

## National Decontamination Protocol Update

Based on the ongoing investigations at the USFS' Northern Research Station into decontamination products and strategies, it has come to the attention of the Disease Management Working Group: National Decontamination Protocol subgroup that a current recommendation needs to be modified to increase its effectiveness at killing Pd. **The temperature of water used for the hot water treatment should be increased from 50C to 60C.** Submersible gear should now be treated in hot water for a minimum of 60C for 20 minutes. Laboratory analyses indicate this small increase in sustained temperature increases the efficacy of the hot water treatment. Please follow all other guidance in the existing decontamination protocol, and remember to consider all necessary personal protective equipment and limitations of equipment in order to reduce the risk of personal or equipment-related injury when heating and maintaining water at this temperature.

A revision of the protocol is currently being reviewed by the writing team of the National Decontamination Protocol subgroup. We hope to release the latest version this summer.

Thank you,

Rich

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