

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 05/26/2022**TO:  
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## **Positive Avian Influenza “Bird Flu” Found in Snow Geese**

Grant County, WA – A Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist and a Moses Lake veterinarian collected and tested snow geese from Grant County. All four snow geese tested positive for Avian Influenza or commonly known as Bird Flu.

**These detections do not change the human risk assessment for the public, which CDC considers to be low. However, people who have job-related or recreational exposures to infected birds are at higher risk of infection and should take appropriate precautions outlined in [Information on Bird Flu | Avian Influenza \(Flu\) \(cdc.gov\)](#).**

No humans in Washington state have been identified with having Avian Influenza. Avian Influenza is highly contagious among birds, the risk of spreading it to people is remains low. If you do have contact with a bird that tested positive for Avian Influenza contact Grant County Health district 509-766-7960.

### **What can you do when you see sick or dead birds?**

- **Do not touch or handle dead or sick birds; report them.**
- Report sick/dead **domestic birds** to Washington State Department of Agriculture's public phone line: 1-800-606-3056.
- Report online sick/dead **wild birds** to [Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife](#).

**Visit these web sites to keep up to date on where and the number of Avian Influenza cases in wild and domestic birds in Washington state.**

- Bird testing and monitoring by the Washington State Departments of Agriculture and Fish and Wildlife are underway statewide. [Avian Influenza | Washington State Department of Agriculture](#)
- The US Department of Agriculture has an online list of bird flu detections. [USDA APHIS | 2022 Detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza](#).

## **Keep your domesticated flock safe and practicing Biosecurity.**

[Protect Your Poultry from Avian Influenza \(usda.gov\)](#). Biosecurity refers to practices anyone can take to make sure they do not carry disease into or out of an area housing poultry. Biosecurity measures can include washing boots or shoes before entering and when leaving a chicken coop, sanitizing equipment used around poultry and wearing clean clothing around birds.

Visit the USDA for a guide to develop a biosecurity plan for your backyard flock. [HPA checklist.pdf \(usda.gov\)](#)

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