labels that advise consumers that frequent consumption of these products may increase their risk of colon and rectal cancer.

The petition relies on scientific studies asserting links between the consumption of processed meat with increased risk of certain types of cancer. It states that there is a low awareness among American

consumers of this risk, and that the risk identified in the studies obligates the USDA to require a warning statement on processed meat and poultry product labels.

After careful consideration, FSIS has decided to deny the petition without prejudice. FSIS considers these products safe to consume and not misbranded for failure to display the warning labels sought in the petition. Further, the requested warning label could be misleading in that it would fail to provide information that consumers would need to place the asserted risk in proper context.

Sincerely,  
~#~ Roberta Wagner  
Assistant Administrator  
Office of Policy and Program Development  
USDA FSIS

For full letter: <https://bit.ly/2ZwFtFW>

## Secretary Perdue Announces Kansas City Region as Location for ERS and NIFA

*Move puts ERS, NIFA closer to customers, expected to save nearly \$300 million*

(Washington, D.C., June 13, 2019) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will relocate the Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to the Kansas City Region.

“Following a rigorous site selection process, the Kansas City Region provides a win win – maximizing our mission function by putting taxpayer savings into programmatic outputs and providing affordability, easy commutes, and extraordinary living for our employees,” said Secretary Perdue. “The Kansas City Region has proven itself to be hub for all things agriculture and is a booming city in America’s heartland. There is already a significant presence of USDA and federal government employees in the region, including the Kansas City ‘Ag Bank’ Federal Reserve. This agriculture talent pool, in addition to multiple land-grant and research universities within driving distance, provides access to a stable labor force for the future. The Kansas City Region will allow ERS and NIFA to increase efficiencies and effectiveness and bring important resources and manpower closer to all of our customers.”

USDA conducted a Cost Benefit Analysis and conservative estimates show a savings of nearly \$300 million nominally over a 15-year lease term on employment costs and rent or about \$20 million per year, which will allow more funding for research of critical needs like rural prosperity and agricultural competitiveness, and for programs and employees to be retained in the long run, even in the face of tightening budgets. On top of that, state and local governments offered generous relocation incentives packages totaling more than \$26 million. Finally, this relocation will give USDA the opportunity to attract a diverse staff with training and interest in agriculture. You may click [HERE](#) to view USDA’s Cost Benefit Analysis.

“We did not undertake these relocations lightly, and we are doing it to enhance long-term sustainability and success of these agencies. The considerable taxpayer savings will allow us to be more efficient and improve our ability to retain more employees in the long run. We will be placing important USDA resources closer to many stakeholders, most of whom live and work far from Washington, D.C. In addition, we are increasing the probability of attracting highly-qualified staff with training and interests in agriculture, many of whom come from land-grant universities. We look forward to this new chapter as we seek to fulfill our motto at USDA, which is to ‘do

right and feed everyone,’” added Secretary Perdue.

Secretary Perdue sent [this letter](#) to all USDA employees this morning and will be holding an all hands meeting with ERS and NIFA employees today to discuss the decision, the process, and next steps.

In addition, USDA announced in August the realignment of ERS under the Office of the Chief Economist. While we believe there is considerable synergies and benefits to a realignment, after hearing feedback from stakeholders and Members of Congress, USDA will not move forward with the realignment plans. The agency of ERS will remain under the Research, Education, and Economics mission area.

### **Background:**

USDA announced in August it would undertake the relocations for three main reasons:

1. To improve USDA’s ability to attract and retain highly qualified staff with training and interests in agriculture, many of whom come from land-grant universities. USDA has experienced significant turnover in these positions, and it has been difficult to recruit employees to the Washington, D.C. area, particularly given the high cost of living and long commutes.
2. To place these important USDA resources closer to many of our stakeholders, most of whom live and work far from the Washington, D.C. area.
3. To benefit the American taxpayers. There will be significant savings on employment costs and rent, which will allow more employees to be retained in the long run, even in the face of tightening budgets.

As part of the [rigorous site selection process](#), USDA narrowed the [136 Expressions of Interest](#) received using a set of established criteria defined by USDA, NIFA, and ERS leadership. The criteria included:

- Quality of Life: Subcategory examples include Diversity Index, Residential Housing Costs, Access to Healthcare, and Home and Community Safety Ranking.
- Costs (Capital and Operating): Subcategory examples include Commercial Real Estate Costs, CPI Index, and Wage Costs.
- Workforce: Subcategory examples include Labor Force Growth Rate, Unemployment Rate, and the Labor Force Population.
- Logistics / IT Infrastructure: Subcategory examples include Lodging Availability, Proximity

(Continued on Pg. 6, “Perdue Announces ERS & NIFA...”)

(Continued from Pg. 5, “Perdue Announces ERS & NIFA...”)  
to Customers, and Airport Accessibility.

The top Expressions of Interest were reviewed in detail, and USDA selected a [short list of locations](#) offering existing buildings with sufficient space to meet ERS and NIFA requirements.

While 90% of USDA employees are located outside of the D.C. area, ERS and NIFA are the only USDA agencies that don't have representation outside of the national Capital Region (NCR). Upon the relocation announcement, USDA proposed that sufficient staff levels would remain in the NCR to complete mission critical activities that require physical presence in or near Washington, D.C. at the recommendation of customers and stakeholders. In both the cases of ERS and NIFA, leadership reviewed the critical functions and staffing needs within and outside the NCR. Senior ERS and NIFA staff, with input from partner agencies and stakeholders, recom-

mended to Secretary Perdue the critical functions to be retained within the NCR.

Out of NIFA's 315 positions, 294 will relocate while 21 will stay in the NCR. Of the 329 ERS positions, 253 will relocate while 76 will stay in the Washington, D.C. area.

As a result of this move, no ERS or NIFA employees will be involuntarily separated. Every employee who wants to continue working will have an opportunity to do so, although that will mean moving to a new location for most. Employees will be offered relocation assistance and will receive the same base pay as before, and the locality pay for the new location.

USDA will be working with the General Services Administration to secure a permanent lease space through a competitive process in the Kansas City Region. USDA will continue to keep ERS and NIFA employees apprised as updates occur.

## APHIS Announces Plan to Use Farm Bill Funding to Support Animal Disease Prevention and Management

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is announcing initial plans to carry out new animal health activities using resources provided by the 2018 Farm Bill. Section 12101 of the 2018 Farm Bill established a three-part program to comprehensively support animal disease prevention and management. The bill included funding to create two new programs: the National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank (vaccine bank) and the National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP). It also expands funding opportunities for the existing National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

This fall, APHIS will issue a sources sought notice to gather updated information from vaccine manufacturers interested in supplying the vaccine bank. The information will be used to develop a forward-looking vaccine acquisition strategy leading to one or more requests for proposals for

foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccine to address a potential outbreak. For 2019, APHIS will also make available up to \$10 million in funding to be divided between NADPRP and NAHLN based on the quality of proposed projects. Once fully implemented, these three programs will work together to protect and improve the health of our nation's livestock, helping farmers and ranchers provide high-quality agricultural products to consumers here and abroad.

For our highest consequence animal diseases, it is important to have an effective insurance policy in the extremely rare chance of an outbreak. The new U.S.-only vaccine bank—a concept APHIS officials have long discussed with stakeholders and industry—allows USDA to stockpile animal vaccine and related products to use in the event of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease or other high-impact foreign animal diseases.

Our most effective strategy to protect animal health is keeping disease out of the country in the

first place. To that end, the new preparedness and response program, NADPRP, allows APHIS to enter into cooperative agreements with States, universities, livestock producer organizations, and other eligible entities for targeted projects aimed at preventing animal pests and diseases from entering the United States and reducing the spread and impact of potential disease incursions. In 2019, APHIS funding will build upon and enhance current disease prevention and emergency response efforts by supporting an initial round of training and exercise projects, as stakeholders have long supported this area of importance. APHIS will announce the application period and dates of webinars to assist potential applicants through the process in a future message to stakeholders. APHIS will continue to develop a more formalized annual NADPRP stakeholder consultation and annual priority-setting process to be used for implementation in 2020 and beyond.

(Continued on Pg. 7, “APHIS Plan...”)

(Continued from Pg. 6, "APHIS Plan...")

Should foreign animal pests or disease strike, diagnosing and detecting the extent of the outbreak as rapidly as possible plays a key role in limiting the impact of the pest or disease on producers. APHIS Farm Bill funding for NAHLN in 2019 will support targeted projects to expand diagnostic capacity and our ability to rapidly respond to

adverse animal health events. NAHLN is a nationally coordinated network and partnership of Federal, State, and university-associated animal health laboratories. NAHLN veterinary diagnostic laboratories provide animal health diagnostic testing to detect biological threats to the nation's food animals, thus protecting animal health, public health, and the nation's food supply. Ad-

ditional information about NAHLN is available on the [APHIS NAHLN web site](#). Information about these programs is available on the APHIS website at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/farmbill>. The site will be updated periodically with details about how to apply for these funds.

### New NAFV Coordinator Candidate: Dr. Raven Canady



My journey with USDA FSIS began in the summer of 2016 when I joined as a Pathway's Veterinary Student Intern in Marshalltown, Iowa. Later in 2016, I was awarded the Adel A. Malak Scholarship which provided me with outstanding mentorship and the opportunity to gain a wide variety of experience. After graduating from Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in May of 2018, I converted to a full-time position as a Public Health Veterinarian with USDA FSIS.

Prior to attending veterinary school, I earned a bachelor's in Biology and a master's in Animal Science. I am currently working towards completing a Master of Science in Food Safety. Outside of food safety, my interests include infectious disease, swine herd health, pathology and epidemiology.

I currently reside in Southeastern North Carolina, where I serve as a Supervisory Public Health Veterinarian at a large pork establishment.

**NAFV will be accepting comments from our members on Dr. Canady's candidacy through 9/30/2019.**

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Food Safety and Inspection Service

[\[Docket No. FSIS-2018-0044\]](#)

#### **Changes to the Campylobacter Verification Testing Program: Revised Performance Standards for Campylobacter in Not-Ready-To-Eat Comminuted Chicken and Turkey and Related Agency Procedures**

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing and requesting comments on revised pathogen reduction performance standards for Campylobacter in not-ready-to-eat (NRTE) comminuted chicken and turkey products based on a microbiological method change from direct-plating to enrichment. The Agency is taking this step because the enrichment method more effectively recovers Campylobacter in contaminated poultry samples as compared to the direct-plating method. FSIS will consider comments received on this notice before announcing the final standards in the Federal Register and assessing whether establishments are meeting the standards. After collecting sufficient data, FSIS plans to propose and request comments on revised pathogen reduction performance standards for Campylobacter in young chicken and turkey carcasses and in raw chicken parts, also based on the enrichment method.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before October 7, 2019.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Roberta Wagner, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy and Program Development by telephone at (202) 205-0495.

## Field Evaluation Continues into New Oral Rabies Vaccine for Raccoons, Other Wildlife

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9, 2019—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) today announced it will continue field evaluation of an oral rabies vaccine (ORV) bait called ONRAB in five states. This year's field evaluation is part of a multiyear study addressing operational questions related to bait density and effectiveness in raccoons, skunks, and other wildlife and is associated with a larger-scale rabies management effort in additional states.

APHIS' Wildlife Services (WS) leads the cooperative National Rabies Management Program that works to prevent the spread of rabies in wildlife. The program currently uses another rabies vaccine to control the disease in raccoons, coyotes, and foxes. The ONRAB vaccine is being tested to determine whether it can more effectively manage rabies in raccoons and skunks.

Beginning this month, WS will distribute more than 2.7 million ONRAB ORV baits in parts of Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, and West Virginia to test the immune effects in targeted wildlife. WS personnel will sample raccoons and skunks both prior to and following bait distribution to determine vaccination rates.

Field evaluation of ONRAB during 2019 is a collaborative effort among APHIS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the vaccine manufacturer (Artemis Technologies, Guelph, Ontario, Canada), and state departments of agriculture, health, and natural resources. Distribution of this ORV bait will span portions of:

- Clinton, Essex, Erie, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, Niagara, Oswego, and St. Lawrence counties in New York;
- Addison, Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Orleans, Lamoille, and Washington counties in Vermont;
- Coos and Grafton counties in New Hampshire;
- Ashtabula, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Geauga, Harrison, Jefferson, Mahoning, Monroe, Portage, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Trumbull counties in Ohio; and,



- Brooke, Barbour, Braxton, Doddridge, Greenbrier, Fayette, Hancock, Harrison, Lewis, Marshall, McDowell, Nicholas, Ohio, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Tyler, Upshur, Webster, Wetzel, and Wyoming counties in West Virginia.

The ONRAB bait is a blister pack filled with the vaccine and coated with a sweet attractant. When an animal bites into one of the baits it will release the vaccine into their mouth and, with an adequate dose, develop immunity to rabies. Humans and pets cannot get rabies from contact with the bait, but are asked to leave the bait undisturbed if they encounter it. If contact with bait occurs, the contact area should be immediately rinsed with warm water and soap. Each bait carries a toll-free number that people can call if they have additional questions concerning a bait contact.

Rabies is a serious public health concern. While rabies is almost always fatal once symptoms appear, it is also 100 percent preventable. Human exposures can be successfully remedied if medical attention is sought immediately following exposure. Costs associated with detection, prevention and control of rabies exceed \$600 million annually in the United States. According to the CDC, about 90 percent of reported rabies cases in the U.S. are in wildlife.

For additional information concerning rabies or the ORV program, please visit <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife-damage/rabies> or contact WS toll free at 1-866-4USDAWS (1-866-487-3297).

### Contacts:

Tanya Espinosa (301) 851-4092  
Suzanne Bond (301) 851-4070

### Addition of Scotland to the List of Regions Classified as Having Controlled Risk for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
[Docket No. [APHIS-2018-0095](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/areahandlers.do?method=show&id=APHIS-2018-0095)]

We are advising the public that we have added Scotland to our list of regions classified as having controlled risk for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and have removed Scotland from our list of regions considered negligible risk for BSE. We are taking this action because of the confirmation of classical C-type BSE in an indigenous cow in Scotland.



# Federal Veterinarians - Are You Prepared?



As you know, Federal Veterinarians are critical in ensuring the nation's food safety and animal/livestock health with innumerable food safety initiatives, guidelines through FSIS, APHIS, DHS, CDC, and FDA, and various animal health programs. Many federal veterinarians also have the dual role of a manager, supervisor or officer within their respective agency. **This leaves you extremely susceptible to allegations, complaints, or potential lawsuits- just for doing your job.** Are you emotionally, financially and legally prepared to become the subject of an adverse administrative action, disciplinary proceeding, or civil lawsuit?

*The following is based off a real claims scenario from a federal veterinarian in which attorney fees totaled nearly \$115,000.*

Picture this: You are the subject of an Internal Controls Staff investigation of employee accountability for the unsanitary conditions found at one of the meat processing plants you supervise, which had its operations suspended and resulted in the agency recalling over 50,000 lbs. of meat. The findings of the investigation lead the agency to propose your removal from federal service based on a charge of neglect of duty, alleging that you failed to perform your regulatory and supervisory duties at the meat processing plant. While you argue that your actions were consistent with sanitation guidelines, the agency maintains its position and issues a final decision to sustain that charge. You are forced to appeal and litigate your removal before the Merit Systems Protection Board, or risk losing your livelihood.

### **Without FEDS Protection:**

You spend months paying out hourly fees to expensive federal employment attorneys in an attempt to defend yourself against the charges. The stress of the unknown begins to take a toll on your personal life, and as your savings begin to dwindle, you are forced to make the difficult decision to resign from federal employment in the best interest of your family's needs and finances and must begin looking for a new career.

**Total out of pocket costs: \$112,702.04**

### **With FEDS Protection:**

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## S. 1903: Advancing Emergency Preparedness Through One Health Act of 2019

116th CONGRESS

1st Session

**S. 1903**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 19, 2019

Ms. Smith (for herself and Mr. Young) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

### A BILL

To establish an interagency One Health Program, and for other purposes.

#### Section 1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the “Advancing Emergency Preparedness Through One Health Act of 2019”.

#### Section 2. Findings

Congress finds the following:

(1) The term *One Health* reflects the interconnectedness of human health, animal health, and the environment. As technology and population growth facilitates increased interaction of human settlements with wildlife habitats and as international travel and trade increases, the interface between these elements will also continue to rise.

(2) When zoonotic diseases spillover to humans, there are often enormous health and economic costs. The World Bank estimates that, between 1997 and 2009, the global costs from six zoonotic outbreaks exceeded \$80,000,000,000 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that there are annually 2,500,000,000 cases of zoonotic infections globally, resulting in 2,700,000 deaths.

(3) There are also immense effects on the agriculture sector. In 2014 and 2015, a high pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak in the United States led to the cull of nearly 50,000,000 birds, and imposed up to approximately \$3,300,000,000 in losses for poultry and egg farmers, animal feed producers, baked good production, and other related industries.

(4) Public health preparedness depends on agriculture in a variety of ways. For example, a wide range of vaccines, including those for influenza, yellow fever, rabies, and measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), are primarily cultivated in poultry eggs. Egg shortages resulting from zoonotic disease outbreaks could impose serious risks to vaccine manufacturing efforts.

(5) It is estimated that approximately 80 percent of potential pathogens likely to be used in bioterrorism or biowarfare are common zoonotic pathogens.

(6) While existing Federal Government initiatives related to One Health span multiple agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention One Health office and the Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services' One Health Coordination Center, additional interagency coordination is necessary to help better prevent, prepare for, and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks.

#### Section 3. Interagency One Health Program

(a) In general.—

The Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this Act as the Secretaries), in coordination with the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Defense, the Department of Commerce, and other departments and agencies as appropriate, shall develop, publish, and submit to Congress a national One Health Framework (referred to in this Act as the framework) for coordinated Federal Activities under the One Health Program.

(b) National One Health Framework. —

(1) In general. —

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries, in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Defense, the Department of Commerce, and other departments and agencies as appropriate, shall develop,

publish, and submit to Congress a One Health Framework (referred to in this section as the framework) for coordinated Federal activities under the One Health Program.

(2) Contents of framework. —

The framework described in paragraph (1) shall describe existing efforts and contain recommendations for building upon and complementing the activities of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, the Department of Agriculture, the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Interior, the Department of the Interior, and other departments and agencies, as appropriate, and shall—

(A) assess, identify, and describe, as appropriate, existing activities of Federal agencies and departments under the One Health Program and consider whether all relevant agencies are adequately represented;

(B) for the 10-year period beginning in the year the framework is submitted, establish specific Federal goals and priorities that most effectively advance—

- (i) scientific understanding of the connections between human, animal, and environmental health;
- (ii) coordination and collaboration between agencies involved in the framework including sharing data and information, engaging in joint fieldwork, and engaging in joint laboratory studies related to One Health;
- (iii) identification of priority zoonotic diseases and priority areas of study;
- (iv) surveillance of priority zoonotic diseases and their transmission between animals and humans;
- (v) prevention of priority zoonotic diseases and their transmission between animals and humans;
- (vi) protocol development to improve joint outbreak response to and recovery from zoonotic disease outbreaks in animals and humans; and
- (vii) workforce development to prevent and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks in animals and humans;

(C) describe specific activities required to achieve the goals and priorities described in subparagraph (B), and propose a timeline for achieving these

goals;

(D) identify and expand partnerships, as appropriate, among Federal agencies, States, Indian tribes, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and private entities in order to develop new approaches for reducing hazards to human and animal health and to strengthen understanding of the value of an integrated approach under the One Health Program to addressing public health threats in a manner that prevents duplication;

(E) identify best practices related to State and local-level research coordination, field activities, and disease outbreak preparedness, response, and recovery related to One Health; and

(F) provide recommendations to Congress regarding additional action or legislation that may be required to assist in establishing the One Health Program.

(3) Addendum. —

Not later than 3 years after the creation of the framework, the Secretary, in coordination with the agencies described in paragraph (1), shall submit to Congress an addendum to the framework that describes the progress made in advancing the activities described in the framework.

(c) Authorization of appropriations. —

To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary.

**Section 4. GAO report**

Not later than 2 years after the date of the submission of the addendum under section 3(b)(3), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) details existing collaborative efforts between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Agriculture, the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Interior, and other departments and agencies to prevent and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks in animals and humans; and

(2) contains an evaluation of the framework and the specific activities requested to achieve the framework.

# Federal Veterinarians Protect and Improve Public and Animal Health and Welfare

## Welcome New Members

**Dr. Marissa Alexander-Scott**, CDC, TUS '02, Ft. Thomas, KY  
**Dr. Mary Avriette**, ARMY, O-4, San Antonio, TX  
**Dr. Kaila Chung**, ARMY, UF, Valdosta, GA  
**Dr. Leslie Cole**, APHIS-VS, GS-13, OK '86, Edmond, OK  
**Dr. Kenyon Conklin**, ARMY, O-4, UP '02, Fort Campbell, KY  
**Dr. Beth Danyi**, FSIS, GS-12, ROS '16, Medina, OH  
**Dr. Robin Gades**, FSIS, GS-12, ISU '17, Spearfish, SD  
**Dr. Autumn Glencamp**, FSIS, GS-12, TUS '16, Atlanta, GA  
**Dr. Andrew Kay**, ARMY, WSU '09, Colorado Springs, CO  
**Dr. Sarah Keller**, ARMY, OK '16, Coss Creek, KY  
**Dr. Marcus Landry**, FSIS, GS-12, TUS '01, Midland, GA  
**Dr. Ginger Luck**, FSIS, GS-12, TEN '01, Albuquerque, NM  
**Dr. Na-Te McFarlane**, FSIS, GS-12, TUS '94, Douglasville, GA  
**Dr. Tiffany McQueen**, ARMY, O-4, TEN '09, Belton, TX  
**Dr. Teresa Schlanser**, ARMY, University Place, WA  
**Dr. Anne Straily**, CDC, GS-13, KSU '09, Roswell, GA  
**Dr. Katlyn Titus**, FSIS, GS-11, ROS '16, Collins, IA  
**Dr. Gaylen Ulich**, ARS, GS-14, MIN '81, Wyndmoor, PA  
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