



Questions and Answers on Regional Bird Quarantine for Exotic Newcastle Disease - Information for Bird Owners

Exotic Newcastle Disease, a highly contagious disease of birds, has been found in backyard and commercial poultry in Southern California. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture are actively engaged in eradicating this disease.

The California State Veterinarian has imposed a regional quarantine ([LINK to Quarantine Notice and Map](#)) (*Food and Agriculture Code Section 9562*) to prevent the spread of this disease. This quarantine affects poultry exhibitions and owners of birds (listed species) within the quarantined area.

Species and Products under Quarantine

Poultry species (including chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, grouse, partridges, pheasants, quail, guinea fowl, pea fowl, doves, pigeons, swans, and ratites), eggs and associated property, equipment and materials

Can I move my birds? If you own or sell any species of birds affected by the quarantine, and your birds are in the quarantined area, you are prohibited from moving your birds out of the quarantined area.

Can I move my birds out of the Federal quarantine area? No avian species, poultry, or poultry products will be permitted to move outside of the Federal quarantine zone. Possible exceptions to this policy will be evaluated by a risk assessment.

Can my bird club hold its regular events? Any gathering of birds increases the risk of spreading disease. However, clubs whose bird species are not included in the quarantine may hold their regular events. To prevent spreading infection, no birds of any species should be moved into, within, or out of the quarantined area. Please call 1-800-491-1899 for recommended guidelines.

How long will this quarantine be in effect? This quarantine will remain in effect until Exotic Newcastle Disease has been eradicated from California.

What may happen if I violate this quarantine? Anyone who violates the quarantine is civilly liable in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Will I be paid if my bird must be destroyed because of Exotic Newcastle Disease? Yes. A "fair market value" is paid for birds that have to be destroyed because of Exotic Newcastle Disease.

Is this disease harmful to people? Exotic Newcastle Disease is not a public health threat and does not affect the safety of poultry or eggs.

How can I tell if my bird has Exotic Newcastle Disease? Many birds show serious signs including coughing, sneezing, diarrhea, loss of appetite, depression, and severe drop in egg production. Some species, especially caged birds, may not show any signs. Laboratory tests can determine if your birds have been exposed to Exotic Newcastle Disease.

If you suspect that your bird has Exotic Newcastle Disease, please call 1-800-491-1899. Birds with signs of disease will be tested at no charge