



Protocol for the importation of *Cobia (Rachycentron canadum)* into NSW

Conditions of translocation

1. A veterinary inspection, and health certification, of the exporting facility must be carried out by a competent veterinary authority prior to shipment of any juveniles. This is to ensure that the exporting facility engages in best hatchery practice, including but not limited to appropriate biosecurity, quarantine and health investigation measures. The hatchery assessment will be valid for twelve months from the date of issue by the competent authority conditional upon maintenance of existing facility procedures and infrastructures.
2. Only juveniles reared from clinically healthy broodstock are to be imported/translocated.
3. Larvae/juveniles must be subject to thorough and regular visual inspection for any signs of disease throughout the rearing period. The department must be notified of any suspect mortality or morbidity that occurs during this time, and any such mortalities must be fully investigated. Samples from any such mortality event must be collected and subject to testing as deemed necessary by the department.
4. Each batch^a of juveniles to be imported are to be tested by PCR (150 effective samples) for nodavirus and histopathology (150 effective samples^b). Samples submitted must be of larvae/juveniles aged between 21 and 42 days.
5. Juveniles must be greater than 42 days old before being imported into NSW.
6. The health certificate/pathology report is valid for 4 weeks from the date of issue.
7. The health certificate or pathology report must be received by the department no later than two working days prior to the expected date of shipment of juveniles.
8. Water for transport of juveniles must previously be filtered to a screen diameter of less than or equal to 20.0 microns and be disinfected by chlorination with subsequent dechlorination. Disinfection must be performed with greater than 30mg/L active chlorine for at least 12 hours.
9. Equipment used in the transportation of juveniles must be either new, or have been disinfected prior to subsequent use by immersion in a solution containing a minimum of 200 ppm active chlorine for a minimum of 15 minutes, or other equivalent means of disinfection.
10. All high risk species juveniles entering NSW under this protocol must be transported directly to the aquaculture permit holder's premises.
11. A statement of compliance with this protocol must be provided by the exporter to the department.



^a 'batch' refers to fish of one particular species from **each** pond or tank that is to be dispatched. Therefore, if fish for the consignment are pooled from two tanks/ponds, each tank/pond constitutes a separate batch.

^b It is advised that the facility providing the health certification be contacted in advance of sample submission for advice on how many larvae/juveniles may be required to provide 150 effective samples.