



**ILLAWARRA
BIRDERS**

ILLAWARRA BIRDERS Inc.
Email: Illawarrabirdersinc@gmail.com
Website: www.illawarrabirders.org

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Avian Influenza is an infectious disease of birds caused by strains of Influenza A virus. It affects poultry and wild birds and can be spread to mammals including humans.

HPAI H5 clade 2.3.4.4b is a strain of high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) that is being closely monitored by Australian authorities due to the potential risk of spread to Australia. Australia is the only continent that has had no reported outbreaks of this strain.

DO NOT TOUCH OR PICK UP AN INJURED, SICK OR DEAD BIRD. KEEP PETS AWAY.

Report the sighting to:

- Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on **1800 675 888**
- Record what you see, date/time and the location of the animal/symptoms and take photos or video

Symptoms may include

- incoordination, tremors, swimming in circles
- twisted necks or other abnormal posture
- inability to stand or fly
- diarrhoea
- difficulty breathing, coughing or sneezing
- swelling around the head, neck and eyes
- cloudiness or change in colour of the eyes, and
- sudden death.

If you are in the Illawarra also send an email to Trudy Costa, Coastal Environment Officer,
Wollongong Council
tcosta@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Bird Flu Report



What should I do if I see or find a sick or dead bird?

AVOID

Avoid contact with sick or dead wildlife and their environment. Do not allow pets to touch or eat sick or dead wildlife.

RECORD

Record what you see, the location the animal was found, and take photos or video if possible, without approaching the bird (see below).

REPORT

Report any unusual illness or death in wild birds and other wildlife immediately via the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.**

Details that will assist the response include:

- Location (address and/or GPS coordinates if possible)
- Date and time of the sighting (and when signs of disease were first noticed)
- The estimated number of sick or dead animals and other animals at the site
- Notes of any clinical signs that sick animals are showing
- Contact details of any observers



Scan here for more information

Other ways to help:



Never handle or move dead birds or any birds with suspected Avian Influenza.



Be ready to report a case.

Familiarise yourself with the warning signs and immediately report the details of any suspected case by calling 1800 675 888. Save this number to your phone.



Reduce the spread.

Wash your footwear before and after visiting national parks, nature reserves or agricultural areas to help reduce the chance of accidentally spreading H5N1 in contaminated soil. Be sure to remove all mud, soil and debris, on-site.



Help birds with their social distancing by not feeding them.

It is best not to feed birds as this brings them into close contact with each other, increasing the likelihood of diseases being spread. This applies to several diseases already present in Australia.



Be aware.

Avoid disturbing flocks of birds and keep dogs leashed on beaches when birds are present to prevent unnecessary movement and mixing of birds, and to reduce unnecessary stress that can weaken immune responses.

Save Birds. Save Life.

BirdLife Australia. Suite 2-05, 60 Leicester Street, Carlton VIC 3053
www.birdlife.org.au ABN 75 149 124 774

