



D 2022 031

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Extending Executive Order D 2022 022 Declaring a Disaster Emergency Due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Colorado

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order extending Executive Order D 2022 022 that declared a state of disaster emergency due to the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Colorado and enabled State agencies to coordinate for mitigation of disease spread, response, consequence management, and recovery efforts.

I. Background and Purpose

The Governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the State and people presented by disasters. C.R.S. § 24-33.5-704(1). The Colorado Disaster Emergency Act defines a disaster as “the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural cause or cause of human origin.” C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3).

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) was initially detected in the United States in the wild bird population in January 2022 in South Carolina and in the domestic poultry population in February 2022 in Indiana. It continues to spread across the United States. The disease spreads rapidly among wild and domestic poultry. It has a mortality rate above ninety percent.

HPAI was first detected in wild birds in Colorado on March 24, 2022. The disease was detected in domestic poultry on April 8, 2022. As of May 26, 2022, HPAI has been confirmed in 14 Colorado counties, with cases occurring in wild, domestic, and commercial flocks.

On April 19, 2022, HPAI was confirmed in a commercial broiler breeder facility in Montrose County, affecting 58,000 birds. On April 29, 2022, HPAI was confirmed in a commercial table egg layer facility in Weld County, affecting 1.4 million birds and more than seven million eggs.

Depopulation of both facilities is complete. The United States Department of Agriculture had limited staff to support depopulation activities, and required the support of State agencies, including the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

While the overall HPAI case trends across the country continue to decline, the risk for disease introductions remains as additional detections are made in wild bird populations. Two additional commercial sites were identified in Weld County on June 7, 2022 and June 9, 2022, impacting 2.2 million chickens. Depopulation, disposal, and virus elimination activities continue at both sites.

This Executive Order extends Executive Order D 2022 022 due to the ongoing need to identify HPAI cases and potential for further response to commercial poultry facilities for an additional thirty days.

II. Duration

Executive Order D 2022 022, as extended by this Executive Order, shall expire thirty (30) days from June 26, 2022, unless extended further by Executive Order, except that the funds described in Section II.C shall remain available for the described purposes for six (6) months from the date of Executive Order D 2022 022. In all other respects, Executive Order D 2022 022 shall remain in full force and effect as originally promulgated.



GIVEN under my hand and
the Executive Seal of the
State of Colorado, this
twenty-sixth day of June
2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared Polis
Governor