



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PUERTOVARASCHILE

Organized by



November
9 - 11
2026

Hotel Wyndham
Puerto Varas Petra

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM*

MONDAY

NOVEMBER 9

15:00–19:00	Registration
15:00–18:00	Poster setup and presentation projection tests
18:00–19:30	Icebreaker

TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 10

8:00–8:30	Registration
8:30–10:00	Opening Ceremony
10:10–10:40	Keynote Talk: Dr. Fernando Mardones From evidence to action: Scientific Advances in <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> Towards an Integrated Disease Management Strategy
10:40–11:10	Coffee break
11:10–12:10	Session I: Environmental Epidemiology 10 years of epidemiological surveillance in salmon farming in Chile: a 2014-2024 retrospective study of infectious disease mortality risk <i>Benjamín Diethelm-Varela, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile</i> Bayesian back-calculation of the onset and temporal trajectory of reconstructed fatal <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> infections from mortality records in two Chilean salmon farms. <i>Rodrigo Montes Aste, INCAR², Chile</i> SRS and the evolution of ai: a vision from adjacent aquaculture diseases <i>Tony Chen, Manolin, United States</i> Risk factors associated with srs mortality at month 8 and at the end of the production cycle in atlantic salmon in the Los Lagos and Aysén regions of Chile <i>Alex Moyano Escobar, Aquabench, Chile</i>
12:15–12:30	Official Conference Photograph
12:30–14:00	Lunch
14:00–14:30	Keynote Talk: Dr. Frank Asche Social and economic impacts of disease in the salmon industry

*Preliminary program - Schedule subject to confirmation

14:30–16:00

Session II: Genetics and Genomics

Fine-mapping SRS resistance in atlantic salmon to improve genomic selection and identify gene-editing targets

Rayner Gonzalez-Prendes, Hendrix Genetics, The Netherlands

Exploring genome-wide presence-absence variation across atlantic salmon families with contrasting resistance to *Piscirickettsia salmonis*

Diego Valenzuela, INCAR², Chile

The fewer, the better: The role of transcriptional frontloading in atlantic salmon resistance to *Piscirickettsia salmonis*

Alberto Sandoval, INCAR², Chile

A major QTL for resistance against salmonid rickettsial septicaemia in coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) maps to a narrow region on chromosome 21, implicating two candidate genes

Thomas Moen, AquaGen, Norway

Unraveling the genomic basis and convergent evolution of resistance to *Piscirickettsia salmonis* in Atlantic (*Salmo salar*) and Coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) Salmon

Victor Martinez, Universidad de Chile, Chile

Automated phenotyping strengthens genetic evaluation of growth and SRS resistance in salmon breeding programs

Osiel Guzmán, Caleta Bay, Chile

16:00–16:30

Coffee break

16:30–17:45

Session III: SRS Control Tools

Systematic literature review of costs associated with different management strategies aiming to reduce pathogen infestations in salmon farming.

Jorge Dresdner-Cid, INCAR², Chile

Nutritional conditioning to enhance bioresilience against salmonid rickettsial septicaemia

Carolina San Martin, NML-GROUP, Chile

A model for cost-benefit analysis of antimicrobial use in salmon aquaculture

Manuel Estay, INCAR², Chile

Development of new live attenuated vaccine for global SRS control

Jaime Tobar, Vaxxinova, Norway

Development of a recombinant BCG-based vaccine expressing a chimeric protein against *Piscirickettsia salmonis*

Esteban Valdevenito, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile

18:00–19:30

Conference Reception

9:00–9:10 Daily welcome

9:15–9:45 **Keynote Talk: Dr. Hamish Rodger**

Global lessons, local solutions: Piscirickettsiosis in Europe and its main challenges. How the PesciNor® project and international collaborative research contribute to knowledge to control the disease in Chile and the world.

10:00–11:15

Session IV: SRS Control Tools

Beyond SRS: lessons from emerging bacterial diseases in atlantic salmon

Bjorn Krossoy, VAXXINOVA, Norway

Global developments in vaccination against SRS

Marius Karlsen, PHARMAQ, Norway

Development and validation of a functional feed to increase resilience against *Piscirickettsia salmonis* in atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)

Gabriela Carril, BioMar AS, Norway

INNBOOST®: Bringing precision medicine to aquaculture, a new recombinant protein-based feed additive to prevent SRS outbreaks.

Jorn Bethke, AQUIT, Chile

Strategies and best management practices in Chilean salmon aquaculture: evidence from the Pincoy initiative

Pablo Ibieta, Iniciativa Pincoy, Chile

11:15–11:45

Coffee break

11:45–13:00

Session V: Environmental Epidemiology

Freshwater health history and host physiological-immunological condition as potential determinants of SRS susceptibility after seawater transfer: preliminary evidence.

Jorge Mancilla, Mowi, Chile

Treatment management determinant of antibiotic use against salmon rickettsial syndrome

Daniel Jiménez, Aquabench S.A., Chile

Prisma-SRS: an evidence-based decision-support calculator for piscirickettsiosis risk and intervention prioritisation at the farm level in Chilean salmon aquaculture

Fernando Mardones, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Antimicrobial susceptibility surveillance of *Piscirickettsia salmonis* in Chile: regional, genogroup, and temporal trends (2017–2025).

Cristian Valenzuela, Instituto de Fomento Pesquero, Chile

Bayesian back-calculation of the onset and temporal trajectory of reconstructed fatal *Piscirickettsia salmonis* infections from mortality records in two Chilean salmon farms

Rodrigo Montes, INCAR², Chile

13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:15	<p>Session VI: SRS Control Tools</p> <p>AI applied to the discovery and in vitro validation of natural antibacterials against <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i>: from 500,000 individual compounds identified to an effective combination with a low minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)</p> <p><i>Francisco Arancibia, ISR-BIO, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Contemporary <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> field isolates demand updated challenge models: a standardized platform based on LF-89 and EM-90 genogroups</p> <p><i>Pablo Ibieta, TekBios Ltda., Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Smoltvision case study; positive synergy with the use of ALPHA JECT LIVAC SRS vaccine.</p> <p><i>Jorge Infante, PHARMAQ Analytiq, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Yelcho experimental trial: evaluation of vaccines and vaccination strategies for improved immunity against SRS</p> <p><i>Daniel Woywood, Aquabench, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Seawater immersion booster vaccination reduces SRS-associated mortality under commercial atlantic salmon farming conditions</p> <p><i>Carlos Saffie, Veterquimica, Chile</i></p>
15:15–16:45	<p>Session VII: Genetics and Genomics</p> <p>Genomic selection for SRS resistance increases survival in the field</p> <p><i>Thomas Moen, AquaGen, Norway</i></p> <hr/> <p>Transposable element activation and alternative splicing reprogramming during piscirickettsiosis: a comparative genomic study in rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>)</p> <p><i>Rodrigo Vidal, Universidad de Santiago de Chile, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Single-nuclei RNA sequencing reveals the immune cell landscape of atlantic salmon head kidney during <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> infection.</p> <p><i>Yeny Leal, INCAR², Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Major Locus and candidate genes controlling survival against SRS in coho salmon</p> <p><i>Jose Manuel Yañez, Universidad de Chile, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Comparative metabolomic and metagenomic profiling of atlantic salmon families with contrasting resistance to <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> across freshwater and seawater stages</p> <p><i>Constanza Saez-Vera, INCAR², Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>GWAS meta-analysis of resistance against <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> in coho salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>)</p> <p><i>Constanza Urzúa, Universidad de Chile, Chile</i></p>

16:45–17:15	Coffee break
17:15–18:15	<p>Session VIII: Animal Welfare</p> <p>NUTRIPATH: integrating immunonutrition and multi-layered diagnostics to support health and welfare in challenged salmonids</p> <p><i>Byron Morales, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway</i></p> <hr/> <p>Spatial clustering of antimicrobial use and <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> mortality in Chilean salmon aquaculture: a risk-based framework for targeted amr surveillance</p> <p><i>Roberto Montt, CERES BCA, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>Temporal host–pathogen signatures in atlantic salmon skin mucus during experimental <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> infection</p> <p><i>Marcos Mancilla, ADL Diagnostic Chile, Chile</i></p> <hr/> <p>The YELCHO alliance: a new model of public-private governance and engagement with the animal health sector</p> <p><i>Fernando Flores, Executive Director, Alianza Yelcho, Chile</i></p>
18:15–19:30	Closing Ceremony and Social event

Note: Presentation titles are preserved in their original language. Verify the November 10 photograph/lunch overlap, missing titles, and speaker affiliations before publication.

*Preliminary program · Schedule subject to confirmation

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POSTERS PRESENTATION

Evaluation of peruvian maca (<i>Lepidium meyenii</i>) extract on immunomodulation, antioxidant defense and epithelial barrier integrity against <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> in rtgut-gc cells	Natacha Santibáñez
Transposable element activation and alternative splicing reprogramming during piscirickettsiosis: a comparative genomic study in rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>)	Rodrigo Vidal
Identification and genomic characterization of the type 1 secretion system (T1SS) in <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i>	Matías Vega
Development of a recombinant BCG-based vaccine expressing a chimeric protein against <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i>	Esteban Valdebenito
Repeated exposure to sub-inhibitory concentrations of florfenicol induce the expression of antibiotic resistance-associated proteins in biofilm-embedded <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> .	Cristian Oliver
Explainable GNN disease module detection in the salmo salar macrophage response to <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i>	Cristian Figueroa
Non-pharmacological solution to modulate the immunogenicresponse to srs in salmonid species	Ángel Valenzuela
In silico identification, transcriptomic profiling, and characterization of cell wall hydrolases from <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> for the development of antibiofilm platforms	Adrián Rodríguez
Histopathological characterization of granulomatous lesions associated with <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> in atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) from seawater farming sites	Denis Cárdenas
Vaccination at different life stages determines the immune response to <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> in atlantic salmon: a transcriptome analysis	Antonio Casuso
Integrative transcriptomics uncovers the mechanisms of hint3-Mediated SRS resistance in coho salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>)	Jessica Dorner
A morpholino-based approach to investigate trim33l, a candidate gene associated with salmonid rickettsial septicaemia resistance in atlantic salmon	Marcela González
Seawater immersion booster vaccination reduces srs-associated mortality under commercial atlantic salmon farming conditions	Carlos Saffie
Assessment of the antimicrobial potential of a characterized vitis vinifera vine extract against <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i>	Claudia Mardones
Mechanistic insights into cytoskeletal Involment in <i>P. salmonis</i> traslocation across epithelial RTGutGC cells	Raibel Suarez
The pangenome of <i>Piscirickettsia salmonis</i> reveal, different evolutionary trajectories given host-pathogen interaction and environmental production factors.	Víctor Martínez