



FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

03 November 2023

Confirmed avian influenza (bird flu) case

On Monday 30 October 2023 a Southern Fulmar was found dead at a Stanley property. As per current policy, while one dead bird does not reach the threshold of suspicion for avian influenza, birds that are not usually found in the Falkland Islands are routinely swabbed for surveillance. Unfortunately, this bird tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza. Given that this is an isolated case of one bird, that is only common off-shore, a full protection zone will not be declared. However, a temporary control zone has been declared and is attached. The declaration says:

- 1) All of Stanley is declared a temporary control zone until Thursday 23 November 2023
- 2) With immediate effect you **MUST NOT** move live poultry, eggs, open feed or used poultry bedding out of Stanley until the temporary control zone is lifted
- 3) With immediate effect you **MUST NOT** move live poultry into Stanley (eggs, feed and other poultry products may be bought in) until the temporary control zone is lifted
- 4) You must confine poultry in secure runs with netting to prevent access by wild birds by Thursday 9 November 2023

Members of the public are advised to follow strict biosecurity measures and use the footbaths at common sites where they are provided.

FIG have prepared information and guidance about bird flu and preventative measures to try and reduce the spread of the virus. This guidance can be found here:

<https://falklands.gov.fk/agriculture/avian-influenza>

Please note that the situation may change rapidly. The public are reminded to **NOT TOUCH** dead or sick birds but report them to the Veterinary Services on 27366 or 55366 out of hours.

Animal Health (Emergency Measures for Outbreaks of Disease) Order 2022

Avian influenza

Declaration of temporary control zone FK-366-23 2.11.23

I, Andrea Clausen Director, Department of Natural Resources make this Declaration under article 4 of the Animal Health (Emergency Measures for Outbreaks of Disease) Order 2022 (“the Order”).

Before making this Declaration, I consulted the Senior Veterinary Officer in accordance with article 4(1) of the Order.

1. The premises and area known as the city of Stanley is a temporary control zone for the purpose of preventing the spread of disease.

2. The temporary control zone includes —

(a) all areas within the city of Stanley

3. For the purposes of this Declaration, any premises that are partly inside and partly outside the temporary control zone are to be treated as being wholly inside it.

4. Within the temporary control zone the restrictions and requirements set out in the Schedule apply.

5. Poultry or animal products may only be moved into and out of the temporary control zone —

(a) for the purposes of destruction at Sand Bay abattoir; or

(b) in accordance with a licence granted under article 9 of the Order.

6. This Declaration ceases to have effect on 23rd November 2023.

7. Any person who keeps or has charge of animals or poultry in a temporary control zone, and any occupier of premises in a temporary control zone where animals or poultry are kept, must comply with biosecurity guidance published by the Governor under section 6A of the Act.

8. Failure to comply with this Declaration may be prosecuted as a criminal offence, for which the penalty on conviction is a fine up to level 5 (£4000) or up to 6 months in prison or both.

Date 2nd November 2023



ANDREA CLAUSEN

Director, Department of Natural Resources

Falkland Islands Government

SCHEDULE

Restrictions and requirements

(a) Subject to paragraph 7 of this Declaration, movement out of the temporary control zone of—

- (i) poultry*
- (ii) eggs of domestic poultry
- (iii) poultry feed and fodder;
- (iv) litter or bedding used by poultry;

is prohibited with immediate effect.

*live poultry may also not be moved IN to the control zone but eggs and other poultry products may

(b) Movement within the temporary control zone of—

- (i) poultry,
- (ii) eggs of domestic poultry
- (iii) poultry feed and fodder; and
- (iii) litter or bedding used by poultry;

Is only permitted in accordance with the directions of a veterinary officer.

(c) Persons keeping poultry in the temporary control zone must comply with the directions of a veterinary officer as to the management of such poultry. That is:

From Thursday 9th November all domestic poultry must be kept confined in a suitable run which wild birds are unable to access. Fine netting or solid roofing must be erected over the run. Poultry (eg domestic hens, ducks and geese) are not allowed to free roam.

(d) With immediate effect, persons keeping poultry in the temporary control zone must keep and maintain a record of all such poultry that—

- (i) is updated daily with details of numbers of birds that have died or have shown symptoms of disease since the record was last updated; and
- (ii) includes such other information as a veterinary officer may reasonably require in order to monitor the spread of disease and the rate of transmission.