HPAI Response
HPAI New State Checklist
March 12, 2022

Please note: These procedures may be revised as the situation develops.

IS THERE A PRESUMPTIVE CASE OF HPAI?

☐ Reference the H5/H7 Avian Influenza Case Definition if needed, available in the HPAI Red Book, Chapter 5, Section 5.2.2.1.

☐ Communicate with the Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) and/or District Director (DD), or designee(s), in your VS Field District immediately.

☐ If duplicate samples were collected, ensure you have the tracking information of the sample sent to National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL); if a sample will be forwarded from a National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory, check on its status and obtain tracking information. If samples still need to be shipped, discuss speed/transport options with your AVIC/DD immediately.
   ♦ For a presumptive positive case of HPAI, APHIS and State response activities begin when the presumptive positive case definition is met; NVSL confirmation is needed for World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and trade notifications.
   ♦ During a response, it may be helpful to send split samples (one to NAHLN, and one to NVSL). Tracking information for samples sent to NVSL should be provided to the AVIC/DD to ensure that NVSL prioritizes/flags the samples for testing upon arrival.

☐ Immediately confer about depopulation with the company/producer involved and appropriate State and APHIS officials (including appropriate method, required equipment and personnel, and other logistics).
   ♦ APHIS reviews any decision by State or industry to use ventilation shutdown plus (+) with heat. These decisions must involve APHIS and can occur immediately by phone, so that a joint State-APHIS-industry decision can be reached to meet the 24-48-hour depopulation goal.

☐ Discuss disposal options of carcasses and other materials (including appropriate method, required equipment and personnel, applicable regulations, etc.).

☐ Get premises loaded into EMRS2, if your State does not have pre-loaded premises data (loading prior to an incident is strongly preferred, more information is here).

☐ NAHLN laboratories need to begin electronic messaging of results immediately, if not already doing so. When available, results should be inputted into EMRS2.

☐ Anyone submitting diagnostic samples must ensure that samples have accurate premises ID numbers on samples and on sample submission forms.

THEN, REVIEW POLICY GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS FOR RESPONSE…

With the ongoing threat of HPAI, unaffected States should prepare for an Infected Premises in their State. States should be aware of these procedures, processes, and information. If at any time you have a request for relevant documents or guidance available, please ask!
☐ Communication & Coordination

- State Public Affairs, APHIS Legislative and Public Affairs, APHIS Trade Staff, & industry should coordinate timing and content for ANY public announcements and bilateral trade notifications.
- Calls between relevant parties, including but not limited to appropriate APHIS officials, company officials, and affected States, should begin immediately. More communication is almost always better in an outbreak.
- If a premises is presumptive positive, it is safer to wait until NVSL confirmation to post it publicly to provide the most accurate information. This is important for OIE and trade notifications to ensure that the latest information is accurately reported.

☐ Appraisal and Indemnity Procedures

- Please start with the quick 2-page Overview of Finance and Administration Procedures.
- The Indemnity and Compensation Request for HPAI as well as the Appraisal and Indemnity Request Forms for both poultry owners and growers are the first documents that must be signed in order to commence depopulation activities.
  - Appendix 1H – Indemnity and Compensation Request for HPAI
  - Appraisal and Indemnity Request Form Appendix 2A: Poultry Owner
  - Appraisal and Indemnity Request Form Appendix 2B: Poultry Grower
- Ensure that all information for the VS 1-23 is collected as soon as possible.

☐ Depopulation

- Rapid depopulation and euthanasia is needed to control virus spread.
  - The goal is to depopulate within 24-48 hours after HPAI detection on a premises.
- Refer to the following policy guidance: Response Goals & Depopulation Policy & Ventilation Shutdown Plus Policy.

☐ 3D Activities/NVS Support

- To contact the NVS and/or request resources, please email NVS@usda.gov.
- Disposal procedures must be effective and appropriate.
  - For composting, review Mortality Composting Protocol for AI Infected Flocks.
  - For landfilling, refer to the Landfill Disposal Guidance document.
- Cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) of all areas must be conducted.
  - Please review Cleaning & Disinfection Basics (Virus Elimination).

☐ Zones and Premises

- A Control Area needs to be established around Poultry Premises that are HPAI Infected Premises; refer to the Ready Reference Guide—Overview of Zones.
- A Surveillance Zone needs to be established around Non-Poultry Premises that are HPAI Infected Premises; refer to Zoning for Non-Poultry Infected Premises.

☐ Surveillance & Epidemiology

- Use the Initial Contact Epi Report to quickly gather the most critical information about premises.
- Review Avian Sample Collection for Influenza A and Newcastle Disease.
♦ Immediately initiate surveillance activities to detect disease; guidance for HPAI is found in Surveillance of Backyard Flocks Around Infected Premises & Surveillance Sampling Commercial Premises in Control Area.
♦ Rapidly follow up on any sick bird calls.

☐ Movement Control and Permitting
♦ For an overview on movement control and guidance on moving into, within, and out of a Control Area, see Movement Control.
♦ The Secure Food Supply plans provide permitting guidance (www.securepoultrysupply.com).
♦ For permitting, see an Overview of the HPAI Control Area Permitting Process; the EMRS2 Customer Permit Gateway can be used for submitting permit requests and receiving permits for high volume producers, alternate methods may be more suitable for lower volume producers.
  o Refer to the Ready Reference Guide - EMRS2 Customer Permit Gateway.

☐ Recovery and Restocking
♦ Use the Control Area Release document for guidance on how to meet the necessary requirements prior to releasing a control area.
♦ The Timeline, Eligibility, and Approval for Restocking document provides a detailed timeframe on the restocking process once a premises is eligible and the quarantine is released. An Example Restocking Form is also available and found on our site.

☐ Biosecurity
♦ Rapidly implement increased biosecurity measures on any infected premises; responders also need to observe strict biosecurity procedures to prevent virus spread.
  o Many biosecurity resources are available from http://www.poultrybiosecurity.org/

☐ More Information
♦ The FAD PReP website, http://www.aphis.usda.gov/fadprep, will be updated with new HPAI response and policy guidance during the outbreak; Please check these documents frequently as procedures do change as needed; the FAD PReP HPAI page is linked in the right navigation bar.
♦ Guidance on PPE Recommendations for HPAI Responders is available.
♦ APHIS HPAI Website
♦ USDA HPAI Website