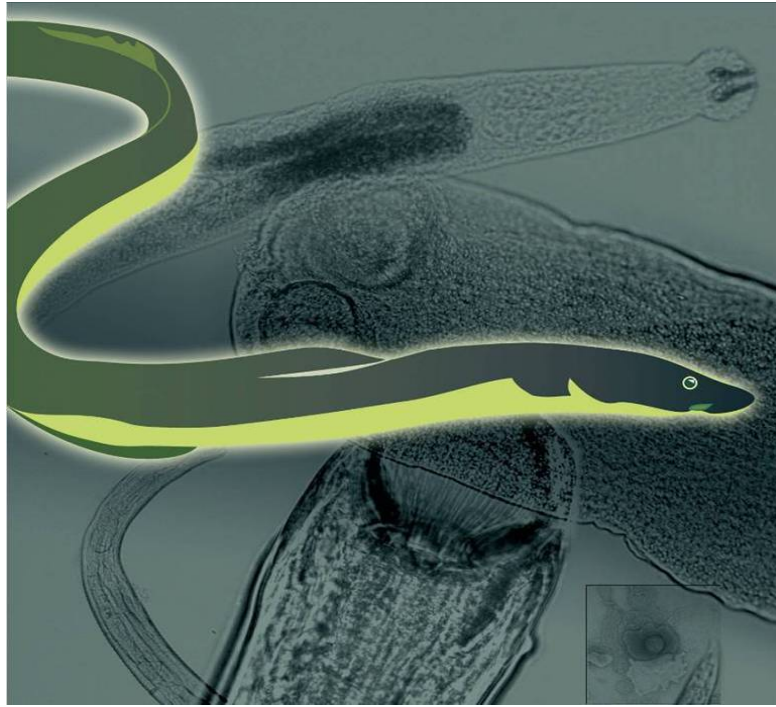


Free Public Lecture

The European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) – a fascinating endangered species



Dr. Eva Jakob

Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture – Vancouver Island University

Freshwater eels of the genus *Anguilla* are fascinating animals with a unique way of life that sets them apart from other fish species. Questions regarding their origin and reproduction date back as far as 350 BC, when Aristotle posited that “eels come from the entrails of the earth”. Over the last few decades a decline in eel recruitment has been observed for European, Japanese and American eel populations. Due to this decline, the protection and management of eels which had been until recently a topic of note only for biologists, is now becoming the focus of attention for many fisherman, fish farmers, conservationists, and even politicians. This talk will provide an introduction to this highly endangered fish species, discuss potential causes for their decline and outline the parasite and virus infections of the European eel in northern Germany.

*Eva Jakob is a post-doctoral fellow (at VIU) studying the ecological and immunological role of sea lice in the propagation and development of pathogens among farmed salmonids in British Columbia. She completed her PhD at the Leibniz Institute of Marine Sciences where she studied parasite- and virus infections of the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*). More recently she has been involved in studies of habitat selection of the European eel. Her background includes studies of fish parasites and diseases using both molecular and traditional approaches.*

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7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Vancouver Island University, Building 356, Room 109

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