



FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

6 February 2024

Update on confirmed avian influenza (bird flu) case – Sea Lion Island

Following the announcement on Friday 19 January of the confirmed cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza on Sea Lion Island, a further review has taken place and a level 3 response will continue to be followed and the whole of Sea Lion Island remains declared an infected place. No persons are permitted to visit Sea Lion Island without authorisation from the Director of Natural Resources.

The Declaration will be reviewed on Friday 1 March 2024.

Since Monday 30 October 2023, 83 suspect birds/animals have been reported, 48 have been swabbed. Eight have returned positive results (2 sets are repeat swabs from known outbreaks) and 35 negative results. Five sets of swab results are pending.

FIG have prepared information and guidance about bird flu and preventative measures to try and reduce the spread of the virus. This guidance can be found here:

<https://falklands.gov.fk/agriculture/avian-influenza>

The public are reminded to **NOT TOUCH** dead or sick birds but report them to the Veterinary Services on **27366** or **55366** out of hours.