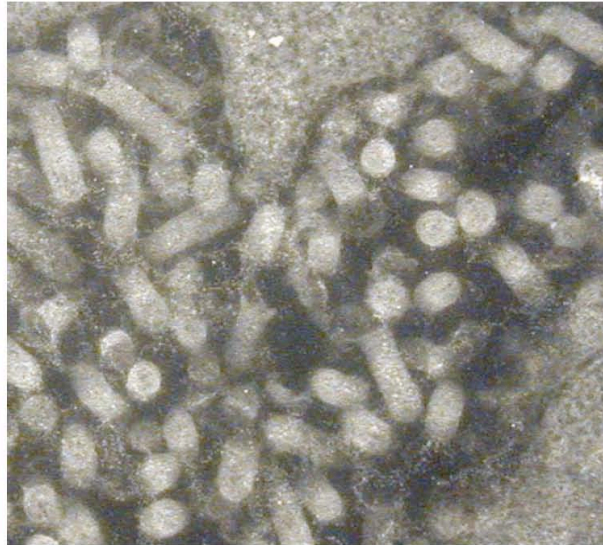




# Fish Health Fact Sheet



Electron micrograph of the bullet shaped virus

## Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus IHNV

Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis is a viral disease that infects salmon and trout of all age classes, but severe losses primarily occur in young fish. The virus attacks the blood forming tissues of the fish, the kidney and spleen, and currently there is no treatment or cure for the disease. IHNV occurs in Europe and Japan as well as North America and has been isolated from some marine fish species. Humans and other terrestrial animals are not affected but can spread the virus inadvertently if infected fish or fish byproducts are introduced to new areas. Different strains of the virus occur in various regions throughout the Pacific Northwest and show affinity for different salmonid species. Naturally reared fish have been shown to carry the virus as well as hatchery salmon returning to spawn. The virus can be transmitted from fish to fish but is unlikely to be passed from infected adults to their resultant young. Infected resident or migrating salmonids returning to waters utilized by ODFW hatcheries have compromised many salmon and trout rearing programs in Oregon. ODFW minimizes the spread of this disease by intensively monitoring the health of fish stocks at hatcheries throughout the state.

