Dr. Deborah Iwanowicz serves as a multidisciplinary research biologist at the Leetown Science Center, National Fish Health Research Laboratory (NFHRL) in Kearneysville, WV. Her research principally involves that pertaining to next-generation sequencing incorporated within and beyond the infectious and non-infectious diseases of fish and invasive species. She is a Principle Investigator for a number of studies that address regional, national and sometimes international fish and wildlife health and disease issues. Her primary interests and expertise include that of the effects of contaminants on fish health, the spread of diseases with invasive species, investigating complex microbial communities and protocol/assay development. Her research includes that of molecular microbiology (parasitology, bacteriology, virology on fishes, amphibians, sea turtles, marine mammals, insects, plants, aquatic and terrestrial gastropods), and environmental health assessments. She leads efforts in the NFHRL for method development and the adoption and application of new technologies to assist her research and that of others.