

Wisconsin Wildcatchers



external



internal



swollen
eye



FISH HEALTH



VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA

WHAT IS IT?

The viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus is a serious fish disease that has recently been discovered in Wisconsin. Although the VHS virus affects a variety of fish species, it is not a health risk for people so anglers can continue to enjoy fishing and eating their catch.

CAN YOU HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD?

Yes. Anglers and boaters on Wisconsin's waters must

- **INSPECT** boats, trailers, and equipment and **REMOVE** plants and debris
- **DRAIN** water from boats, motors, bilges, and live wells before transporting away from a water or entering Wisconsin
- **NEVER MOVE** live fish away from a waterbody
- **BUY** minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer
- **USE** leftover minnows only under certain conditions
- **KNOW** the law and report violations (1-800-TIP-WDNR)

For more information on the VHS virus, visit the DNR website dnr.wi.gov

Photos: Garth Traxler (USGS, Seattle WA), Dr Mohamed Faisal (MSU, Lansing MI) and Dr Paul Bowser (Cornell, Ithaca NY)

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