



## FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

7 February 2024

### Confirmed case of avian influenza (bird flu) – Surf Bay

On Tuesday 6 February 2024 swabs that were taken from a sick Gentoo penguin on Surf Bay were tested and returned positive for HPAI. Given that this is an isolated case of one single bird, that is more than 1km from poultry or a colony, a level 1 response will be followed and a full protection zone will not be declared. The area in which the bird(s) was found will be declared as an infected place with enhanced biosecurity requirements. You **must** use the footbath at the main entrance to Surf Bay. The penguin carcass was removed from the beach for swabbing so the risk to the public is considered low. The beach is not closed however, you may wish to avoid the area during the time the declaration is in place.

The Declaration will be reviewed on Wednesday 21 February 2024.

Since Monday 30 October 2023, 83 suspect birds/animals have been reported, 48 sets of swabs have been taken within the Falkland Islands. Nine have returned positive results (some are repeat sets from known outbreaks) and 38 negative results. One sets of swab results are pending.

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>

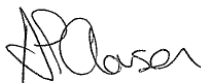
The public are reminded to **NOT TOUCH** dead or sick birds but report them to the Veterinary Services on **27366** or **55366** out of hours.

## **Animal Health (Emergency Measures for Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases) Order 2022**

### **Avian influenza**

#### **Notice of declaration of infected place (article 5(4))**

1. This notice is given under article 6 (declaration of infected place) of the Animal Health (Emergency Measures for Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases) Order 2022 by Andera Clausen, Director of Natural Resources (“**the Director**”) and as the representative of the land owner of the premises being the Falkland Islands Government (“**the Occupier**”).
2. Notice is given that I declare that the sand beach known as Surf Bay, Stanley Common is an infected place (“**the Infected Place**”).
3. Notice is given on the grounds that the Senior Veterinary Officer of the Falkland Islands Government has concluded that avian influenza exists or has in the previous 56 days been present at the Infected Place.
4. While this notice is in force, the Occupier and the members of the public must comply with the restrictions or requirements as follows, being measures to be taken to contain and limit the spread of disease.
5. The Occupier must set up a biosecurity area which will comprise of a footpath with appropriate disinfectant at the main carpark entrance as described in the attached map.
  - 5a. Any person who wish to access the Infected Place must comply with biosecurity measures that have been put in place to reduce the risk of the spread of avian influenza from the Infected Place.
  - 5b. in particular, members of the public must comply with any biosecurity requirements as directed by the Senior Veterinary Officer as follows:
    - Access to the Infected Place must only be from the biosecurity area at the main carpark entrance of the Infected Place as described in the attached map;
    - All members of the public must disinfect their shoes upon entry and exit from the Infected Place.
6. This notice is in force until revoked by the Director.



Signed

Date 07 February 2024

ANDREA CLAUSEN

Director of Natural Resources

Falkland Islands Government