



# FEDERAL VETERINARIAN

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## Announcements

### ATTENTION!

To our mailed newsletter recipients:

We are aware of an error which skewed the formatting on our October, 2016 issue of the *Federal Veterinarian*, and resulted in most articles being cut short. We apologize for any inconvenience, and are taking precautionary measures with our publisher to address these issues, and make sure it does not happen in the future.

With any questions or comments contact: [wjames@nafv.org](mailto:wjames@nafv.org)



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you all for casting your votes in the 2016 election for the NAFV Board of Directors. We used a combination of mailed in votes and electronic voting via survey monkey and it worked wonderfully! Analyzing the results was simple and fairly automated.

Here are the results as voted by you:

**President:** Dr. Larry Davis (Commencing 2017)  
**President-Elect:** Dr. Barb Porter-Spalding (Commencing 2019)  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Dr. Deanna Brown

**FSIS BOD Representatives:** Dr. Patty Bennett  
Dr. Charles Edwards  
Dr. Michael Mikhael

**Alternate FSIS Representatives:** Dr. Tom Vermeersch  
Dr. Ahmad Jilani

**APHIS BOD Representatives:** Dr. Gary Brickler  
Dr. Rachel Cezar

**Alternate APHIS Representatives:** Dr. Stephan Schaeftbauer  
Dr. David Hsi

**Other Agency Representatives:** Dr. John Sanders, Primary Representative  
Dr. Sebastian Heath, Alternate Representative

Congratulations to all the new Board of Directors elected winners and candidates from the 2016 NAFV Board of Directors election. We also sincerely thank the 2014-2016 BOD members for their efforts and participation.

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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 veterinarian employed full time by the federal government may become an active member (non DoD dues \$234.00 annually, payable annually, semiannually, or by federal payroll deductions—eligibility limited solely to USDA veterinarians—of \$9.00 authorized by signing USDA Form AD 1054 (FSIS) or SF 1187 (APHIS) and DoD dues \$150.00 annually). Fifty dollars of the annual dues is for the subscription to the Federal Veterinarian.

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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## EVP Column

### Summary of the NAFV information meeting at the USAHA in 2016

There were more than 16 members who attended the NAFV information meeting on Monday night, October 17, 2016. Dr. Brian McCluskey presented information on employment and workforce within Veterinary Services. He also provided an updates of several VS programs.

Dr. Ken Olsen discussed the Mycobacterial Disease of Animals – the Multistate Initiative.

Dr. Gilsdorf discussed recent NAFV activities including responding to proposed legislation that would impact federal veterinarians. One important event this year is the designation of USDA’s veterinary workforce as “Mission Critical Occupations” (MCO). MCOs are defined as: “*Occupations core to carrying the Agency’s mission, i.e., those occupations without which mission-critical work cannot be completed.*”

In 2015, a Government Accountability Office (GAO) High Risk Report stated that mission-critical skills gaps pose a high-risk to the nation: they impede federal agencies from cost-effectively serving the public and achieving results. Addressing complex challenges such as disaster response, national and homeland security, and public health and animal health outbreaks requires a high-quality federal workforce able to work seamlessly with other agencies, levels of government, and across sectors. However, current budget and long-term fiscal pressures, declining levels of federal employee satisfaction, the changing nature of federal work, and a potential wave of employee retirements that could produce gaps in leadership and institutional knowledge, threaten the government’s capacity to effective-

ly address these and many other evolving, national issues.

According to a letter from the Office of Personnel Management, agencies with MCO must identify and develop specific criteria for monitoring and reporting on MCO skills gap closure.

“In addition to the government-wide focus areas, each Chief Human Capital Officer (CHCO) agency has identified their respective agency-specific medium/high-risk MCOs that they will address for skills gap closure,” the memo stated. “These MCOs differ from the government-wide MCOs as they are specific to the accomplishment of an individual agency’s mission.”

Agencies will be coordinating skills gap closure activities; identifying root cause(s) for medium/high-risk MCOs; developing and submitting four-year and 10-year strategies for closing skills gaps in those MCOs; developing and submitting an action plan, targets and outcome-oriented metrics; implementing the government-wide and agency-specific gap closure strategy(ies); and monitoring progress on metrics for achieving desired goals through quarterly reviews.

NAFV has already met with the USDA CHCO on the MCO issue and offered assistance. Ms. Roberta Jeanquart, the USDA CHCO, indicated she was interested in obtaining NAFV input after they completed their assessment in November. NAFV will be meeting with her again to discuss these workforce issues and how they intend to close the gaps.

We are in the process of finalizing issues and scheduling a consultation with APHIS and an intra-management meeting with FSIS.

*(Continued on Pg. 3, “EVP Column”)*

## Career Highlight: NAFV Member Dr. Neena Anandaraman

**Veterinary School:** Texas A&M  
**Other degrees:** MPH-Tulane  
**Board certifications:** DACVPM

### Most of our veterinary colleagues are in private practice. What made you decide to enter public practice?

*"I had a great FSIS role model growing up. A retired FSIS vet did relief work for the mixed animal practice where I worked as a "kennel boy" in Texas. He only had good things to say about his experience at USDA. My Dad worked for the government, too, and I liked the benefits and stability government service offered. I practiced mixed animal medicine after vet school, but then decided to give USDA a try and have not looked back."*

### What was your first agency and position?

*"FSIS VMO at a large poultry establishment in Arkansas."*

### How did you arrive at your current agency and position?

*"While I was working as an IIC at FSIS, a colleague told me about an MPH program being offered on the weekend to working professionals in the health professions. It was only after I applied for the program and was accepted that I realized the program was in a town five hours away! I almost quit, except I had the most amazing circuit supervisor (now known as frontline supervisors) that encouraged me to do it anyway. I did, and once I finished I applied for an epidemiology position in Washington D.C. After six years in the field, some kind soul decided to give me a chance to try my hand as a veterinary epidemiologist in FSIS's Office of Public Health Science in D.C. I worked at OPHS for 13 years, most recently as Prevention and Control Team Lead in the Applied Epidemiology Staff. I took a detail position as Senior Advisor for Animal Health to USDA's Chief Scientist two years ago. A few months ago, I took a permanent position as Veterinary Science Policy Advisor in USDA's Office of the Chief Scientist."*

### What are your principal duties?

*"I coordinate scientific collaboration and planning on high priority animal health issues, specifically focusing on animal-human interface issues including antimicrobial resistance, zoonoses, and biosecurity. I am particularly focused on coordinating*

*antimicrobial resistance issues for the Department, co-chairing the Task Force on Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria on behalf of USDA, and coordinating and informing USG international antimicrobial resistance work."*

### What do you like best about your work with the federal government?

*"I have the opportunity to make big impact, particularly on challenging issues. I like working in gray areas that don't have clear demarcations of right and wrong and trying to find the middle road to form solutions grounded in science."*

### How have mentors helped you achieve success?

*"Mentors have totally made me who I am. I have had amazing supervisors, managers, colleagues, inspectors, fellows, and interns that have taught me so much and given of their time, knowledge, and expertise. Why, even a maintenance man took time to show me how equipment worked at a chicken plant. People have been there for me with great advice at challenging times when I needed some reassurance. Managers have given me opportunities to do things I would never have dreamed I could do, had they not given me the chance."*

### Tell us about one of your career highlights:

*"It is hard to list just one! I was once asked at the last minute to represent USDA at a meeting that took place in the West Wing of the White House. A mayor wanted assistance with his plans for revitalizing a city through an aquaculture initiative. The sense of place was amazing of course, but that was outdone by the passion for the issue by the mayor. Watching someone at the local level really care about his city who was doing everything in his power to convince people to help him help his people and make his city stellar was awe-inspiring. People really can make great things happen if they are willing to*

*(Continued on Pg. 4, "Dr. Neena Anandaraman")*



*(Continued from Pg. 2, "EVP Column")*

We have also started creating podcasts highlighting the important work that federal veterinarians are per-

forming daily. You may be contacted to talk about the important work you are doing or you can contact us as well.

(Continued from Pg. 3, "Dr. Neena Anandaraman")

put in the effort and take the chance."

#### **Why did you decide to become a member of NAFV?**

"The vet that interviewed me when I first joined FSIS was a great spokesman for NAFV and FSIS. He told me he had worked in every job a vet could work in and the one he was doing then, as a vet for FSIS, was the one he believed was the most important he had ever done. His job was to ensure the safety of food for so many people. What could be more important? His enthusiasm for the profession, FSIS, and the NAFV was infectious."

#### **Any advice for your veterinary colleagues in public practice?**

"A dear friend I met in training who remains one

of my very best friends gave me a card that said "bloom where you are planted." I translate that as do your very, very best in the job you are in at that time without belittling that opportunity. Every job we are in can make us wonder at times if that's all there is, but it takes all of us doing our small parts really, really well at every stage to make it all happen. Build your negotiation and communication skills. There is great opportunity for making positive changes through small acts if you are first willing to do the hard work and next use the negotiation and communication skills to convince others. Help and support each other. Give exciting opportunities to others when you have the ability. Keep saying yes to those opportunities you're afraid of. They are usually the ones that lead to amazing things."

### **The NAFV's American Academy of Veterinary Preventative Medicine Requests Your Assistance**

#### **By Dr. Allan Hogue, AAVPM Chair**

The NAFV American Academy of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (AAVPM) is working to produce a set of videos illustrating the role of veterinarians in the federal government. Initially we plan to produce several short podcasts (1-3 minutes) of federal veterinarians answering one question about their work in government. Interviews with veterinarians in different agencies and positions will highlight the breadth and width of the important roles federal veterinarians perform in the U.S. Government. These short podcasts will be used in various settings to provide the public with a brief and broad understanding of the variety of activities that federal veterinarians perform to protect the public and animals.

The current members of the AAVPM board of directors include Dr. Nora Wineland (APHIS), Dr. Linda Riggs (FSIS), Dr. David Thompson (FSIS), and Dr. Terry Taylor (APHIS, retired). In addition, Dr. David Hsi (APHIS), Dr. Rachel Cezar (APHIS), Dr. Deborah Cox (APHIS), and Dr. John Sanders (DHS) are members of the subcommittee working on the project. Dr. Allan Hogue (APHIS, retired) succeeded Dr. Sanders as the Academy's chair.

The objectives of the Academy are to develop and improve standards and performance in the veterinary medical profession through continued education by

(1) providing graduate courses in the science and art of veterinary preventive medicine, (2) granting recognition of achievement in the field of veterinary preventive medicine, and (3) doing any and all things related to the furtherance of the veterinary medical profession. The AAVPM board of directors and subcommittee believe this video project will provide a means to educate agency managers, members of Congress, and the general public about the essential contribution of veterinarians to our nation's health and welfare.

#### **Are you interested in assisting this effort to highlight the role of veterinarians in government?**

The AAVPM is seeking NAFV members willing to videotape themselves answering the following question: *What is the most important activity that you perform as a federal veterinarian to protect the nation?* If you are interested, contact Dr. Michael Gilsdorf (mgilsdorf@nafv.org) or Ms. Mariana Barros (mbarros@nafv.org) for instructions and assistance. You can produce this video on your own smartphone or other device. We will provide an example podcast on the NAFV web site. Please send us your responses so we can educate the general public about the importance of your work.

***"Don't loaf and invite inspiration; light out after it with a club, and if you don't get it you will nonetheless get something that looks remarkably like it."***

- Jack London, Writer

## By 2050, drug-resistant infections could cause global economic damage on par with 2008 financial crisis

**Source: World Bank | September 19, 2016**

***New research from World Bank shows that antimicrobial resistance would increase poverty and affect poorest countries the most***

**NEW YORK, September 19, 2016**—Drug-resistant infections have the potential to cause a level of economic damage similar to - and likely worse than - that caused by the 2008 financial crisis, according to a new report by the World Bank Group entitled "[\*Drug Resistant Infections: A Threat to Our Economic Future\*](#)." The research shows that a high-case scenario of antimicrobial resistance (AMR)—where antibiotics and other antimicrobial drugs no longer treat infections the way they are supposed to—could cause low-income countries to lose more than 5% of their GDP and push up to 28 million people, mostly in developing countries, into poverty by 2050. And unlike the financial crisis of 2008, there would be no prospects for a cyclical recovery in the medium term, as the costly impact of AMR would persist.

*"The scale and nature of this economic threat could wipe out hard-fought development gains and take us away from our goals of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity,"* said Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank Group. *"The cost of inaction is unaffordable - especially for the poorest countries. We must urgently change course to avert this potential crisis."*

Key findings of the report are based on World Bank Group projections of the world economy in 2017-2050. They include:

- **Impact on GDP:** By 2050, annual global GDP would fall by 1.1% in the low-impact

AMR scenario and 3.8% in the high-impact AMR scenario. Low-income countries would lose more every year leading up to 2050, with the loss exceeding 5% of GDP in 2050 in the latter scenario.

- **Impact on global poverty:** There would be a pronounced increase in extreme poverty because of AMR. Of the additional 28.3 million people falling into extreme poverty in 2050 in the high-impact AMR scenario, the vast majority (26.2 million) would live in low-income countries. Currently, the world is broadly on track to eliminate extreme poverty (at \$1.90/day) by 2030, reaching close to the target of less than 3% of people living in extreme poverty. AMR risks putting this target out of reach.
- **Impact on world trade:** In 2050, the volume of global real exports would shrink by 1.1% in the low-case scenario, and by 3.8% in the high-case scenario.
- **Impact on healthcare costs:** Global increases in healthcare costs may range from \$300 billion to more than \$1 trillion per year by 2050.
- **Impact on livestock output:** By 2050, the decline in global livestock production could range from a low of 2.6% to a high of 7.5% per year.

Drug-resistant infections, in both humans and animals, are on the rise globally. If AMR spreads unchecked, many infectious diseases will again be untreatable, reversing a century of progress in public health. The United Nations has scheduled a day-long special session on AMR as part of the UN

General Assembly in New York this week, only the fourth time that health is being highlighted in this way.

*"We now know that—unless addressed swiftly and seriously and on a sustained basis—the growing global problem of antibiotic resistance will be disastrous for human and animal health, food production and global economies. The fact that, left unchecked, it would penalize the poor more than anyone, makes clear why this needs to be addressed as a critical issue for development. As heads of state come together at the UN General Assembly high-level meeting on antimicrobial resistance this week, this should be front of mind,"* said Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Several recent reports on AMR, including the most recent one by Lord Jim O'Neill's independent policy review, have called for an urgent focus on this issue and highlighted the enormous global economic losses it can cause—it estimated about \$100 trillion in total by 2050.

Lord Jim O'Neill, Chairman of the Review on Antimicrobial Resistance, said about today's World Bank Group report: *"This report provides another timely reminder that rising drug resistance is a looming threat to our prosperity and sustained economic development in all parts of the world. As global leaders meet at the UN this week, I hope that this report will help to harden their resolve to take proper, collaborative action on the many challenges of AMR."*

The report outlines the crises in the human and veterinary public health sectors and in the environment, where capacity for regulat-

*(Continued on Pg. 6, "By 2050...")*

(Continued from Pg. 5, "By 2050...")

ing antimicrobials is insufficient in many countries, where misuse and overuse of antibiotics is an issue for some while access remains difficult for many. There is insufficient investment in building strong public health systems, including surveillance and monitoring, that can reduce risk at the interface between humans, animals and their environment.

The report recommends both AMR-sensitive and AMR-specific solutions to address the crisis. It says that one of the best opportunities in the short-term to mitigate the threat of AMR is to strengthen investments in health systems and overall preparedness to tackle infectious diseases, and to improve public and veterinary health systems while building surveillance for AMR into them as an integral component. It strongly supports implementation and adequate fi-

nancing of the WHO Action Plan on AMR, which was endorsed in 2015. It also recommends an urgent focus on innovative AMR-specific interventions that promote and incentivize better stewardship of antimicrobials both for humans and animals, including the appropriate use of antibiotics in animal husbandry.

**Original article:** <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/09/18/by-2050-drug-resistant-infections-could-cause-global-economic-damage-on-par-with-2008-financial-crisis>

## Yes, You Can Still Prepare To Speak Off The Cuff

By Judith Humphrey | October 5, 2016 | Fast Company

There's a paradox at the heart of off-the-cuff speaking: You can still prepare to appear spontaneous. It isn't just about faking it, though. It's about having a prepared *mind*. True, in many contexts, you can't decide in advance what you're going to say and how you're going to say it. Sometimes you're put on the spot unexpectedly. Other times, you know you'll need to speak, but the format doesn't allow you to show up with notes in hand and peek at them half-way through.

But neither situation simply forces you to wing it and hope for the best. With a little forethought, you can be prepared to go off script and still sound like you know what you're talking about—because you actually do. Here's how.

### KNOW YOUR MESSAGE

The first step to mastering impromptu speaking is simply to know what your message is. So even if you don't know what questions you'll face—or even if you didn't expect you'd have to face any—keeping a key set of talking points in your head can be a huge help no matter the situation. These should be pretty obvious to you; they're your most compelling ideas, the ones you're best qualified to speak on and those that people are generally most interested in hearing.

No matter how long you've got, you'll need a structure to organize your message—to make sure it's delivered in a comprehensible and meaningful way.

Mark Zuckerberg, for instance, is always "on message." He has one central message or vision: "connecting the world." You'll pretty much always hear him deliver variations on this theme, no matter the context—about how Facebook's mission is connecting the world, that the company is all about

bringing people together, building a global community, and so on.

You may not have a single, pithy message that's appropriate for every situation, of course. And just rehearsing corporate catchphrases is never a smart move. But Facebook's "connecting people" message is ultimately the distillation of a wide range of ideas Zuckerberg is uniquely qualified to discuss in much greater nuance. Likewise, you can probably identify a handful of ideas or topics you're most likely and best equipped to address in professional settings.

So prepare to keep those on hand. Write down a set of key messages you can call upon when speaking spontaneously. Burn them into your mind so you can draw upon them every time you speak. They'll be the foundation of your many impromptu speaking scripts, which you can mentally reach for, even when you weren't expecting to have to.

### STRUCTURE YOUR REMARKS

Got your message lined up? Great. Now it's time to give your spontaneous remarks some structure.

Depending on the situation, you may have only a few minutes or even a few seconds. But no matter how long you've got, you'll need a structure to *organize* that message—to make sure it's delivered in a comprehensible and meaningful way, no matter the format or circumstances. Once you know your message, these four steps are easy to follow, even when you're speaking off the cuff.

- 1. Bridge to the audience.** If you're in a meeting and about to bring a faltering discussion back on track, start with words like, "All of us have agreed that . . ." or "I'm on board with Bill and Amir's suggestion that we need to move forward" or even just, "To Jane's point . . ." Speaking spontaneously means establishing

"Continued on Pg. 7, "Yes, You Can Still Prepare...")

(Continued from Pg. 6, "Yes, You Can Still Prepare...")

some sense of continuity, showing others that what you're about to say fits into the larger conversation. In short, this "bridge" shows you've been listening. And it's about finding common ground. So even if you're going to take issue with what's been said, don't say, "I disagree" or "On the contrary . . ." Instead, start with, "I can see why Pauline takes that approach. I see it a little differently."

2. **Get to your main point.** Once you've built a bridge, get straight to your message by framing it as something listeners can *recognize* as your message. You might begin with, "My point is..." or "I believe that . . ." or simply "Here's the thing. . ." Your main point should be *one idea* expressed in a single sentence. If you can't boil it down this far, it's a sign that your main point is probably several points, or none at all. For example: "My view is we should proceed with the project," or "Our firm is well-positioned to meet your needs." But a more complex message can often still fit into just one sentence: "If we're going to meet these goals as a team, we'll need to collaborate better." Your main point should be one idea expressed in a single sentence.
3. **Back up your message with evidence.** There are different rhetorical structures you can use in order to organize the proof you give for your main point. These aren't exactly rocket science. For instance, "My first reason is . . ." or simply

"First . . ." Then do the same for the other reasons. You can also add structure by weighing a handful of options, instead of points of proof. Say, "The first way we can . . ." and so on. You could also use chronology if your point is more of a narrative. This would sound something like, "At first . . ." "Next . . ." "Finally . . ."

4. **Close with a call to action.** Propose what your audience should do, or suggest what you and they will do together. This gives your message "legs." You might say, "So let's agree that this project is now going forward with our shared commitment." In a client pitch you might simply say, "We're really looking forward to an opportunity to work with you."

If these steps sound straightforward, it's because they are. The point is to keep the fundamentals in your head so you can call them up in any situation on the fly and adapt them as needed. The secret to great impromptu speaking is presenting compelling ideas clearly and succinctly. So you may not be able to prepare your actual remarks, but you can practice delivering them—even when you aren't expecting to.

*Judith Humphrey is the Founder of The Humphrey Group, a Toronto-based firm that teaches leaders how to communicate. She is the author of Speaking as a Leader (2012), Taking the Stage (2014) and a forthcoming book entitled Impromptu: Leading in the Moment (October, 2017). She is a regular contributor to Fast Company.*

This article was originally published on FastCompany: <https://www.fastcompany.com/3064293/how-to-be-a-success-at-everything/yes-you-can-still-prepare-to-speak-off-the-cuff>

## U.S. National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD) Framework Animal & Plant Health Inspection Services September 2016

### Executive Summary

The development of the United States National List of Reportable Animal Diseases list and this Framework has been a joint effort on the part of Veterinary Services and numerous stakeholders. In July 2014, a concept paper was shared for review. Based on the interest and comments received on the concept paper, this Framework was developed to more specifically address NLRAD implementation.

The NLRAD is divided into two categories: Notifiable Diseases and Conditions and Monitored Diseases. Monitored diseases are reported through periodic summary reporting of occurrence. The Notifiable Diseases and Conditions section is subdivided into emergency incidents, emerging disease incidents, and regulated disease incidents. A disease or condition listed as notifiable must be brought to the attention of the Federal and State veterinary authorities within prompt, defined timeframes, in accordance with national and State regulations. NLRAD regulatory authorities will require Federal and State reporting from any individual, producer, veterinarian, laboratory personnel, wildlife or zoo personnel, researcher, public health official, or others with knowledge of occurrence or suspected occurrence of a notifiable disease.

(edited for length)

Still don't have your Federal Employee  
Professional Liability Insurance in place?



NAFV encourages you to obtain professional liability insurance. AVMA insurance DOES NOT cover personnel actions resulting from your federal employment. If you do not have professional liability insurance in place, NAFV can and will advise you, but cannot be your legal representative or provide indemnity protection if you are held personally liable in a civil suit.

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Call or visit FEDS online today as coverage must be in place prior to knowledge of an allegation, investigation, claim or suit or coverage will not apply!

## Careers in Wildlife Damage Management

The [National Wildlife Research Center](#) (NWRC) is the research arm of the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services program. It employs scientists, technicians, and support personnel with expertise in a wide variety of scientific disciplines. Together, these experts develop new tools and techniques to resolve human-wildlife conflicts.

Several of these interesting and challenging positions are highlighted in a series of video vignettes. To learn more about the Center's careers in wildlife research, animal care, chemistry, and technology transfer, please visit the [APHIS YouTube site](#) or click on the links below.

- [Careers at NWRC: Research Wildlife Biologist Wildlife Disease](#)
- [Careers at NWRC: Research Wildlife Biologist Genetics](#)
- [Careers at NWRC: Animal Care](#)
- [Careers at NWRC: Chemistry](#)
- [Careers at NWRC: Technology Transfer](#)

## USDA FSIS Constituent Update - FSIS Releases New Video Showcasing How Employees Impact Food Safety

On Sept. 28, 2016, FSIS proudly released a new video on the i-Impact Food Safety web page at [www.fsis.usda.gov/iimpact](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/iimpact). The video begins with an animation of a hypothetical family in the United States, which represents the millions of consumers that the employees of FSIS impact every day. The video goes on to highlight various FSIS careers and how the work performed by employees impacts the safety of the food every family eats. This video is one piece of a large scale commitment made by FSIS to ensure that each and every employee fully understands his or her impact on food safety. The video will also be used for recruiting and other informational events.

- FSIS Releases New Video Showcasing How Employees Impact Food Safety
- FSIS Releases Updated Compliance Guideline for Animal Raising Claims
- Revised Compliance Guidance for Omega Fatty Acids Claims Posted on the FSIS Website
- Food Safe Families Public Service Announcement (PSA) Campaign Highlights
- FSIS Posts Q&A on Final Rule Requiring Recordkeeping for Raw Beef Grinding
- Updates to Random and Risk-based Scheduling Criteria for the Ready-to-Eat (RTE) Product Routine Sampling Programs



## USDA Confirms New World Screwworm Cases in Big Pine Key, Florida

**Source: APHIS | 10/03/2016**

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the presence of New World screwworm in Key deer from National Key Deer Refuge in Big Pine Key, Florida. USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa, confirms this is a local infestation of New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*). This is the first local infestation in the United States in more than 30 years. In response to this infestation, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam today declared an agricultural state of emergency in Monroe County, Florida.

Additional deer from the same refuge and a few pets in the local area exhibited potentially similar infestations over the past two months, though no larvae were collected and tested in those cases. All of the potentially affected animals are from the same Key. There have been no human or livestock cases. Animal health and wildlife officials at the state and federal levels are working jointly to address these findings. Response efforts will include fly trapping to determine the extent of the infestation, release of sterile flies to prevent reproduction and disease surveillance to look for additional cases in animals. The initial goal will be to keep the infestation from spreading to new areas while eradicating the New World screwworm flies from the affected Keys. Residents who have warm-blooded animals (pets, livestock, etc.) should watch their animals carefully and report any potential cases to 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352) or non-Florida residents should call (850) 410-3800]. Visitors to the area should ensure any pets that are with them are also checked, in order to prevent the spread of this infestation.

While human cases of New World screwworm are rare, they have occurred, and public health officials are involved in the response. For more information about this disease in humans, please contact your local public health department. Using fly repellents and keeping skin wounds clean and protected from flies can help prevent infection with screwworm in both people and animals.

New World screwworms are fly larvae (maggots) that can infest livestock and other warm-blooded animals, including people. They most often enter an animal through an open wound and feed on the animal's living flesh. While they can fly much farther under ideal conditions, adult flies generally do not travel more than a couple of miles if there are suitable host animals in the area. New World screwworm is more likely to spread long distances when infested animals move to new areas and carry the pest there.

In the 1950s, USDA developed a new method to help eradicate screwworm using a form of biological control, called the sterile insect technique, which releases infertile male flies in infested areas. When they mate with local females, no offspring result. With fewer fertile mates available in each succeeding generation, the fly, in essence, breeds itself out of existence. USDA used this technique to eradicate screwworm from the U.S. and worked with other countries in Central America and the Caribbean to eradicate it there as well. Today, USDA and its partners maintain a permanent sterile fly barrier at the Darien Gap between Panama and Colombia to prevent the establishment of any screwworm flies that enter from South America.

Resources: [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/2014/fs\\_new\\_world\\_screwworm.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/2014/fs_new_world_screwworm.pdf)



(L-R): Secretary Vilsack, Dr. Rachel Cezar, Ms. Mariana Barros, Dr. Gregory Parham

### USDA Lincoln Award Ceremony - NAFV Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award

USDA Secretary Vilsack and Dr. Gregory Parham presented NAFV's Dr. Daniel E. Salmon award to LCDR Danielle Buttke of the National Park Service, on September 13, 2016. Ms. Mariana Barros represented the NAFV at the ceremony, and Dr. Rachel Cezar, NAFV coordinator, accepted the award in LCDR Buttke's absence.

*“For implementation of a National One Health Program demonstrating exemplary leadership and pioneering efforts to promote public health and further infectious disease control and management efforts throughout the United States”*

## Wildlife Services Protects Agriculture and Natural Resources

*Source: APHIS | 10/05/2016*

Recently, several news outlets have highlighted a university study that calls into question the validity of USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services' predation damage management and research, particularly the program's use of lethal methods. On September 18, The New York Times posted an article highlighting the study and criticizing the program's work to protect agriculture and natural resources from wildlife damage.

Wildlife Services would like to set the record straight and provide our stakeholders with additional information that was left out of The New York Times article by the author, as well as our response to The New York Times editor before it was shortened by the paper. We take these criticisms seriously and believe the public has the right to know the complete story. As we mention in the letter, Wildlife Services welcomes open, complete and contextually accurate discussion of best management practices in its efforts to provide responsible wildlife damage management.

### Letter Submitted to The New York Times

The New York Times  
Letter to the Editor

Dear Mr. Feyer,

We appreciate The New York Times Editorial Board allowing us to comment on the recent opinion piece by Mr. Richard Conniff titled "America's Wildlife Body Count." APHIS Wildlife Services stands by our employees and their research, management, and communication activities to protect American agriculture, property, human health and safety, and natural resources.

In his article, Mr. Conniff did not include information provided by Wildlife Services that puts management action in perspective. In 2015, Wildlife Services removed 3.2 million wild animals, of which 1.5 million were invasive and injurious species, such as feral swine and European starlings. Mr. Conniff also failed to mention that Wildlife Services' non-lethal actions comprised the majority of Wildlife Services damage management efforts with more than 21 million animals being dispersed in 2015.

The opinion piece asks for transparency for taxpayers, yet cites the very data from the Wildlife Services' public website. Wildlife Services has annually published program data reports online for the past two decades. These publically available reports include the number of animals dispersed and removed in each state, the methods used and the resources being protected. An example of that data shows that Sandhill Cranes were reported and observed in hundreds of instances harming crops (including corn, wheat, alfalfa and chili peppers) and threatening human safety in airport situations. In response, Wildlife Services dispersed 149,000 cranes and lethally removed 17. Most importantly in 2015, USDA's Office of Inspector General completed an audit of the Wildlife Services program and found it to be in compliance with all applicable Federal and State laws, and did not identify any problems with our wildlife damage management activities. Wildlife Services works closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and State wildlife agencies and is strongly supported by the professional wildlife management community.

Wildlife management utilizes a variety of methods. The Wildlife Society (TWS), whose 10,000 members include scientists, managers, educators and others, in their TWS's Standing Position Statement on Wildlife Damage Management states, "Prevention or control of wildlife damage, which often includes removal of the animals responsible for the damage, is an essential and responsible part of wildlife management." Mr. Conniff's absolute support of Dr. Adrian Treves' article regarding predator research does not consider the hundreds of practicing wildlife experts, researchers, or managers. Treves et al.'s selective assessment of existing North American and European predation studies, including those of our own scientists, did not accurately interpret or represent the studies' designs and results. Moreover, Treves et al. selectively disregarded studies from Australia where numerous controlled field experiments have been conducted regarding the effects and impacts of lethal predator management. An objective critique of the science underlying wildlife management is welcomed, however, Mr. Conniff's opinion piece and the Treves et al. article have not fulfilled that goal. While disappointed in these efforts, Wildlife Services welcomes open, complete, and contextually accurate discussion of best management practices in its efforts to provide responsible wildlife damage management.

Kevin Shea, Administrator  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

## Availability of Proposed Update to the Coordinated Framework

**Source: APHIS | 09/23/2016**

On July 2, 2015, the Executive Office of the President (EOP) directed the primary agencies that regulate the products of biotechnology - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - to update the Coordinated Framework for Regulation of Biotechnology (Coordinated Framework) to clarify current roles and responsibilities, develop a long-term strategy to ensure that the Federal biotechnology regulatory system is prepared for future products of biotechnology, and commission an expert analysis of the future landscape of biotechnology products to support these

efforts.

On September 22, 2016, the EOP, EPA, FDA, and USDA announced the availability of two documents to further the objectives of modernizing the regulatory system for biotechnology products: (1) a proposed Update to the Coordinated Framework; and (2), a National Strategy for Modernizing the Regulatory System for Biotechnology Products.

The proposed update to the Coordinated Framework is available for a 40-day public comment period beginning September 22, 2016, through November 1, 2016. More information about this initiative, including how to submit public comments, is available on the EOP Website.



*Animal welfare for a better world*

**4TH OIE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ANIMAL WELFARE  
6-8 DECEMBER 2016 · GUADALAJARA, MEXICO**

One of the most important activities in the OIE Global Initiative on Animal Welfare is the convening of global conferences on animal welfare. These conferences provide national OIE Delegates and representatives of international organizations, industry sectors, NGOs and civil society an opportunity to engage with the OIE in its activities to further improve animal welfare globally. The adopted recommendations of global conferences are formally discussed by the World Assembly of Delegates at the annual OIE General Session and relevant recommendations may be adopted as the basis for the development of new standards and guidelines.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Food Safety and Inspection Service  
9 CFR Parts 317, 381, and 412 | [Docket No. FSIS-2016-0021]  
**Food Safety and Inspection Service**  
**Labeling Guideline on Documentation Needed To Substantiate**  
**Animal Raising Claims for Label Submission**

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA | **ACTION:** Guidance.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing the availability of an updated version of the Agency's compliance guideline on documentation needed to support animal-raising claims on product labels that must be submitted for Agency approval before they can be used on product labels. The updated guideline reflects FSIS's current position and procedures for reviewing animal-raising claims and includes explanations of animal-raising claims that FSIS may approve and the types of supporting documentation that the Agency requires to be submitted to support these claims.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before December 5, 2016.

*“Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.”*

- Maria Robinson, writer

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

National Association of Federal Veterinarians  
1910 Sunderland Place  
Washington, DC 20036

## **VETERINARY HAPPENINGS**

Notify NAFV of Promotions, Reassignments, Transfers, Awards, Retirements, etc. for members not listed in the "Veterinary Happenings" column so they may be included in a future issue. The following information was received by NAFV.

### **USDA FSIS Members**

**Dr. Adrienne Dunham**, Promotion, Nacogdoches, TX 09/18/2016  
**Dr. Kurt Krusekopf**, GS-14, Retirement, College Station, TX 09/30/2016

### **USDA APHIS Members**

**Dr. Amy Gill**, GS-14, Promotion, Ames, IA, 10/03/2016  
**Dr. Robert Brady**, GS-13, Retirement, Sutton, MA 09/30/2016  
**Dr. Ronald Brock**, GS-12, Retirement, Elkhart, IN 09/30/2016  
**Dr. Joseph Frank**, GS-12, Retirement, St. Paul, MN 09/30/2016

Periodicals postage paid  
at Washington, DC

### **Welcome New Members**

**Dr. Ranbir Sandhu**, FSIS, GS-12, JAB '92, Apple Valley, CA

Email Changes of Address to:  
[mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org)  
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Returned Checks  
NAFV charges \$10.00 for checks returned  
for insufficient funds

**WE ARE OFFICIALLY TAKING ORDERS FOR THE  
2017 NAFV POCKETBOOK CALENDARS!**  
To order your calendar, please contact Ms. Mariana Barros at  
[mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org) or 202-223-4878.