

Public Health Advisory

Advisory #1

13 December 2024

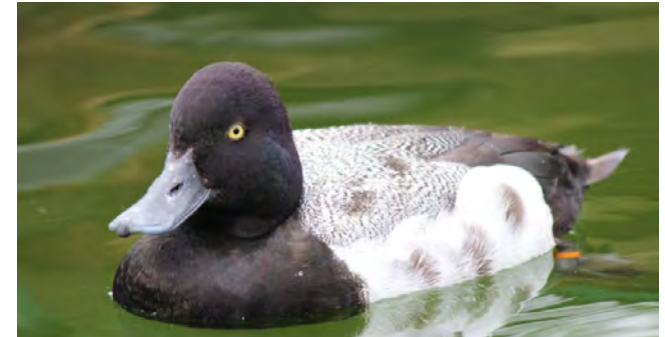
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1

Current Situation

There has been a significant increase in dead birds found along the Banana River at Patrick SFB's shoreline. On going laboratory testing has found some of these birds to be infected with HPAI (H5N1).

Background

H5N1 or "Bird Flu" is widespread in wild birds, causing outbreaks predominately in poultry and dairy cows. Increased cases can be contributed to seasonal bird migratory patterns.



Assessment

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), these recent infections pose low risk to human health. Although rare, transmission to humans can happen from exposure to saliva, mucous, or feces from infected birds when enough virus gets into an individual's eyes, nose, mouth, or is inhaled.

Recommendations

1. When walking along the PSFB's River-walk and small sandy beaches, **DO NOT TOUCH BIRDS** and keep pets away.
2. Report all sighting of dead birds to **45 CES Customer Service at 321-494-2778** for appropriate removal.

For more information visit the CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/index.html>

45 MDG Public Health

Commercial: 321-494-8292