



USGS Cosponsors Workshop to Address Mycobacteriosis in Striped Bass

The USGS, in partnership with NOAA, cosponsored a workshop on mycobacteriosis in the Chesapeake Bay striped bass. Mycobacteriosis is a bacterial disease in which striped bass may be disfigured as a result of skin ulcers and internal lesions. In addition, some of the mycobacteria that commonly infect fishes can cause infections in people and therefore are a human health concern. The total extent to which the disease is occurring along the Eastern seaboard is unknown but the disease has been reported in striped bass in the Chesapeake Bay and some other estuaries.

The workshop was held on May 9-11, 2006 in Annapolis, Maryland and attended by over 50 scientists and resource managers representing 15 federal, state, academic, and non-government organizations. The goals of workshop were to:

- Establish the state of the knowledge on mycobacteriosis and its ecological effects
- Identify needs and establish priorities for future research
- Develop and coordinate research plans to address immediate and long-term management needs.

The technical talks ([Agenda](#)) provided the information used to update the state of knowledge and interact between research scientists and resource managers helped develop the future research directions. A summary of the finding and research directions was prepared at the end of the workshop ([PowerPoint Presentation](#)).

For further information please contact Chris Ottinger, USGS, cottinger@usgs.gov and read the fact sheet:

<http://www.lsc.usgs.gov/FactSheets/Mycobacteria2002.pdf>

For other information about USGS fish health studies:

<http://www.lsc.usgs.gov/FHBindex.asp>

For more information about USGS studies Chesapeake Bay visit:

<http://chesapeake.usgs.gov/>

Read more in the Bay Journal article about strip bass:

<http://www.bayjournal.com/article.cfm?article=2827>