

H5 bird flu



Carcass management

Purpose

Guidance for Territorians on managing and disposing of wildlife and poultry carcasses on their property. Please refer to nt.gov.au/birdflu or birdflu.gov.au for information regarding safe disposal methods for carcasses and personal protective equipment.

Wildlife mass mortality

In the Northern Territory wildlife carcasses will generally be left in situ to naturally decompose. Landholders may determine the best disposal options for their circumstances.

Residential property

- Residential homeowners and private landholders to manage carcasses on their property.
- Tenants to liaise with landlords regarding carcass management on rental properties.
- Public housing tenants to manage carcasses on their rental property.

Commercial and rural land

- Commercial and rural landholders to determine the most appropriate carcass disposal method.

Public places

- Local Governments bodies to determine whether carcasses in urban public spaces should be removed for public amenity or safety purposes.
- In unincorporated areas local authorities will determine carcass management priorities.

Pastoral leases

- Pastoral leaseholders to manage carcasses on their leases.

Aboriginal Land Trusts

- Land Councils and Land Trusts to determine carcass management options.

Crown land

- The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment to manage carcasses on Crown land.

Parks and reserves

- The Department of Tourism and Hospitality (NT Parks and Wildlife) to manage carcasses in NT National Parks. In regional and remote parks carcasses will generally be left in situ. Parks, reserves and specific visitor areas may be temporarily closed.
- The Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Parks Australia) to manage carcasses in Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuta national parks.

NTG Sporting facilities

- The Department of People, Sport and Culture to coordinate carcass management with relevant sporting clubs.

Carcasses may be left in situ

Before disposing of carcasses, report unusual numbers of sick or dead birds or other wildlife report at nt.gov.au/birdflu or call the hotline 1800 675 888 for:

- multiple birds are found dead in one location
- birds showing signs of illness before death
- unusual wildlife mortality.

Where H5 bird flu has already been confirmed in a species and location, collecting additional carcasses may provide little additional benefits for surveillance or disease control benefits. Collection efforts will be prioritised where they support testing.

Available disposal options

Landholders will determine the best disposal option depending on their circumstances.

- Carcasses may be buried or binned.
- Some landholders may have the capacity to incinerate carcasses, subject to advice from Bushfires NT regarding seasonal conditions and fire bans.



Avoid.
Record.
Report.

For more information visit birdflu.gov.au or nt.gov.au/birdflu

