

Global update on guidelines for fish research

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The international consensus meeting on the harmonization of the care and use of fish in research, held 23-26, May 2005 in Gardermoen, Norway, provided an opportunity to highlight various aspects which were thought to be important in guidelines for fish research. At the time of the meeting, published guidelines included the American Fisheries Society *Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research* (2004). The Canadian Council on Animal Care *guidelines on: the care and use of fish in research teaching and testing* (2005) were published shortly after the meeting. The revised Appendix A of the *European Convention for the Protection of Animals used for Scientific Purposes* although drafted at the time of the meeting was subsequently published in 2007. This presentation will briefly examine each of these guidelines documents, in light of the needs expressed during the 2005 meeting, for example, health monitoring; environmental needs; animal use reporting; training and implementation of the Three Rs (statistical design, refinement of techniques, endpoints etc.) Other documents, not officially identified as “guidelines” will also be examined for their potential to fill the information gaps identified by the participants at the 2005 international consensus meeting.