

# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1



## What is HPAI H5N1?

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is a type of bird flu that spreads rapidly among wild birds and poultry and which causes disease and mortality. The H5N1 strain has caused large die-offs and has also infected some mammals. In January 2025, the first U.S. [human death from H5N1](#) was reported.

### HOW DOES HPAI H5N1 SPREAD?

- Contact with infected birds or their bodily fluids (feces, saliva, blood)
- Contaminated surfaces
- Airborne particles
- Consuming raw or undercooked food contaminated with the virus

## Avian Influenza Tribal Information Hub

Tribal members involved in hunting, livestock raising, cultural practices, and wildlife management may face a higher risk of exposure. Following safety guidelines and using personal protective equipment (PPE) can help reduce this risk.

The [Avian Influenza Tribal Information Hub](#) provides resources to help communities stay informed, control the spread of HPAI, and address concerns related to cultural and subsistence activities.

### SPECIES IMPACTED



**WILD BIRDS & POULTRY**



**LIVESTOCK & PETS**



**MARINE MAMMALS**



**PREDATORS & OTHER MAMMALS**

LEARN MORE AT [WWW.NAFWS.ORG/AVIAN-INFLUENZA/](http://WWW.NAFWS.ORG/AVIAN-INFLUENZA/)



# HPAI H5N1

## Prevention & Response

### SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

#### IN POULTRY

- Reduced egg production
- Respiratory distress (coughing, nasal discharge) & swelling
- Decreased appetite and weakness
- Purple discoloration of comb or wattle
- Death

#### IN WILD BIRDS

- Readily approached
- Inability to fly
- Swimming or walking in circles
- Neurologic signs (twisted neck or irregular head movements)
- Death

## Limit HPAI Spread

Protect yourself and prevent the spread of HPAI when handling domestic livestock or wildlife:



#### WASH HANDS

Wash hands with soap & water or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol



#### WEAR PPE

Wear disposable gloves, protective clothing, boots and face masks



#### CLEAN & DISINFECT

Clean and disinfect (e.g., bleach diluted in 1:32 ratio) surfaces, equipment, and clothing before and after use

### REPORT SICK BIRDS

Report dead or diseased animals to your Tribal wildlife agency, [USDA](https://www.usda.gov) (1-866-487-3297), or the [State Veterinarian Office](https://www.dhs.gov/state-veterinarian-office)

**Include:** Species, Location, Symptoms & Photos or Videos (if possible).



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