

Fish Veterinary Society Annual Conference 24th – 25th March 2026

Programme – Day 1 – Tuesday 24th of March 2026		
Time	Topic	Speaker
09:30	Conference Registration & Coffee	
10:00	Welcome to the Conference	Johanna Baily - FVS President
Session 1: Skin health issues in Aquaculture		
Keynote address: Industry update		
10:10	At The Surface: Topical Skin Conditions In Scottish Aquaculture – STIM – Jamie Smart	
10:35	From Data to Decisions: Epidemiology of Skin Disease in Atlantic Salmon Farms	Fernando O. Mardones, University of Edinburgh
Session 2: Professional body update		
10:50	BVA update - Consultation on reform of the Veterinary Surgeon's Act 1966; Collaboration with the RCVS on veterinary certification	Ronnie Soutar/Matt Metselaar, FVS BVA-liaison team
11:10	Coffee Break – 45 minutes (Photo)	
Gold sponsor talk: Esox Biologics		
11:50	Metagenomic Surveillance for Skin Health – Ezra Herman - Esox Biologics	
Session 3: Bacteriology focus		
12:15	Changing infection pressures from ulcer-associated bacteria in seawater: Genus-to-strain qPCR monitoring across farm sites and seasons	Snorre Gulla, Norwegian Veterinary Institute
12:30	Summer sores. An emerging challenge in salmon farming	Linn Emile Knutsen, Pharmaq AS
12: 45	Bridging Diagnostic Gaps in Aquaculture: Integrating NGS into Disease Investigation	Ginevra Brocca, Fish & Shellfish Pathology Consultant
13:00	Lunch and poster session – 1 hour	

14:00 Gold sponsor talk		
14:00	A novel solution to combat <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> - Benedict Standen, DSM	
Session 4: Panel discussion		
14:20	Panel discussion - Relevance of skin assessment tools	Panel discussion
15:00	Coffee Break – 15 minutes	
Session 5: Wound healing		
15:15	Fish Skin: A Fascinating and Multifunctional Organ	Lene Sveen, Nofima, Norway
15:30	From Inflammation to Regeneration: A Histopathological and Cellular Atlas of Atlantic Salmon Wound Healing	Rose Ruiz Daniels, University of Stirling
15.45	The importance of boundaries	Dave Cockerill, Wellfish Tech
Fish Veterinary Society AGM		
16:00	Reports from committee members, nominations for new committee members, discussion/Q&As	
17:00	End of Day One (Estimated)	

Evening Programme

18:30	Student Mentoring/networking event
19:30	Pre-dinner drinks and evening meal

Gold sponsors				Bronze sponsors
				
Silver sponsors				Wine
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Programme – Day 2 – Wednesday 25th of March 2026		
Time	Topic	Speaker
09:00	Conference Registration & Coffee	
09:25	Welcome to Day 2 and Student poster awards	
Session 1: Management of fish Health and disease		
Interactive Activity		
09:30	Interactive Activity Management of skin health and disease	Participants are invited to take part in small group discussions, facilitated by experts in different areas of fish production, health and welfare. Participants will move between tables and topics proposing methods of improving fish welfare in each area. At the end of the session the facilitators will present key points to the whole group.
Silver sponsor talk		
10:45	Vaccination against <i>T. maritimum</i> – <i>T. dicentrarchii</i> in the Mediterranean , Andreas Kyriakou, Hipra Greece	
11:00	Coffee Break – 20 minutes	
Session 2: Ornamental session		
11:20	The trials and tribulations of treating parasites in koi carp	Fiona MacDonald, Fish Treatment Ltd
11:35	Skin diseases of goldfish (<i>Carassius auratus</i>): a review of cases seen in general practice	Willie Wildgoose, Private veterinarian
11:50	Hikui Disease in Koi: Causes, Diagnosis, and Management	Bryony Chetwynd-Glover, London Aquatic Veterinary Services
12:05	Zebrafish Welfare Is Only Skin-Deep – and That’s the Problem	Matthjis Metselaar, Aquatic Vets Ltd.
12:20	Lunch - 60 minutes	

Session 3: Skin disease management

13:20	How can we reduce the impact of Saprolegnia parasitica in our farms and rivers?	Pieter van West, University of Aberdeen
13:35	Red Skin Disease of wild Atlantic salmon in England and Wales – what we know so far	Louise Bartram, National Fisheries Laboratory, Environment Agency
13:50	Update on the Irish SRS situation	Sandra Vesanto, Mowi Ireland
14:05	Coffee Break – 15 minutes	
Session 4:		
14:20	TBC	TBC
14:35	Update on Fish Health and Welfare Survey	Sharon Brown. Moredun Research Institute/University of Stirling
14:50	Vaccine hesitancy in Aquaculture	Mags Crumlish, University of Stirling
15:05	End of Day 2: Thanks & Farewells (coffee available)	

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