



United States Department of Agriculture

---



# HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA POLICY UPDATES

---

DR. JON ZACK

DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS AND  
INCIDENT COORDINATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION  
SERVICE

VETERINARY SERVICES  
USAHA OCTOBER 2016



## Introduction

The Avian Influenza (AI) Status Report summarizes the preparedness measures, response activities, and documentation of the 2014–2015 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak in the United States as well as the 2016 events, excluding those in the live bird marketing system (LBMS).

## Report Section Guide

Introduction

1. Background
  2. 2015 Response
  3. 2016 Response
  4. Financial Status
  5. AI Vaccine
  6. Corrective Actions
- Conclusion

## Referenced Documents

- *2015 Fall HPAI Preparedness Plan*
- *2015 HPAI Final Report*
- *2015 HPAI After Action Report*
- *2016 Indiana Final Report*
- *2016 Indiana After Action Report*
- *Corrective Action Program*



## Overview

- **2014–2015 HPAI outbreak:** Led to improvements in VS response policy and processes
  - Final Report, After Action Report completed in 2016; Corrective Action Program implemented
  - Collaboration with State and industry partners
- **August 2015:** Updated *HPAI Response Plan: The Red Book*
- **Fall 2015:** All stakeholders continued planning
- **January 2016:** *Revised HPAI Preparedness and Response Plan*
  - Renewed focus on biosecurity
  - Increased HPAI wild bird surveillance
  - Expanded response capabilities
  - Streamlined payment process for indemnity and virus elimination activities
  - Enhanced communication
  - Explored options for future AI vaccine use
- **2016 Indiana HPAI/LPAI outbreak:** Revised policies put into action and refined as the outbreak progressed
  - Final Report, After Action Report completed
  - Collaboration with Indiana State Board of Animal Health and industry partners



# Timeline of Policy Document Releases and Updates

January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016
<p><i>2016 HPAI Preparedness and Response Plan</i></p> <p><i>Using Heat Treatment for Virus Elimination</i> updated Feb 2016</p> <p><i>Job Aid: Overview of the Composting Process</i> updated May 2016</p>	<p>Finance and Administration Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Overview of Finance and Administration Procedures</i> updated June 2016</li> <li>- <i>Details for Bird and Egg Appraisal and Indemnity Procedures</i> updated June 2016</li> <li>- <i>Details for Virus Elimination Financial Procedures</i></li> <li>- <i>Appraisal and Indemnity Request Forms</i></li> <li>- <i>Appraisal and Indemnity Request Procedures</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Mortality Composting Protocol for Avian Influenza Infested Flocks</i></p> <p>updated <i>New State Checklist</i></p> <p>updated <i>Cleaning and Disinfection Basics: Virus Elimination</i></p>	<p><i>Avian Sample Collection for Influenza A and Newcastle Disease</i></p> <p><i>Overview: HPAI Control Area Permitting Process</i> updated July 2016</p> <p>updated <i>Surveillance of Backyard Flocks Around Infected Premises</i></p> <p>updated <i>Surveillance Sampling for Commercial Premises in Control Area</i></p> <p>updated <i>Timeline, Eligibility, and Approval for Restocking</i></p> <p><i>Job Aid: Carbon Sources for Windrow Construction</i> updated May 2016</p> <p><i>Job Aid: Calibration of Analog Thermometers</i></p>	<p><i>Post Cleaning and Disinfection Environmental Sampling Guide</i></p> <p><i>Overview of EMRS Customer Permit Gateway</i> updated July 2016</p> <p><i>Recommended Waste Acceptance Practices for Landfills</i></p> <p><i>Example Restocking Form</i></p>



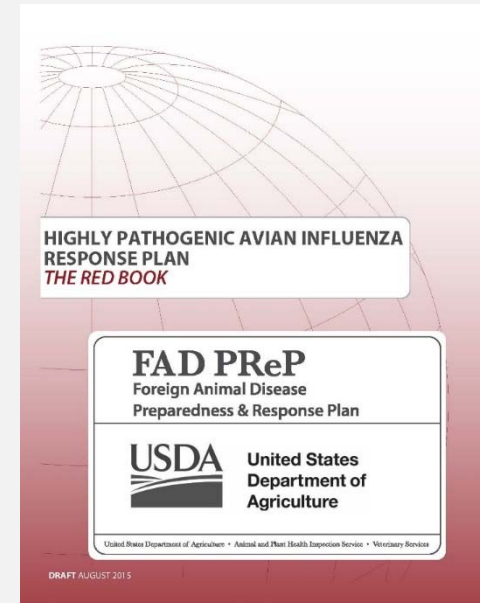
# Timeline of Policy Documents Releases and Updates (Continued)

May 2016	June 2016
<i>Job Aid: Pre-Compost Windrows for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</i>	<i>Initial Contact Epi-Report</i>
<i>Job Aid: Windrow Construction Protocol for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</i>	<i>Commercial Flock Plan for H5/H7 Avian Influenza</i>
<i>Job Aid: Temperature Monitoring Protocol of Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</i>	<i>Backyard Flock Plan for H5/H7 Avian Influenza</i>
<i>Compost Windrow Construction Approval Checklist for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</i>	
<i>Phase 1 &amp; Phase 2 Checklists for Windrow Evaluation</i>	



## Highlights

- **2015 HPAI Response Plan: The Red Book**
  - 2015 OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code
  - new HPAI Case Definition
  - example epidemiological questionnaires
  - revisions on appraisal and vaccination sections
- **Revised guidance**
  - Finance and Administration Procedures
    - appraisals
    - split owner/grower payments
    - flat rate payments for virus elimination
  - Stamping-Out and Depopulation Policy
    - 24-hour goal
    - ventilation shutdown
  - Permitting
    - EMRS Customer Permit Gateway
  - Surveillance





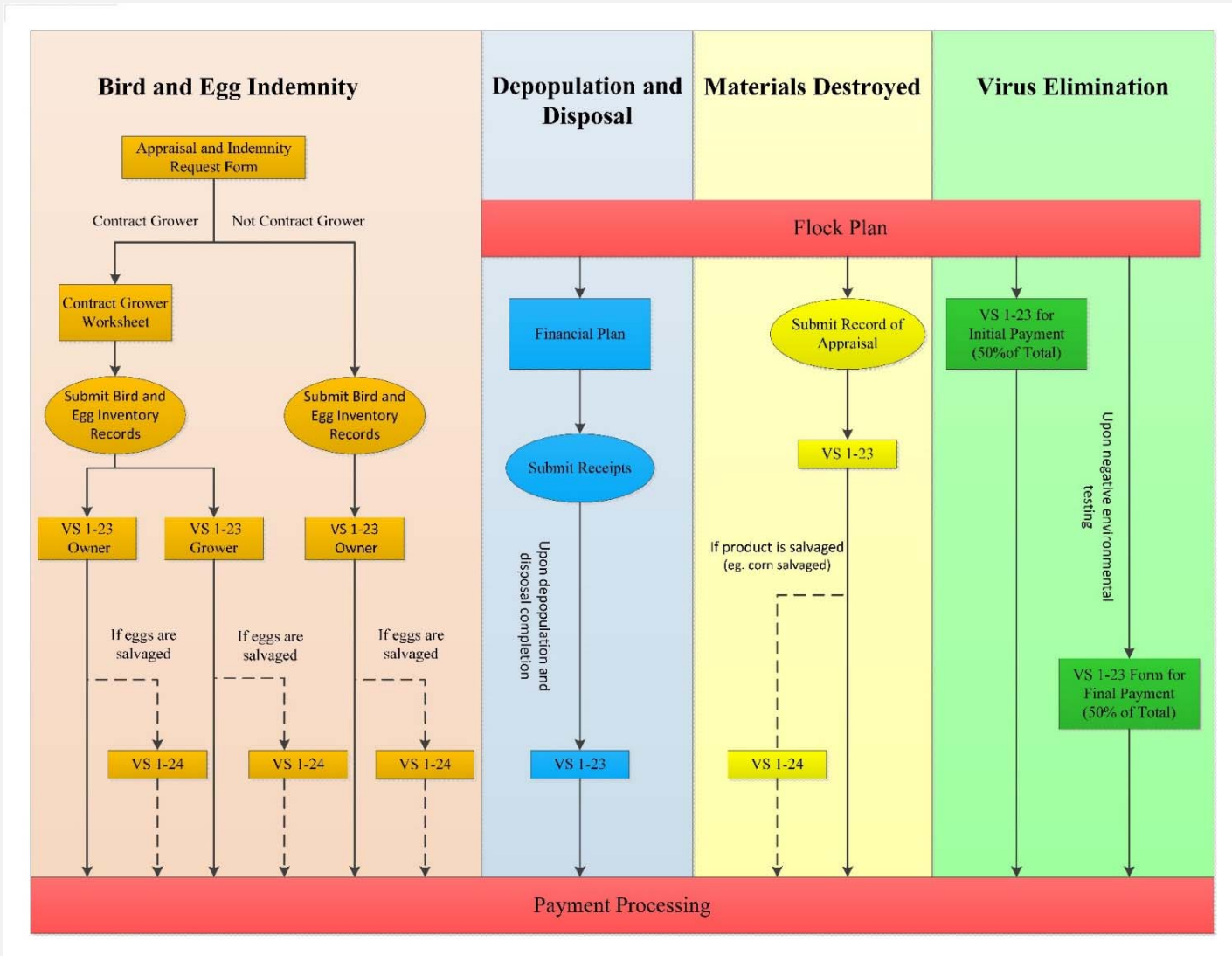
## Updated Finance and Administration Guidance

- Overview of Finance and Administration Procedures
- Details for Bird and Egg Appraisal and Indemnity Procedures
- Details for Virus Elimination Financial Processes
- Details for Materials Destroyed Financial Processes
- Appraisal and Indemnity Request Forms
  - Poultry Owner
  - Contract Grower
- Appraisal and Indemnity Request Procedures
  - Contract Grower Worksheet for Meat Birds
  - Contract Grower Worksheet for Layers
  - DUNS and SAM

**All available [www.aphis.usda.gov/fadprep](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/fadprep)**



# Updated Finance and Administration Guidance







## Flat Rate for Virus Elimination

- Flat-rates calculated by Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH) based on 2014–2015 outbreak data:
  - per bird and
  - by production type.
- Cost effective:
  - Producers choose (between effective options) how they want to conduct virus elimination.
  - Reduces the need for federal contractors.
  - Producers get paid directly.
- **Result: Faster and more straightforward way to pay for and conduct these activities.**



## Efficient and Effective Finance and Administration Processes

- Faster and more straightforward:
  - one signed form required before depopulation
  - no more Cooperative Compliance Agreement; direct way to pay producers for depopulation and disposal activities
- APHIS Interim Rule, “Conditions for Payment of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Indemnity Claims:”
  - splits indemnity payments from APHIS between poultry owners and growers
  - requires owners and growers to affirm that they had biosecurity plans in place at the time the outbreak occurred
- **Result: Producers (owners and growers) were paid rapidly for indemnity and virus elimination; administrative burden was reduced.**

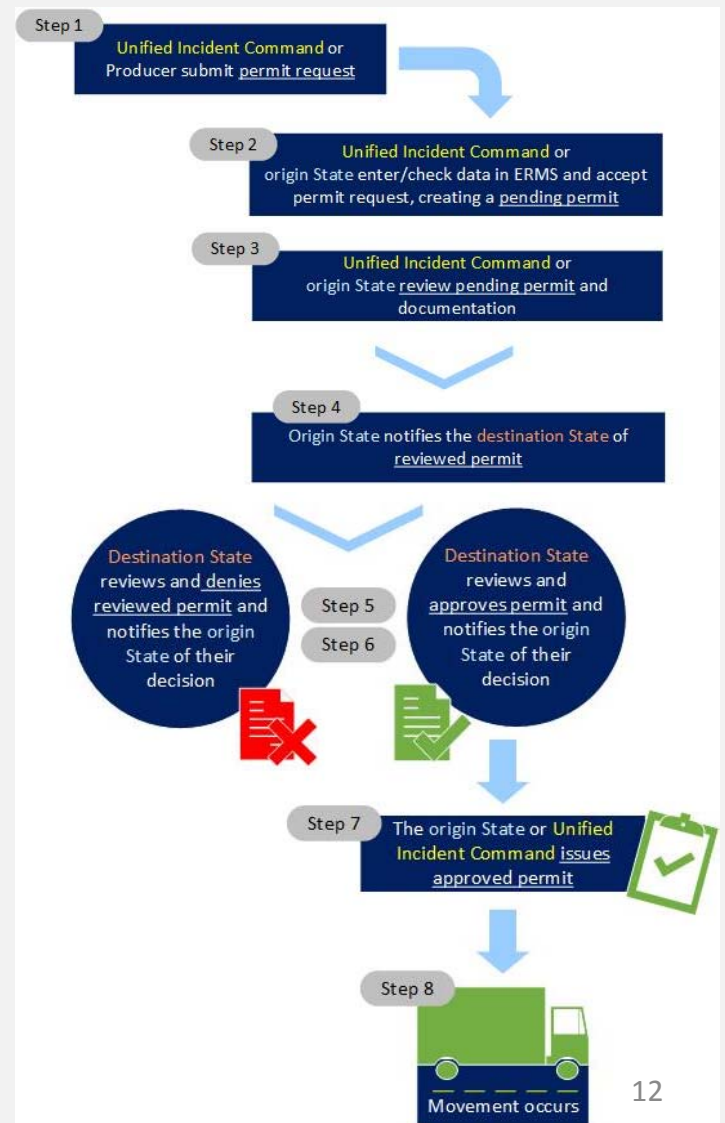


## Depopulation Guidance

- Affirmation of 24-hour goal:
  - depopulation upon presumptive positive, or suspect positive (as deemed appropriate by Federal and State officials)
  - depopulate quickly to avoid further disease transmission
- CO<sub>2</sub> and foam primary methods considered:
  - ventilation shutdown considered if no other method can achieve a sufficiently timely measure of assurance that virus will not spread
  - decision tree available for deciding to implement ventilation shutdown
- **Result: Birds were depopulated rapidly, through a variety of methods in Indiana.**

# Permitting and Permitted Movement

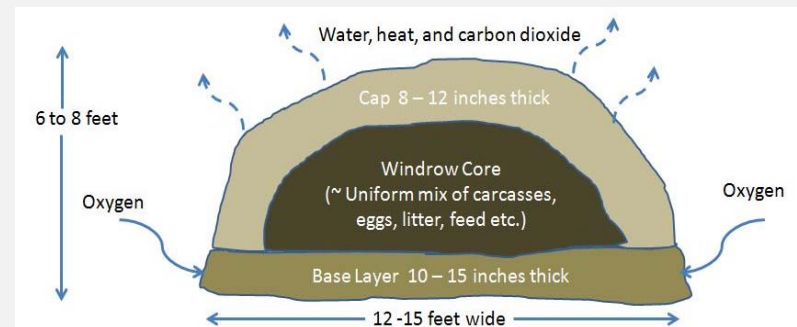
- EMRS Customer Permit Gateway:
  - live and available for use in an HPAI outbreak
  - streamlines all data entry and requests for continuity of business permits
- *Permitted Movement (FAD PReP Manual 6-0)* released:
  - circulated for comment
  - defines EMRS permitting process
- **Result: Work continues on developing common definitions and concept of operations for permitting with States and industry.**





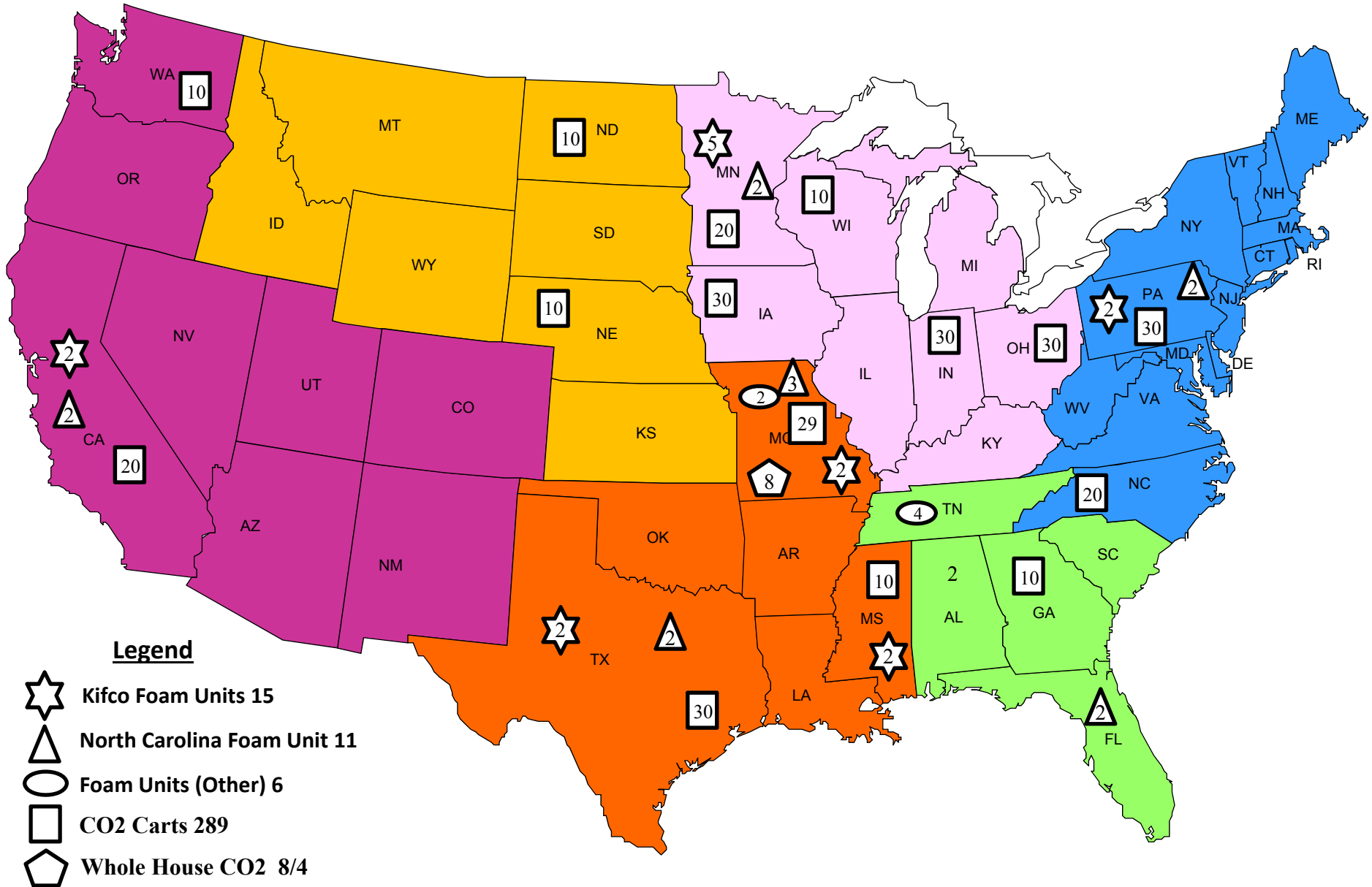
## Additional HPAI Updates

- Avian Sample Collection for Influenza A and Newcastle Disease
  - Replaces WI-AV-0020
- Surveillance Sampling for Commercial Premises in Control Area
- Surveillance of Backyard Flocks Around Infected Premises
- Testing Requirements for Movement from the Control Area
- HPAI in Live Bird Marketing System
- Disposal Guidance
  - Job Aids
  - Composting Checklists
  - Landfill Information





# NVS Assets





## Summary

- Federal, State, and industry officials continued to work on lessons learned in the 2014–2015 outbreak.
- Policy guidance and procedures were adapted and revised.
- January 2016 HPAI/LPAI outbreak tested new processes and procedures—showed significant progress had been made in many areas.
- January 2016 outbreak also highlighted key challenges, including logistical issues with depopulation equipment.
- Policy guidance and procedures continue to be adjusted as needed; preparedness continues for fall and winter.



**Dr. Jon Zack**

Director, National Preparedness and  
Incident Coordination Center  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Veterinary Services  
(301) 851-3460  
[Jonathan.T.Zack@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Jonathan.T.Zack@aphis.usda.gov)