

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Outbreak Response

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture

2023 Response Expectations

- HPAI outbreaks are expected to occur earlier than they did last year.
 - HPAI virus has already been persistent across the U.S. in wild birds since spring of 2022 and has been identified in wild birds in the West even throughout winter.
 - There is likely more virus contamination from wild birds in the environment this year.
 - Warm, wet spring weather is likely to help the virus survive in the environment longer, allowing for more opportunities for transmission between birds.
- The USDA's goal is to prevent HPAI from becoming permanent in commercial poultry and other commercial bird facilities.
 - Depopulation of flocks that have become positive with HPAI has been performed to prevent more virus production.
 - Indemnity or reimbursement options could be available for bird owners, depending on the flock.
- The ISDA's goal is to respond to HPAI positives as quickly as possible to limit the suffering of the birds and to prevent more virus from spreading.
 - Our ISDA veterinarians respond to the sick domestic bird calls or [screen submissions](#) that sound like they have a high likelihood of being HPAI.
 - ISDA's resources may be spread even more if HPAI outbreaks increase as anticipated.
 - It will be important for the community to do their part in preventing the spread of disease by using [biosecurity practices](#).

2022 Response

- HPAI outbreaks started in eastern United States in early February and didn't reach Idaho until mid-April.
- In 2022, Idaho was one of the states with the most backyard flocks identified with the disease.
 - Total flocks affected:
 - 29 backyard flocks
 - 1 commercial facility
 - About 10,138 domestic birds were affected
- USDA worked to help with every commercial and backyard flock response.
 - USDA provided financial support in the form of indemnity or reimbursement options to bird owners.
 - USDA provided personnel support to ISDA in response to commercial and backyard outbreaks.