

FINAL REPORT: 2017.03

AWARD RECIPIENT: Lynette Williams

ADDRESS: 5 Portarlington Road, East Geelong. Victoria, 3219

HOST ORGANISATION: CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Fish disease Laboratory

Project Code: CSIRO AAHTS 2017.03

DATE: 02/08/2018

ACTIVITY UNDERTAKEN

Organised and co-ordinated the 6th Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum (AAHTF), hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) fish disease laboratory, Geelong, Victoria, from the 14th to 16th February 2018.

OUTCOMES ACHIEVED TO DATE

32 participants attended the AAHTF representing laboratories and private industry with approximately 50% from each sector. In addition 6 CSIRO AAHL, fish disease laboratory staff attended and there were presentations from two other CSIRO AAHL staff. Participants attended from Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Western Australia and a "self-funded" participant attended from New Zealand. The group consisted of 12 previous attendees, with the remaining participants all new to the AAHTF.

The presentations were of varied content and length (Appendix 1). Presentations generated many questions and robust discussion, resulting in conversations around the topics. The field trip to an abalone production facility was well received and demonstrated that aspect of production to the group. Participants either undertook a virtual tour of the AAHL secure area (x10) or were given a tour of the secure area (remaining participants). The virtual tour was an option for those that were from aquaculture facilities and were unable to meet the quarantine requirements of not visiting a farm for 7 days after being in the secure area.

The Email contact list has been updated and details for the group were circulated at the end of the workshop to facilitate further interaction of participants.

The maximum number of participants of 30 -35 was reached within 6 weeks of advertising the 2018 AAHTF.

A potential location for a 2019 workshop was offered, depending on the availability of funding.

Acknowledgments

The AAHTF was financially supported by the Development Deep Award.

Belinda Jones and Martine Cornish for their assistance in organising the workshop and their host facility - the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE), Mount Pleasant Laboratories.

CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory - Aquatic disease laboratory staff, other AAHL staff and administrative officers.

Thermo Fisher Scientific, particularly Alison Digney for sponsorship for catering and the workshop dinner.

Background

The Aquatic Animal Health Technical Workshop has been hosted by a number of facilities and locations throughout Australia (Table 1) since the inaugural workshop held at CSIRO, AAHL in 2010. Funding has been obtained from FRDC and The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) previously, and in kind contributions from CSIRO AAHL and DPIPWE Launceston for the co-ordination of the project. Prior to the 2018 workshop, the previous workshop was conducted in June 2015.

Table 1

Location	Year	Facility	Participants
Geelong, Victoria	2010	CSIRO, AAHL	17
Launceston, Tasmania	2011	DPIPWE, Animal Health Laboratory	25
Glenelg and Roseworthy, South Australia	2013	SARDI and University of Adelaide, Roseworthy Campus Veterinary School	26
Camden, New South Wales	2014	University of Sydney, Camden campus	31
Townsville, Queensland	2015	James Cook University, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences School	32
Geelong, Victoria	2018	CSIRO, AAHL	38

The workshop is targeted at new, emerging and less experienced staff working in the aquatic animal health and aquaculture industry areas. The workshop gives participants the opportunity to exchange information with other attendees who have expertise and experience in the aquatic animal health and aquaculture production fields. Currently in Australia there are only a relatively small number of experienced aquatic animal health specialists with well-developed skills and knowledge. With aquaculture expanding in Australia, transferring these vital skills and knowledge to a new generation will be of benefit to the aquatic animal health sector in Australia. The interaction between aquatic animal health specialists and industry is very important to foster relationships and understanding of work practices in all areas of aquatic animal health.

Participants have the opportunity to present their work and participate in discussions about relevant technologies in a less formal atmosphere than at a larger scientific conference. Ideally, the workshop will be held at a location that has expertise in aquatic animal health and has the relevant staff with skills that can be passed to others less experienced. The host facility requires a meeting room to accommodate the maximum of 35 to 40 participants. Facilities that can offer a

practical component to the program, or are located close to aquaculture production facilities are also advantageous.

Need

There is a continued need for the AAHTF workshops. They have been well supported and have included participants from Government and private laboratories and the aquaculture industry. Industry participants have been from a diversity of farms and representative of a wide variety of species. The participant numbers have increased at each workshop to ideally a maximum group of 35 to 40. This maximum number allows the workshop to be conducted at various locations, as it is not too large a group for host facilities to accommodate.

Previous workshops have led to the exchange of information and methods and this has provided ongoing contacts for participants to discuss issues, and in turn, respond more effectively to disease outbreaks.

There have been three years that the workshop has not been conducted since 2010 and the interest and participation that had been established will be lost if this “gap” in annual workshops continues to occur. The exchange of information and pathways for new people involved in aquatic animal health will be lost and need to be re-established if the workshops don't continue on an annual basis.

Objective

The objective was to continue the workshop series, increase participation numbers and interaction between sectors of aquatic animal health and production. This was achieved at the 2018 workshop, with participation numbers at a maximum of 35 at CSIRO, AAHL. The participation was approximately 50% representation from each of the aquatic animal health sector and industry.

There were no alterations to the objectives from the original award.

The workshop series commenced in 2010 and has increased in participant numbers and popularity since the inaugural workshop (Table 1). To date there have been 6 workshops conducted. The workshop has been co-ordinated by Lynette Williams at five geographically diverse locations throughout Australia. At the completion of each workshop there has been very positive feedback received from the workshop participants and support for the workshops to continue on an annual basis. The increase in participation and the diverse workshop program offered is an indicator that the workshop is well received and relevant. Stakeholders have been from both Government and private industry, and the increase in support and participation have shown that there is a need for this type of workshop to continue. International participation has been from a New Zealand laboratory at five workshops.

Methods

- **The workshop was advertised through previous participant email contacts and through the *FRDC Health Highlights*.**

Participants gained information about the 2018 workshop through *FRDC Health Highlights*, previous participation and peers forwarding on information. General information and Registration forms (Appendix 1 and 2) were circulated via email in September 2017.

- The duration is 2 1/2 days, allowing for one-day travel to the location and potentially travel back to the participant's home location and work place on the afternoon of the third day.

The 2018 workshop commenced on Wednesday the 14th February with the majority of participants arriving in Geelong the previous day. Transport from the accommodation was provided by AAHL staff and participants, to arrive by 8.30am at AAHL. Identification checks were completed by 8.45am (to comply with AAHL security practices) with the program commencing on time at 9am. The workshop was completed by 2pm on Friday with participants taken to various transport hubs in Geelong to then return to their destinations.

- **Based on other workshops feedback, the most suitable timing for the workshop is earlier in the year - February to March (after school had recommenced).**

The 2018 workshop was held in February and was able to be accommodated by the host facility, CSIRO, AAHL in Geelong. In consideration when choosing a workshop date is the timing of school holidays - children are back at school - and also not the busiest time of year for industry participants. The workshops conducted out of school holidays also allows participants to source cheaper airfares and the workshops organisers' to secure a bulk accommodation booking at a cheaper rate during off-peak season.

- **Funding would be used to pay for accommodation for participants, workshop lunches and depending on participant numbers a reimbursement for some airfare costs.**

The 2018 workshop proved to be popular with participants attending from across the nation and internationally. Due to the number of participants, accommodation costs were fully covered but there was no refund provided for flight costs. The international participant was self-funded. Workshop lunches were provided. The Wednesday evening dinner was self-funded although all participants attended the same venue for dinner. The Thursday evening workshop dinner (food only) was sponsored by Thermo Fisher, with participants purchasing their own drinks.

- **The host facility would have staff to make presentations on aquatic animal health methods.**

The AAHL fish disease laboratory had a number of staff (five) making presentations on different topics at the workshop. In addition two, other AAHL staff, from electron microscopy and histology presented and participated in the workshop and discussions.

- **Participants would be encouraged as part of attending to make presentations on relevant work and to gain experience in public speaking.**

Of the 13 participants that had attended previous workshops a number of those made presentations. A total of 23 /31 participants, other than AAHL staff, made presentations.

- **A field trip would be incorporated to a relevant aquatic facility.**

On the afternoon of Day 1 a bus was hired and the group visited Jade Tiger Abalone facility located at Indented Head, approximately a 40 minute drive from AAHL. Jade Tiger Abalone is part of the Craig Mostyn Group and exports Jade Tiger abalone world-wide.

After being inducted on to the site, participants were given an informative tour of the hatchery, grow out and packing facilities. Participants gained insight into abalone anatomy, life cycle, production, disease/environmental concerns and marketing phases of operations. Incorporating a tour to a production facility was of particular benefit to those based in laboratories, as it provides valuable perspective as to why biosecurity, diagnostics and aquatic animal health research are so important.

- **Feedback forms to be circulated and workshop participants asked to complete.**
(Appendix 4)

Participant review forms were completed by the majority of participants, and collated (Appendix 5). The feedback was very positive, with the main points being:

- Keep the format as it is
- Annual workshops preferred
- Funding is required to subsidise attendance (and therefore maximize participation)
- Farm visits and practical sessions are beneficial as they provide alternative experiences and perspective to laboratory/industry participants.

Results/Discussion

The workshops provide the opportunity for discussion and exchange of ideas. Every presentation generated questions and comments from the audience, which demonstrated good interaction. Discussion was carried over to meal breaks and the workshops dinners.

At the completion of the workshop there was a query about obtaining copies of presentations and it was decided that an updated email participant list would be circulated and participants could directly contact relevant speakers for further information.

A summary of the feedback collated from the participants (Appendix 5) indicated the following:

- The location, venue and accommodation was excellent.
- The time of the year- February- suited the majority of the participants due to school being in session.
- In addition, there are currently no other conferences early in the year.
- There was a comment received that summer mortalities and bushfires are more prevalent early in the year.
- Format - the majority of feedback indicated the format was excellent.

Additional comments under the following headings included:

Format

- Additional farm visits and also laboratory practical sessions would be beneficial.
- Addition of discussion forums and more interaction time.
- Presentations need to keep to the time allotted.
- Introduce a theme for each workshop.
- Less talks per session or more sessions.
- Fieldtrip and AAHL secure area tour were very interesting and worthwhile.
- A guest speaker and perhaps a best presenter award.
- A good mix of topics - both technical and interesting informative presentations.

Program topics and suitability

- The majority of feedback indicated topics were excellent with a comment that the diversity of topics was well received.
- Perhaps could consider emerging aquatic diseases as a future topic.
- Good range of topics which were interesting and diverse but relevant.

Duration of the workshop

- Perhaps could be three full days with the extra time to allow for presentations or discussions.
- However, there was also good support to have the duration as is (2½days) due to work commitments, travel and being able to attend for that time period.

Catering

- Suitable and adequate
- Workshop dinner funded by Thermo Fisher was well received and participants purchased their own drinks.

Future venues

- There was a number of suggestions put forward but some of the locations would be prohibitive in flight costs, which would have an overall impact on the budget.

Support for attendance if no subsidy offered

- Of 31 feedback responses 12 replied “yes” they could still attend, 9 “perhaps” and 8 would not be able to obtain funds to attend.
- Two participants provided no comment.
- Of the “no” could not attend responses the reasons given were budget constraints, and only one delegate would be able to attend from their institute.

Other comments

- Overall very well received, interesting and well organised.

The 2018 forum/ workshop had a total of 38 participants (including some AAHL staff) which consisted of 13 past and 25 new participants, supporting the concept's popularity within the aquatic field.

Benefits and Adoption

Participants

The benefit to participants is the exchange of techniques and skills gained from the presentations and discussions conducted throughout the workshop. This is invaluable and can often be the outcome from this type of workshop.

Important points are:

- Interaction between industry and aquatic animal health workers creates a link between these sectors and develops contacts.
- Participants were confident to present aspects of their work in this type of workshop environment, answered questions and participated in discussion.
- Industry participant presentations often gave a perspective that laboratory staff may not have been aware of regarding the impact of a disease diagnosis on their production facilities.
- Participants will only benefit from having a broader picture of the aquatic animal health area which involves disease diagnosis and production.

- Experience gained from discussions on methodology and laboratory skills can only lead to more experienced staff, who are equipped to provide a better overall response to disease outbreaks.
- Email contact group (Appendix 6) continues to be updated and expanded upon.

Host Facility

The host facility has the opportunity to showcase their facility and the staff have the opportunity to interact with workshop participants. In some instances this interaction and information continues after the workshop is completed. Laboratory practises, trouble shooting and methods can be discussed and in some cases, demonstrated in practical sessions. In addition, staff at the host facility have the opportunity to attend and participate in the workshop, whereas, this would not have always been possible to take place if not hosted at their workplace.

At the 2018 workshop hosted by AAHL some staff that provide support to the aquatic group were able to make presentations and attend the workshop, for instance electron microscopy and histology staff.

Further Development

After discussions and feedback received, the general opinion is that the forum group size of 30 to 35 participants is suitable for this workshop. A larger group may restrict the venues available to accommodate the group "on site". Not all venues that have aquaculture capabilities are able to also accommodate large groups for a workshop. The feedback suggests that a meeting room set up as opposed to a lecture theatre set up is more suitable to this group.

A larger group has the potential to reduce the opportunity for open discussion and interactions that have been evident and are encouraged in the workshops. If the forum had more than 35 participants expressing an interest to attend participation would have to be determined by criteria such as previous attendance versus a new participant or a new and emerging scientist, or representation from an area of aquaculture not represented at previous workshops. At the 2015 workshop the group size was up to 32 – some University staff attended only specific sessions. Participants from New Zealand who were self-funded did not have their participation confirmed until a vacancy was available.

The feedback from previous workshops suggested quite strongly that the AAHTF should remain an independent workshop from other aquaculture conferences. There were a number of reasons for this opinion; technical staff would not be given permission to attend a longer concurrent conference and workshop, the forum/workshop could have the potential to be "taken over" by the more senior attendees at a conference and therefore would lose its informal but structured workshop atmosphere. The AAHTF is the only opportunity some technical and industry staff have to attend an aquatic animal health-specific meeting/workshop in Australia.

Future funding may be obtained from industry and related business i.e. feed companies. Previously, after every workshop interest has been canvassed from industry attendees (salmonid, abalone, prawn and pearling) to provide funding to support the continuation of the AAHTF. FRDC and DAWR may also continue to provide partial funding. At the completion of the 2018 workshop an estimate of ongoing funding required was provided to participants (based on the 2018 single workshop) and the previous three year project.

Potentially, depending on the availability of funds, future workshops could offer participants less reimbursement and only cover the cost of accommodation, some meals and any host venue costs – therefore reducing the overall funding required.

If ongoing support was achieved for more than one year, announcements of the upcoming annual workshop would be made as soon as a venue was sourced, thus enabling participants to obtain cheaper airfares (potentially self-funded) and gain permission to attend.

Recommend any appropriate activities or other steps that you consider would further develop, disseminate, or to exploit commercially the outcomes of the professional award; or in the case of specific training programs, how the program might be improved

A longer period of secure funding would be beneficial, as it would allow the workshop organisers to essentially plan for the next workshop a year in advance. This would enable the next venue/date to be announced at the conclusion of the current workshop and would allow a cost advantage regarding early accommodation booking.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum

14-16 February 2018

Hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong

Program

Day 1 Wednesday 14th February 2018

Please note – enclosed footwear is required to come on site at CSIRO, AAHL and for all practical activities

- 8:15 Depart hotel and arrive at AAHL to clear security
- 9:00 Mark Crane - Welcome
- 9:10 Nette Williams/Belinda Jones/Martine Cornish – Welcome from the organising committee, program outline and introductions
- 9:30 James Fensham – Aquatic animal health cases (enteritis in yellowtail kingfish or other)
- 9:45 Nick Savva – Safe stock translocations between abalone farms
- 9:55 Janine Davis – *Tenacibaculum dicentrarchi*
- 10:10 Helen Jenkins – Luck is not a biosecurity measure
- 10:20 Catarina Norte dos Santos – Histopathological changes in the interbranchial lymphoid tissue in Atlantic salmon exposed to *N.perurans*
- 10:35 Morning tea**
- 11:00 Tyler Spencer – My experience with POMV
- 11:10 Julie Goldsbury – JCU AquaPath – Applications for Aquatic Biosecurity in Northern Australia
- 11:25 Druimé Nolan – Diagnostics and characterisation of Megalocytiviruses of ornamental fishes entering Western Australia
- 11:35 Digory Hulse – The Biosecure Fish Facility – overview of some recent trials
- 11:55 Melinda Micallef – Myxobolus induced scoliosis in flathead
- 12:05 Lunch**
- 1:00** Depart for Jade Tiger Abalone Farm
- 5:00** Return to hotel or Geelong Waterfront

6:30pm Dinner is booked at The Edge- Geelong Waterfront- order from the menu and dinner and drinks at your expense



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources

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Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum

14-16 February 2018

Hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong

Day 2 Thursday 15th February 2018

- 8:30 Depart hotel and arrive at AAHL to collect visitor ID tags
- 9:00 Shokoofeh Shamsi – A revised method for detection of nematodes in fish
- 9:20 Becca Hobbs – Laboratory handling during White Spot Disease response
- 9:30 Peter Mohr – WSSV outbreak overview
- 9:45 Maxi Canepa – Deformities in Giant Grouper, Viral Nervous Necrosis (VNN) in farmed Giant Grouper
- 10:00 Aggie Onysk – Use of MALDI-TOF for Aquatic Bacteriology in a Veterinary Microbiology Laboratory
- 10.10 Anna Smyth - Targeting Aquatic viruses in a diagnostic setup
- 10.20 Stacey Valdeter – Equivalency Testing – Applications in the AFDL Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory
- 10.30 Morning tea**
- 11:00 Chris Carter – Current themes in fish nutrition and links to AAH
- 11:20 Elise Matthews – POMS early detection active surveillance in South Australia
- 11:35 Secure Area Induction- takes approximately 1 hour
- 12:30 Lunch**
- 13:00 Enter secure area and commence tours in four groups
- Virtual Tour for others- conducted by Andrew Hill from AAHL
- 15:15 to 16:00 Shower out of secure area and reconvene in presentational area.
- 16:00 Justine Arnold – WA Knowledge Quest to Japan
- 16:20 Min Rao – Assay for dsRNA in progeny of prawns spawned from broodstock that received dsRNA injection as an antiviral
- 6:30pm *Forum Dinner – Sailors Rest Geelong Waterfront. Set menu 2 course dinner. Drinks at your expense.*



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14-16 February 2018

Hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong

Day 3 Friday 16th February 2018

Please note – enclosed footwear is required to come on site at CSIRO, AAHL and for all practical activities

- 8:30 Depart hotel and arrive at AAHL collect visitor ID tags.
- 9:00 Sandy Crameri – Using Electron Microscopy to identify new and emergent aquatic viruses and how to prepare samples for submission
- 9:30 Connie Angelucci – Vaccine research
- 9:45 David Cummins – minIONS – background and application within AFDL.
- 10:00 John Hoad – Proficiency testing- a necessary evil.
- 10:15 Emma Zalcman – New approaches to aquatic animal surveillance: the potential for people and technology to transform epidemiology
- 10:35 Morning tea**
- 11:00 Neil Shepherd – NATA Accreditation
- 11:20 Tracey Bradley – A tale of 2 outbreaks - from the very fast to the very slow....
- 11:45 Feedback, discussion, where to from here?
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:00-1:30 Departure from AAHL. We can co-ordinate transfers from AAHL to the Gull Bus**

Appendix 2

FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Training Scheme - Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum and Skills Training Workshop



General Information 14th-16th February 2018

PROGRAM

The forum for 2018 is being hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Lab (AAHL), Geelong. The forum will run over 2½ days (8.30 am to 5.00 pm, and 8.30 am to 1.00 pm) from Wednesday 14th February – Friday 16th February 2018. The earlier finishing time on the Friday is to allow participants to return to home on the Friday afternoon/evening if they wish.

One of the aims of the forum is to encourage informal discussion and transfer of knowledge. Therefore, **all participants are encouraged to prepare a presentation to be presented in a welcoming environment where “no question is a stupid question”**. Presentations can be from 10 minutes to 40 minutes (you have the freedom to decide) and may be on any aspect of your work, interesting cases or techniques.

As in previous workshops, the program for the forum will be a mixture of topics for presentations and cover various disciplines, including a field trip to an aquaculture facility. As areas of AAHL are a unique biological secure facility there will be an opportunity for a tour of AAHL’s microbiological secure area (see conditions below) alternatively, there is a virtual secure area tour available.

There will also be time for general discussion/feedback.

The location of the workshop will be in the non-secure meeting room area of AAHL and therefore there will be no farm quarantine restrictions on participants as listed below;

In order to maintain the microbiological security vital to the Laboratory's safe operation, all visitors to the secure area must agree in writing to comply with the following microbiological security regulations:

For a period of Seven (7) days after exit from the secure areas, **visitors must agree to avoid all contact with** sheep, cattle, goats, pigs, horses, asses, mules, any other cloven-hoofed animal, fowls, turkeys, geese, domestic ducks, caged birds, emus or ostriches, amphibians or the actual places where these animals are held, or visit any aquatic animal farm or aquatic animal hatchery. **No restrictions apply to cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, rats and mice.**

Please email your presentation information to belinda.jones@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au, with *at least* a draft topic and duration by Wednesday 1st November 2017. This will enable the program to be drafted for this years' forum.

TRANSPORT

If you are intending to attend the forum, please book your flights as soon as possible, therefore not paying expensive flights closer to the workshop date.

It is anticipated that a proportion of airfares will be refunded by the project for all participants.

There is a regular bus service from Melbourne's Tullamarine airport to Geelong – Gull Bus Service www.gull.com.au.

Alternatively, the Sky bus to Southern Cross train station (Melbourne City) and there is a regular train service to Geelong.

ACCOMMODATION

Rooms for participants are being held at Rydges, Geelong.

The project will cover participant's costs for 3 nights' accommodation (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights only). All bookings are being co-ordinated as a group booking through Lynette Williams at AAHL. **Please clearly indicate on the registration form whether you will require accommodation for these nights** and we will arrange it for you.

If you intend to stay additional nights, you will need to arrange this with the hotel directly.

Breakfast is not included in this rate, however, breakfast can be arranged at the hotel (at your own cost), or there are a range of breakfast eateries located within walking distance of the hotel.

REGISTRATION

Participants will need to return the attached registration form to Belinda Jones belinda.jones@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au by Wednesday 1st November 2017.

- Please clearly indicate any special dietary requirements
- If you require an accommodation booking in Geelong
- If you wish participate in the AAHL secure area tour (conditions mentioned previously)
- **OR** the AAHL 'virtual tour'.

MEALS

Tuesday dinner will be at **your** expense. There are a number of restaurants near your accommodation.

Wednesday a venue will be selected that is reasonably priced and within walking distance of accommodation. This will be at **your** expense.

Thursday dinner will be **FUNDED** by the project.

Meals provided during the workshop will include;

All morning teas, lunches and afternoon teas Wednesday – Friday (where applicable) will be provided by the project.

CONTACTS for more information:

Nette Williams – AAHL Lynette.Williams@csiro.au

Belinda Jones – DPIWWE TAS Belinda.Jones@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au

Appendix 3

FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Training Scheme - Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum and Skills Training Workshop

Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum

Registration Form

Wednesday 14th February - Friday 16 February 2018. Hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health
Laboratory, Geelong.

Title:	
Surname:	
Preferred Given Name:	
Organization:	
Position:	
Email address:	
Contact phone number:	
Special dietary requirements (if any):	
Accommodation booking required?	Yes/No
Areas of work or current projects:	
Areas of work interests:	
You are encouraged to make a presentation on your area of work, an interesting case, techniques, research etc. This helps to make up the workshop program. If you intend to present, please give a general topic/ title and duration (e.g 5 min, 15 min)	
I have read the attached document 'Essential Information for Visitors to the AAHL Secure Area' and agree to the stipulated conditions. I wish to participate in the secure area tour. <input type="checkbox"/>	I DO NOT wish to participate in the secure area tour, but instead wish to undertake the 'virtual tour' of this area. <input type="checkbox"/>

Please return the completed form to Belinda.Jones@dpipwe.tas.gov.au
by Wednesday 1st November 2017



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Appendix 4

FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Training Scheme - Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum
and Skills Training Workshop

Workshop, AAHL, Geelong 14th -16th February 2018

Participant Review Form

ITEM	Excellent	Good	OK	Poor
Location , venue and accommodation				
Time of year:				
Other suggestions				
Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations • Interaction 				
Other suggestions				
Program topics				
Other suggestions				
Program suitability				
Did you like the format and did it work well for you as a participant?				
Length (2 and a half days - 3 days):				
Other suggestions				
Food: (suitable, good, bad, enough...) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning breaks • Lunches • Afternoon breaks 				
Comments				
2019 Venue- suggestions/topics				
Potential funding bodies?				
Would your workplace support you attending further workshops if your costs were not subsidised?				
Other comments				



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Aquatic Animal Health Technicians Forum
Workshop, AAHL, Geelong 14th -16th February 2018

Participant Review Form

Collated data

ITEM	Excellent	Good	OK	Poor
Location , venue and accommodation	26/31	5/31		
Time of year:	20/31	9/31	2/31	
Other suggestions	March/April x 2, late Feb early March due to school year, March No other conferences early in the year- suitable. Later in the year due to summer aquatic mortality events and bushfires			
<b style="color: magenta;">Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations • Interaction 	23/31	8/31		
Other suggestions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another farm tour • Timing of presentations, keep to allocated times as overtime meant short breaks, sitting too long More question time • Add discussion forums (research focus and services available) • More interaction time • Less talks per session or more sessions • Guest speaker and best presenter, • industry guest speaker, • workshop if not too expensive for techniques • Good mix of topics and interest by participants, Good range of technical and "interest" presentations • Liked the field trips as it added a break to presentations • Presentations were interesting, great and beneficial, • Maybe have an "annual" theme. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is great to have an off-site excursion and secure area tour in addition to presentations • Room was too small and crowded 			
Program topics	24/31	7/31		
Other suggestions	<p>Emerging aquatic diseases, vaccines, career progression</p> <p>Diverse is good</p>			
Program suitability	21/30	21/30		
Did you like the format and did it work well for you as a participant?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked well with breaks for the farm tour. • Broad range of presentation highlighted the diversity of aquatic animal health. • Field trip and the secure tour were a good variety to the day's presentations. • Applicable and interesting work people are doing everyday not just high level research. • Yes great program and diversity • Keep talks to time frame • Breaks were short due to talks overrunning but this was due to the interest generated by the talks. • Great to see aspects from all sides of aquaculture 			
Length (2 and a half days - 3 days):	23/29	7/29		
Other suggestions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could fill three days x2 • Extra time for talks or less presentations. • No longer than it is • About right • Any longer would be difficult to fit with work schedule • Any longer would restrict opportunity to attend • Days are full on and 5.30pm finish is too late • Length is ideal 			

<p>Food: (suitable, good, bad, enough...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning breaks • Lunches • Afternoon breaks 	17/29	14/30		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some breaks were rushed • Combination of wraps, rolls and sandwiches • Food was good and plenty of it • Delicious and plentiful • All good thank you • Nette did a good job organising it all • There was lots of food and it all tasted good • Breaks were shorter than planned but that didn't affect me 			
2019 Venue- suggestions/topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Australia x 4 • Cairns x 2 • New Zealand x7 • QLD- field trip to prawn farm • This year's venue was good • Darwin x2 • BSL Coopers Plains • Tasmania 2 • Launceston x4 • Kununurra- Depending on what happens with Sea Dragon 			
Potential funding bodies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No suggestions x 23 • Industry • Other companies • Sigma • TSGA x2 • Commercial sponsor ie Thermo Fisher /Life technologies again • Big Salmon • Fresh by Design • Universities (in kind venue support?0 • Skretting/Ridley • Prawn companies • SeaFARMS • I will think about sources • Industry 			
Would your workplace support you attending further workshops if your costs were not subsidised?	<p>Yes - 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Probably but less participants than this year - I hope so but tough times for salmon industry - May be more suitable workshops for veterinary education - Yes if the forum was still relevant 			

	<p>Perhaps/maybe - 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More difficult if no subsidy as division is cost recovery. Being able to present gives justification to attend to managers - Possibly one person for staff development - Depends on budget and constraints <p>No – 8</p> <p>No answer -2</p>
<p>Other comments</p>	<p>Thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Jade Tiger abalone.</p> <p>These meetings are always great as you get to see familiar faces in such a “small” industry great to hear industry and Government prospective.</p> <p>A bit more clarity prior to the event about what costs would be covered would be good – when signing up most costs were to be covered, then by time of the event only lunches, 1 dinner and room was covered, resulting in unexpected costs.</p> <p>Great well organised</p> <p>Transport perhaps outside forums scope. Put the onus on participants</p> <p>Add registration cost (instead of free) to cover food, bus etc</p> <p>Host location close to aquaculture facilities</p> <p>Thank you for organising an insightful and enjoyable forum</p> <p>Should continue to be supported by FRDC Wonderful work ladies. Great for learning about different areas and technologies</p> <p>Thanks to the persistence of the organisers to keep getting this forum funded for the benefit of those working in the area.</p> <p>Thank you x 2</p> <p>38 participant is a maximum number to host. Any more and there are problems with time keeping. Good to learn about other aquaculture ideas and concerns, I learnt a great deal.</p> <p>Well organised.</p> <p>Good range of topics</p>

	<p>Really enjoyed the opportunity to tour the AAHL facility and gaining an understanding of the measures involved in an aquatic disease response from AAHL's perspective. Many thanks to the organisers I enjoyed the workshops and will encourage participation by IMAS staff.</p> <p>My sincere thanks to those who put this forum together. It ran extremely smoothly and was exceptionally well organised. I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet others in the aquatic space as I am so new to this area, it really helped that the forum encourages this in such a friendly setting.</p> <p>This program should keep going- it is really wonderful!</p> <p>It would be good to get a copy of all the presentations.</p> <p>I really enjoyed the workshop. Great mix of lab and industry people.</p> <p>No comment x 14</p>
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Appendix 6

Aquatic Animal Health Technical Forum

14-16 February 2018

Hosted by CSIRO, Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong

Participant List

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