



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

PO Box 42560
Olympia, Washington 98504-2560
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Contact: [Hector Castro](#) (360) 902-1815

Quarantine set in Clallam County to control poultry movement

OLYMPIA – The [Washington State Department of Agriculture](#) (WSDA) today adopted an emergency rule to establish a quarantine zone in Clallam County, covering an area of approximately six miles around a site between Port Angeles and Sequim where avian influenza was confirmed in a backyard flock of mixed poultry and other birds.

This is the second avian influenza quarantine established in the state, with [the other quarantine zone](#) covering parts of Benton and Franklin counties. The quarantines restrict the movement of eggs, poultry or poultry products within and out of the identified zones with exemptions made for operations that obtain special permits and meet specific criteria. Visit www.agr.wa.gov/lawsrules/rulemaking to see the complete rule adopted today and a detailed map of the quarantine in Clallam County.

On Friday, Jan. 16, WSDA received test results confirming the backyard flock in Clallam County was infected with the H5N2 avian influenza virus, the same strain of the virus found in a pintail duck in Whatcom County on Dec. 16, 2014 and in two backyard flocks in Benton County. The owner of the Port Angeles flock contacted WSDA after a goose died last week and other birds in the flock exhibited symptoms consistent with avian influenza.

On Sunday, Jan. 18, WSDA and a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) team of veterinarians responded to the Clallam County flock to humanely euthanize the remaining birds. The team will now work to clean and disinfect the site and do surveillance in poultry in the surrounding area.

This is the third instance in Washington state of avian influenza in a domestic flock. However, the virus has not been found in commercial poultry anywhere in Washington or the United States. Washington's commercial poultry industry has a robust avian influenza testing program and WSDA conducts weekly surveillance testing and health inspections at live bird markets in the state.

Because migratory wild waterfowl populations can carry the disease, particularly the highly-pathogenic strains of avian influenza (H5N2 and H5N8), WSDA is encouraging bird owners to protect their domestic birds from contact with wild waterfowl and remain vigilant in their biosecurity measures.

There is no immediate public health concern due to the avian influenza virus detected, however public health officials routinely contact owners of infected flocks as a precaution. Avian influenza does not affect poultry meat or egg products, which remain safe to eat. As always, both wild and domestic poultry should be properly cooked.

Deaths or illness among domestic birds should be reported to the [WSDA Avian Health Program](#) at 1-800-606-3056. For wild birds, contact [the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife](#) at 1-800-606-8768.

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