

Flock Plan
for MN HPAI Euthanasia, Disposal,
and Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures for Commercial Premises in (State)

Note: This is a general flock plan template intended to serve as a guide. It must be amended as necessary to be specific to the premises listed below.

Premises ID: (Premises identification number)

Premises State, county, and site number: (Two-letter State abbreviation, county, site number)

Premises Owner: (Name of premises owner)

Premises name and address: (Name of affected premises)
(Street address, city, State, zip)

Premises Contact Person: (Contact name)
(Phone number)
(Email address)

Poultry Owner: (Name of poultry owner)
(Name of representative, if applicable)
(Street address, city, State, Zip)

Poultry present: (Census, type, purpose, age in days)

Brief History: (Clinical signs, test results etc.)

This is a written flock management agreement developed between USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services (VS) and the (State agency) (hereafter, “the State” or “State”) with input from (poultry owner and/or premises owner). This flock will be handled in accordance with the State Initial State Response and Containment Plan (ISRCP), HPAI Response Plan Red Book for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (hereafter, “HPAI Response Plan Red Book”), and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

The main tenets of this plan include

- Depopulation of all poultry on affected premises
- Composting of poultry, litter, and any other appropriate materials
- Cleaning and disinfection of the premises, [equipment and personnel in order to minimize transmission](#)
- Assuring the premises is disease free
 - Downtime and environmental testing
 - Repopulation and monitoring for disease

Primary Responsibilities

Euthanasia will be the primary responsibility of (add responsible parties and specify those who will be doing oversight). The poultry owner(s) will be eligible for indemnification. All necessary

indemnity documents regarding the live poultry will be completely filled out and signed prior to euthanasia. The value of the poultry will be obtained by a VS-prepared calculator based on the fair market value of the birds.

Disposal of dead poultry, litter (poultry bedding), and other contaminated materials that result from the depopulation will be the primary responsibility of (add responsible parties) with oversight by VS and the State. These materials will be managed by on-site composting (or insert other method), with concurrence from VS, State and State DNR, followed by approved disposal, as described below.

(The poultry/premises owner) will be primarily responsible for cleaning of the equipment, contaminated barns/areas, conveyances, and other contaminated materials during the composting/C&D process. (The poultry/premises owner) will also apply the insecticide and rodenticide.

Disinfection of equipment, conveyances, and other contaminated materials associated with the depopulation will be the primary responsibility of (poultry/premises owner, depopulation crew, or contractor) and VS. The disinfectant used will be approved by VS and the State from a list that has been EPA approved for use with HPAI.

Quarantine and Enhanced Biosecurity

The standard avian influenza quarantine form was issued on (date). This document was signed by (poultry or premises owner, or representative). The quarantine states that no animals, poultry, poultry products (hatching eggs), or other contaminated materials (manure, mortalities, eggs, shells, feed, etc.) are to enter or leave the premises without a permit issued by the State and appropriate biosecurity established.

Quarantine instructions include increasing biosecurity measures to minimize traffic and implementing protocols to clean and disinfect vehicles and equipment. The quarantine will not be released before

- contaminated materials are composted or otherwise disposed of;
- the farm is cleaned and disinfected according to measures outlined in the ISRCP and HPAI Response Plan Red Book;
- all flock and environmental testing in the Control Area has been completed with negative results; and
- repopulated poultry are confirmed to be free of virus.

Control Area quarantines and movement control restrictions will be maintained until at least 21 days have elapsed since the decontamination of all confirmed infected premises and negative results for all surveillance activities within the Control Area are documented by the State.

Establishment of Biosecurity Line and Measures

In order to minimize disease transmission and clarify for all parties the agreed upon dirty/clean Biosecurity line, a combination of T-posts, rope, cones and signs will be installed by VS. The attached picture (attach google earth image of property with appropriate warm/hot zones, entry point(s), and exit point(s) for decontamination) communicates the agreed upon visible line to be established on the premises. In addition, the following Biosecurity measures shall be used upon entering and exiting the dirty/clean biosecurity line

- At a minimum, entering the established dirty zone shall require the donning of overalls, rubber boots, gloves, and a hairnet or hood. The use of other personal protective equipment is recommended such as a safety glasses, Tyvek suit, and particulate dust mask. If a respirator is used, all parties shall insure personnel are properly fitted.
- Any personnel, vehicle or equipment exiting the dirty zone shall go through the agreed upon exit decontamination point for final cleaning and disinfection. All vehicles, equipment and reusable personal protective equipment shall be free of visible debris prior to final disinfection. Personnel shall leave this point with no contaminated clothing, rubber boots, gloves, hairnet/hood and other protective equipment. Disposal of personnel protective equipment in a sealed trash bag is appropriate and recommended. If reusable, properly cleaned and disinfected protective equipment may be worn into the clean area. The use of a disinfectant bath or spray with approved disinfectant at the exit decontamination point shall be used on all reusable personal protective items, vehicles and equipment.

Epidemiologic Investigation

An epidemiologic investigation to assess potential pathways of initial introduction of HPAI viruses onto this operation and potential lateral transmission routes of HPAI viruses from this infected premises to non-infected premises is to be conducted by a State or Federal veterinarian. This investigation should be initiated as soon as possible, preferably no later than one (1) week following detection.

An investigation form is provided and should serve as a guide for conducting a systematic and standardized assessment of potential pathways of initial virus movement onto the farm and potential movement of the virus off the farm. All sections of the form should be completed through direct conversation with the individual(s) most familiar with the farm's management and operations and questions are to be answered for the period of two (2) weeks prior to the detection of HPAI. Direct observation of the biosecurity or management practices asked about should be conducted, where applicable.

Completed investigations are to be forwarded to USDA APHIS, Office of the Chief Epidemiologist with a copy to the signatories of this plan.

Requests for Indemnity for Disposal, Cleaning, and Disinfection Activities

Any disposal of poultry and cleaning and disinfection of premises, conveyances, and materials for which indemnity is requested by **(the premises and/or poultry owner(s))** must be performed under a separate cooperative compliance agreement between the claimant and VS. The cooperative compliance agreement or a pre-award letter for the agreement must be signed by all parties before the start of any of the activities for which indemnity is claimed. Any work performed before the cooperative compliance agreement or pre-award is signed will not be eligible for reimbursement.

Euthanasia

All flocks on the affected premises will be depopulated in a timely manner. Workers will be fit tested and medically approved before entering the farm and will don appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Biosecurity will be maintained using a clean area and dirty area, to be established before euthanasia and disposal start.

Poultry **will be/was** euthanized by **(a contractor, owner - name)** using **(method – foam, CO₂, etc.)**. The depopulation crew expects to begin euthanasia on **(date) or completed euthanasia on (date)**. Euthanasia **will be/was/ was not** conducted under the direct supervision of State or Federal (VS) personnel.

Disposal of Euthanized Poultry

The euthanized birds will be composted on site following the procedures below. **(If other methods in addition to, or instead of, composting are used, specify these procedures below.)**

1. **Disposal of all euthanized poultry and eggs.** These items will be composted on site by **(an authorized contractor/owner)** with supervision by the State and/ VS. **(Insert other method if applicable.)**
2. **Disposal of litter, manure, debris, and feed.** These items will be composted on site by **(an authorized contractor/owner)** with supervision by the State and VS. **(Insert other method if applicable.)**
3. **Monitoring of materials.** Composted materials will be monitored by State and/or VS personnel to ensure virus destruction and to identify when material can be turned or removed from the facility. **(Include specific information describing who is monitoring compost temperatures and who will be reviewing that information to direct the compost management.)**

Cleaning and Disinfection of Conveyances Following Depopulation

All vehicles and equipment used in holding, handling, or transporting, or that have been in contact with, affected poultry, poultry products, or contaminated materials will be cleaned and disinfected prior to leaving the premises. The exterior, including the undercarriage, and interior surfaces, including truck cabs, will be cleaned. The interior of the truck cabs will be washed with clean water and a disinfectant applied as authorized in 9 CFR § 71.10(a). The cleaning and disinfection of these items will be completed by **(specify)**, with approval and oversight by State or VS personnel.

Drivers will be instructed to avoid contaminating the cab of the truck. Should exiting the vehicle become necessary, plastic boot covers will be provided along with instructions on their proper use and disposal.

Manure, litter, and other debris removed from these vehicles will be handled in a manner similar to that described above.

Preparation for Cleaning and Disinfection

Following the depopulation of poultry on the premises, the following procedures will be completed prior to cleaning and disinfection:

- Secure and remove all feathers that might blow around outside the house in which the infected or exposed poultry were held and clean any debris from around the exterior of the poultry houses.
- Apply insecticides and rodenticides immediately after the depopulation of the birds. This will be documented by State and/or VS personnel. The buildings will remain undisturbed, with the exception of required compost monitoring, for as long as possible in order to allow as much of the HPAI virus as possible to deteriorate to a non-infective state.

Destruction and Disposal of Contaminated Materials that Can't be Cleaned and Disinfected

Before cleaning and disinfection, the premises will be inspected by the poultry or premises owner and personnel from the State and/or VS to determine if there are contaminated items for which the cost of cleaning and disinfection would exceed the value of the materials or for which cleaning and disinfection would be impractical for another reason. The fair market value (used price) of these items will be determined by a State or VS appraiser with input from the owner. The destruction and disposal of these items will be conducted in accordance with VS Guidance 8603.1. Prior VS approval is required for destruction of items for which indemnity will be claimed.

When to Clean

Manure and litter will be composted within the poultry houses and must complete composting prior to any cleaning of the houses. **(Remove if in-house composting is not occurring and specify when cleaning can commence.)** Houses should not be cleaned out or litter moved until all potential HPAI virus that may have contaminated the manure and litter is inactivated, as determined by State and/or VS personnel and in accordance with the ISRCP and HPAI Response Plan Red Book. All compost material must remain on the infected premises for at least 30 days.

Cleaning and Disinfection

Cleaning and disinfection will be performed on all contaminated buildings and surfaces including pump houses and service areas.

- 1. Disposal of all litter, manure, debris, and feed.** These items will be composted under the direction of State and/or VS personnel and in accordance with the ISRCP and HPAI Response Plan Red Book and allowed to remain undisturbed for an amount of time approved by State and/or VS personnel. The interior of the compost piles must reach a temperature determined by the State or VS as measured at multiple sites within the compost piles. The compost piles will be turned (at the direction of the State or VS) so that un-composted areas will be moved to the interior of the pile. Once the composted piles reach the required temperature a second time, as measured at multiple sites, the composting may be completed. This process will be monitored and directed by State or VS personnel. All composted material must remain on the premises for a minimum of 30 days. Composting will be the responsibility of **(insert responsible parties)**.

Once composting is completed and the compost material is considered safe to move, said material can be **(insert disposal method, spread on field, stored etc., and preferably be 2 miles from any other commercial poultry premises)**. State and/or VS personnel will oversee, monitor, and document this process. After use, equipment used to clean out manure, litter, debris, and feed will be washed, disinfected, and inspected at the site to where those materials were transported. In the case of inclement weather, the equipment may be washed, disinfected, and inspected at off-site wash stations at the discretion of the State and VS.

- 2. Cleaning of the premises and equipment.** Dry cleaning (the removal of contaminated materials without the use of water) and wet cleaning (washing) processes will be sufficient to ensure that all materials and substances contaminated with HPAI virus, such as manure, dried blood, and other organic materials, are removed from all surfaces.

Equipment will be disassembled as required to clean all contaminated surfaces. Special attention will be given to automatic feeders and other closed areas to ensure adequate cleaning. Houses and equipment will be inspected and documented by the State and/or VS to ensure that cleaning has removed all contaminated materials or substances and that houses and equipment are completely dry before applying disinfectant.

- 3. Disinfection of premises and materials.** (Insert parties) will be responsible for disinfection. When cleaning has been completed and all surfaces are dry, all contaminated interior surfaces of the structure should be saturated with a disinfectant as approved by EPA and selected by the State and/or VS. Disinfectants will be applied as specified by the manufacturer, ensuring disinfection of all surfaces occurs, and that the disinfectant gets into cracks and crevices. Special attention will be given to automatic feeders and other closed areas to ensure adequate disinfection. Disinfection procedures will be overseen and documented by State and/or VS personnel.

Ensuring the Premises is Free of Avian Influenza

- 1. Environmental Testing:** Following depopulation, cleaning and disinfection, the premises will remain free of avian species for 21 days. Quarantine and movement control restrictions in the Control Area will be maintained until at least 21 days have elapsed since the decontamination of all confirmed infected premises and negative results of surveillance activities within the Control Area determined by the State and/or VS. During this time environmental sampling will be performed by State and/or VS personnel.
- 2. Repopulation and flock monitoring:** The State and APHIS officials must concur in writing prior to any restocking activities. If restocking occurs without prior written approval of State and APHIS officials, this repopulation is at the producer's risk; APHIS will not indemnify previously affected premises that are restocked without prior written approval and subsequently become re-infected.

Birds Restocked After 21 Day Downtime

After repopulation of the premises, the repopulation flock must undergo at least three tests for avian influenza. Sampling for the tests must occur at least seven days apart. All birds sampled for testing must be at least 21 days old. The birds will be tested by collection of tracheal swabs and submission of the samples to (NAHLN lab) for PCR testing for evidence of avian influenza.

Post-Quarantine Avian Influenza Poultry Surveillance

Besides normal NPIP surveillance, all post-quarantine abnormal mortality within 180 days of quarantine release should be investigated and tested for avian influenza by State and/or VS personnel. Abnormal mortality is defined as follows: (Remove info that does not apply to this flock.)

- Commercial broiler turkeys: mortality in excess of 2 birds/1,000 per day for 2 consecutive days;
- Commercial breeder turkeys: mortality in excess of 2 birds/1,000 per day (after 21 days of age);

- Commercial layers: 4 times normal daily mortality for 2 consecutive days (0.5 per 1,000 per day for layers from 2-50 weeks and 0.75 per 1,000 per day for layers over 50 weeks) or 5 percent drop in egg production over 3 days.

Producer/Grower Representative:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Poultry Owner Representative:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

VS Incident Commander or (State) Assistant Director:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(State) Incident Commander or (State) State Veterinarian:

Signature: _____ Date: _____