

Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD)

Disease agent: *Renibacterium salmoninarum*, a gram positive bacterium in the family Micrococcaceae.



Presence in Australia: **Exotic**

Presence in Queensland: **Exotic**

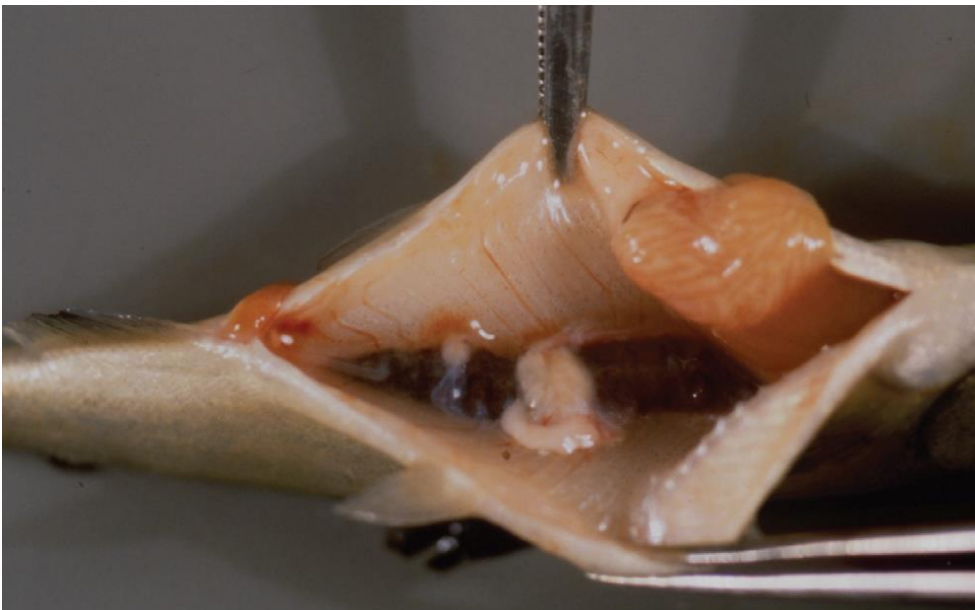


Bacterial Kidney Disease is exotic to Australia and has not been recorded in any State.

Signs of Disease:

Fish infected with this bacteria may exhibit the following signs:

- lethargic with darkened skin
- swollen abdomen with skin blisters or shallow ulcers (remnants of ruptured blisters).
- haemorrhages at the base of the fins or at the vent
- popeye (exophthalmos), enlarged spleen and swollen kidney with pale lesions



Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD):

Kidney lesions in a juvenile chinook salmon with bacterial kidney disease.

Photo: R Pascho and C O'Farrell

Host Species affected may include:

Eels (all) Flatfish (all)
Bartail flathead Scallops

Imported seafood fishes including:

Atlantic cod European eel
Pacific herring Japanese scallop
Trout (all) Salmon (all)

At risk fisheries in QLD may include:

Queensland Eel Fishery
East Coast Inshore Finfish Fishery
East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery

Introduction Pathways to avoid:

Do not use imported seafood for bait or berley.

Basic decontamination information:

This disease agent can be inactivated by the following treatments: Temperatures above 65°C for over 15 minutes, 10 mg/L chlorine for 1 minute, and 25 mg/L iodine for 5 minutes, 1% Virkon S for 10 minutes, or UV light >20 mJ/cm².

What to do if this disease is suspected:

If you suspect this disease is present please contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (13 25 23) or the National 24 hr Emergency Animal Disease Hotline (1800 675 888) immediately.

How to collect and store samples for diagnosis:

If you are taking samples to help authorities to test for this disease, whole fish should be provided alive (if possible) or chilled and on ice (but not frozen).

Learn more

For more information about BKD and other diseases of aquatic animals of significance to Australia, download the **Aquatic Disease Field Guide App** available for iOS, android and windows devices at these locations:

IOS<https://goo.gl/9UJNp9>**ANDROID**<https://goo.gl/T4Tn1X>**WINDOWS**<https://goo.gl/Y8Vibj>

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