



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

To All Poultry Producers,

We are seeing the continued spread of H5N1 Avian Influenza (aka HPAI or Bird Flu) in both dairy and poultry farms across multiple counties. We consider the winter bird migration season a period of high risk to all poultry owners. We are asking ALL poultry producers to enhance their biosecurity plans until risks are reduced. We recommend that producers also conduct daily active observational surveillance. This means, routinely check your entire flock for signs of H5N1: increasing mortality, decreased egg production, decreased feed and water intake, and other clinical signs you can read at this [link](#). If you do see these signs or have questions, please contact your veterinarian or CDFA's Sick Bird Hotline at: 866-922-2473.

Please emphasize personal protective equipment (PPE) compliance and vehicle cleaning and disinfecting (C&D) stations. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends PPE, such as eye protection (face shields or safety goggles), respirators (N95 masks), and gloves be worn by anyone working with animals or materials that are infected or potentially infected with the bird flu virus. Wearing PPE helps prevent infection. Please see CDPH's [Worker Protection from Bird Flu](#) for full PPE guidance.

Lastly, USDA has recently updated their [Indemnity Program](#). The program will require satisfactory biosecurity audits on farms planning to place new birds onto quarantined farms and will limit indemnity for infected zones. CDFA already audits quarantined farms for movements requiring permits. We will assist you with these audits when they occur, but please review your biosecurity plans and on-farm practices in preparation.

For the latest updates on H5N1 affecting poultry and livestock, please visit our webpage [here](#) and for national detections of H5N1, please visit the USDA APHIS webpage at this [link](#).

