

# SPS Permit Guidance

## Moving Turkeys from Grow-out Farms to Slaughter

**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR MOVEMENT: Completed, under USDA review - March 2017**

*Turkeys from premises within an HPAI Control Area moving to processing represent a **moderate risk** to susceptible poultry on other premises and a **moderate to high risk** to susceptible poultry remaining on the same premises, provided that the permit guidance below has been met. Turkeys may move to processing/market within or out of the Control Area by permit.*

### **PERMIT GUIDANCE INCLUDES:**

1. Poultry are moving from a premises that meets the criteria for a Monitored Premises designation and has a national premises identification number.
2. A Pre-Movement Isolation Period (PMIP) is established as defined in the specific plan, and for the duration defined for the type of movement requested.
3. Product-specific biosecurity as described in individual plan (i.e., Secure Turkey Supply [STS] Plan) is implemented.
4. The route to processing is acceptable.
5. Load-out and live haul biosecurity is implemented.
6. RRT-PCR tests on two pools of swabs from dead/sick birds are negative—either 2 PCRs collected on 1 day within 24 hours of move; or 1 PCR collected on 2 consecutive days prior to move where at least 1 PCR is taken within 24 hours of move, and any positive supplemental antigen capture results are reported to the Incident Command.

### **1. Poultry are moving from a premises that meets the criteria for a Monitored Premises designation and has a national premises identification number.**

- A Monitored Premises objectively demonstrates that it is not an Infected Premises, Contact Premises, or Suspect Premises. Only At-Risk Premises are eligible to become Monitored Premises. Monitored Premises meet a set of defined criteria in seeking to move susceptible animals or products out of the Control Area by permit. For the Secure Poultry Supply (SPS) Plans, the following criteria must be met:
  - Pre-movement RRT-PCR testing is negative,
  - Epidemiological questionnaire is completed,
  - No unexplained mortality, no unexplained clinical signs, and no unexplained changes in production parameters, and
  - Biosecurity measures are acceptable to state and federal authorities.
- For permitted movement through EMRS (the USDA's Emergency Management Response System for foreign animal diseases), an accurate national premises identification number (i.e., 7 character alphanumeric code as described in the Code of Federal Regulations [9 CFR § 71.1], not the state ID) or other acceptable identification system for movement is required.

### **2. A Pre-Movement Isolation Period (PMIP) is established as defined in the specific plan, and for the duration defined for the type of movement requested.**

- The PMIP starts eight days prior to the scheduled movement date and ends when load-out begins (i.e., the hours or days of load-out are not considered part of the PMIP).
  - Other durations may be permitted in consultation with the Incident Command (e.g., the first few days of an outbreak).
- During the 8-day PMIP:
  - No live or dead poultry will be moved onto or off the premises.
  - Only critical operational visits to the premises will continue (and may require a permit).

## SPS Permit Guidance

---

### Moving Turkeys from Grow-out Farms to Slaughter

- Manure, litter, and garbage will not be removed from the premises; the producer is responsible for managing the risks associated with any on-site movement that must occur.
- Enhanced biosecurity for people and vehicles; no off-site equipment will be pre-staged.

---

### **3. Product-specific biosecurity as described in individual plan (i.e., STS Plan) is implemented**

---

- Non-critical operational visits should be scheduled to occur outside of the PMIP. Activities that have a risk for lateral transmission of HPAI virus are prohibited. Specific prohibited activities are:
  - Off-farm disposal of mortality is prohibited. Risks associated with dead birds on-site must be managed. In this period, mortality should be disposed of or held onsite in a manner that does not allow access by scavengers such as composting, burial, incineration or freezer storage.
  - Off-farm removal of manure or litter is prohibited. Risks associated with manure or litter movement on-site must be managed.
  - Off-farm garbage disposal is prohibited. Risks associated with garbage storage on-site must be managed.
  - All non-critical visitors are prohibited from entering farms. All non-critical, routine, or operational visits must be replaced by telephone communication or must be scheduled outside of the PMIP. Non-critical visitors who work with or have contact with another commercial poultry operation (farm, hatchery, processing plant, etc.) or have contact with a non-commercial poultry flock (backyard birds, hobby farms with birds, or game birds) are prohibited from entering farms.
  - Movement of non-critical equipment from off-site is prohibited from being moved on-site.
  - Moving live poultry onto or off the premises is prohibited.
- Critical operational visits may continue during the PMIP when specific biosecurity measures are in place. These critical visits may include: Feed delivery from a stand-alone feed mill (no poultry on feed mill site), emergency repair of critical mechanical equipment, and service visits to address changes in bird health.
  - For all critical operations visitors or personnel, people who have contact with other poultry must shower and change clothes before entering the premises and also wear necessary protective clothing and footwear as described in appropriate biosecurity protocols.
  - For all vehicles and equipment entering the premises during PMIP, vehicles and equipment will be cleaned and disinfected prior to entering premises.
  - All equipment should be inspected for C&D compliance prior to entry onto the farm.
  - Feed delivery in a dedicated truck directly from a stand-alone feed mill. Trucks delivering individual feed ingredients that are stored on poultry premises will require a permit.
- Feed truck biosecurity
  - Feed delivery within the Infected Zone will not include split loads. Only dedicated vehicles will be used for feed delivery within an infected zone. A permit from the Incident Command is required to move feed off of a farm located in the Infected Zone.
  - A dedicated feed truck should be used for the Infected Zone.
  - Feed delivery routes should be selected in consultation with a poultry veterinarian to minimize contact and proximity with live poultry and poultry products.

## SPS Permit Guidance

---

### Moving Turkeys from Grow-out Farms to Slaughter

- All truck and driver biosecurity
  - Drivers are prohibited from entering turkey houses.
  - All drivers and passengers must wear boots (rubber or disposable) before getting out of the vehicle. When exiting the farm, put disposable boots in an appropriate disposal container prior to exiting the farm and spray shoes with disinfectant before entering your vehicle. Rubber boots and any tools used on the farm must be cleaned and disinfected prior to being removed from the turkey premises.
  - Use a hand sanitizer before leaving and after re-entering the cab.
  - Vehicle windows should be rolled up at all times while on the poultry farm in order to prevent flies from getting into the vehicle.
  - Spray insecticide inside trucks as needed to eliminate the transporting of flies from farm to farm during warm months of the year.
  - Spray the floors, pedals, and bottoms of feet with disinfectant after every stop.
  - The outside of all vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected as approved by regulatory personnel with an approved disinfectant at a cleaning and disinfection (C&D) station at or near the turkey premises within the Infected Zone. If C&D cannot be completed at the turkey premises the vehicles must be accompanied by a permit issued by the Incident Command to travel to a C&D station within the Infected Zone.
- People should only have contact with their assigned flock. During PMIP, visiting other poultry farms is prohibited for people who work on poultry farms.
  - Entering a poultry house is prohibited unless the person is wearing clothing (and head covering) dedicated to the farm and footwear dedicated to the house.
  - Surveillance crews should collect samples from dead or sick turkeys in a manner that meets the sampling criteria (see #6 below) and that is acceptable to the Incident Command.
  - Disposable personal protective equipment (PPE, such as coveralls, disposable boots, masks, and hairnets) should be deposited in an appropriate disposal container prior to exiting the farm. Non-disposable PPE (such as eye protection or respirators) should be placed in a plastic bag or container and cleaned and disinfected before re-use.
  - Hand hygiene is mandatory after contact with poultry, contact with contaminated surfaces, or after removing gloves. Hands must be washed with soap and water for 20 seconds or hand disinfectants must be used.

---

#### **4. The route to processing is acceptable.**

---

- Live-haul trucks must follow a route approved by the Incident Command team.

---

#### **5. Load-out and live haul biosecurity is implemented.**

---

- Load out begins as the first crew, vehicle or equipment arrives on the premise and ends when the last load of birds departs the premise. Pre-staging of equipment during PMIP is prohibited.
- Turkey loading crews are prohibited from entering other turkey houses on the same farm.
- Before entering the premises, load-out and live-haul equipment have been cleaned and disinfected under the appropriate protocol.
- After a turkey house is depopulated, turkey-loading equipment is cleaned and disinfected as shown in the National Animal Health Emergency Management System (NAHEMS) guidelines.
- Load-outs and live-haul within the Control Area will be limited to one farm per night per crew and must be supported by a movement permit issued by the Incident Command. Schedules will be forced through the processing plant as necessary. Crews must shower and change to clean clothes

## SPS Permit Guidance

---

### Moving Turkeys from Grow-out Farms to Slaughter

and footwear between farms. Equipment, clothing, and footwear must be cleaned and disinfected following load-out.

- Live-haul trucks and equipment must be cleaned and disinfected at the processing plant before going to turkey farms as shown in the NAHEMS guidelines.
- Turkeys from farms in an Infected Zone should be loaded on a day at the end of a week, if possible, to maximize opportunity for C&D and downtime.
- Due to the increased risk associated with extended load-out durations, additional biosecurity measures are required for multiple-day load-outs at the premises level (see below).

**For premises with multiple-day load-outs, additional biosecurity measures are:**

- Additional barn-to-barn biosecurity must be implemented. The following PMIP measures must be continued throughout the load-out process:
  - Pre-staging of equipment in a barn prior to beginning load-out in that barn is not allowed.
  - All persons entering a barn must use *barn-specific* footwear and *farm-specific* clothing.

---

**6. RRT-PCR tests on two pools of swabs from dead/sick birds are negative—either 2 PCRs collected on 1 day within 24 hours of move; or 1 PCR collected on 2 consecutive days prior to move where at least 1 PCR is taken within 24 hours of move, and any positive supplemental antigen capture results are reported to the Incident Command.**

---

- If the mortality rate in a turkey house exceeds 2/1,000 turkeys and is from an unknown cause, the Incident Command must be notified immediately.
- PMIP active surveillance:
  - *Option A:* RRT-PCR testing by NAHLN labs of two pooled samples per house of oropharyngeal or tracheal swabs from dead or euthanized sick birds. One pooled sample with swabs from 11 dead birds must be tested by RRT-PCR for every 50 dead birds from each house on the premises for two consecutive days prior to the start of load-out for turkeys. Samples for the second (later) RRT-PCR test must be collected within 24 hours before the start of load-out. If fewer than 11 dead or sick birds are present on a day, the swabs from available sick or dead birds should be equally divided into two pooled samples.
  - *Option B:* RRT-PCR testing by NAHLN labs of two pooled samples per house of oropharyngeal or tracheal swabs from dead or euthanized sick birds. Two pooled samples with swabs from 11 dead birds must be tested by RRT-PCR for every 50 dead birds from each house on the premises collected within 24 hours before to the start of load-out for turkeys. If fewer than 22 dead or sick birds are present on a day, the swabs from available dead or sick birds should be equally divided into two pooled samples.
- For multiple-day load-outs: all barns loading out after initial 48 hours on a premises, daily PCR testing is required.
  - Negative results of tests taken within 24 hours of scheduled movement (at barn level) must be documented before birds depart premises. (This is diagrammed in **Figure 2** for single-age premises and **Figure 3** for multi-age premises.)

# SPS Permit Guidance

## Moving Turkeys from Grow-out Farms to Slaughter

Figure 1. Example Movement of Turkeys to Market

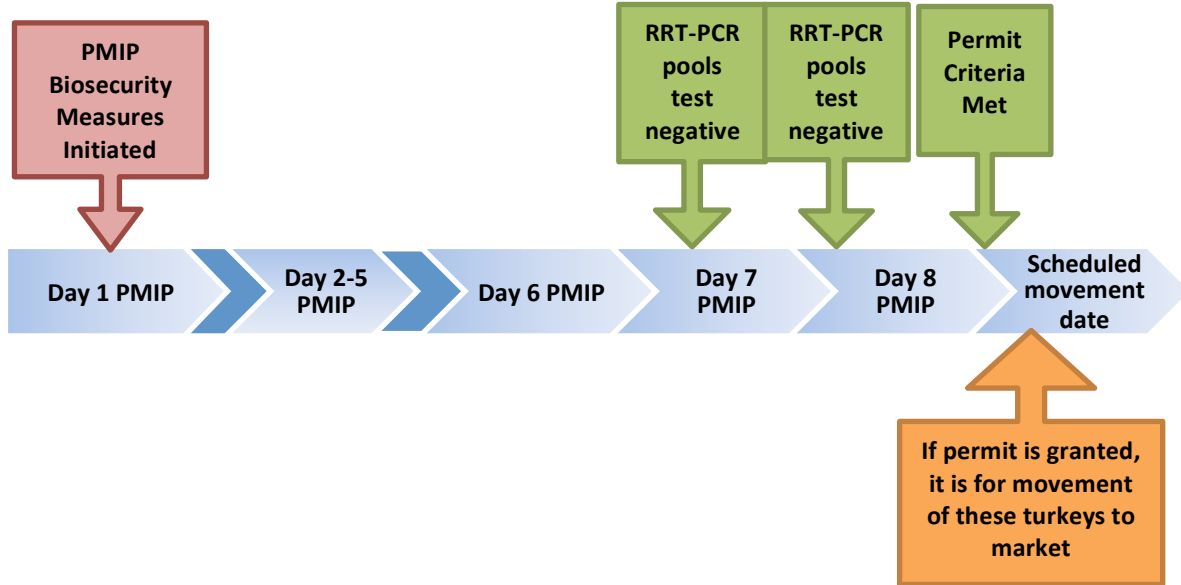
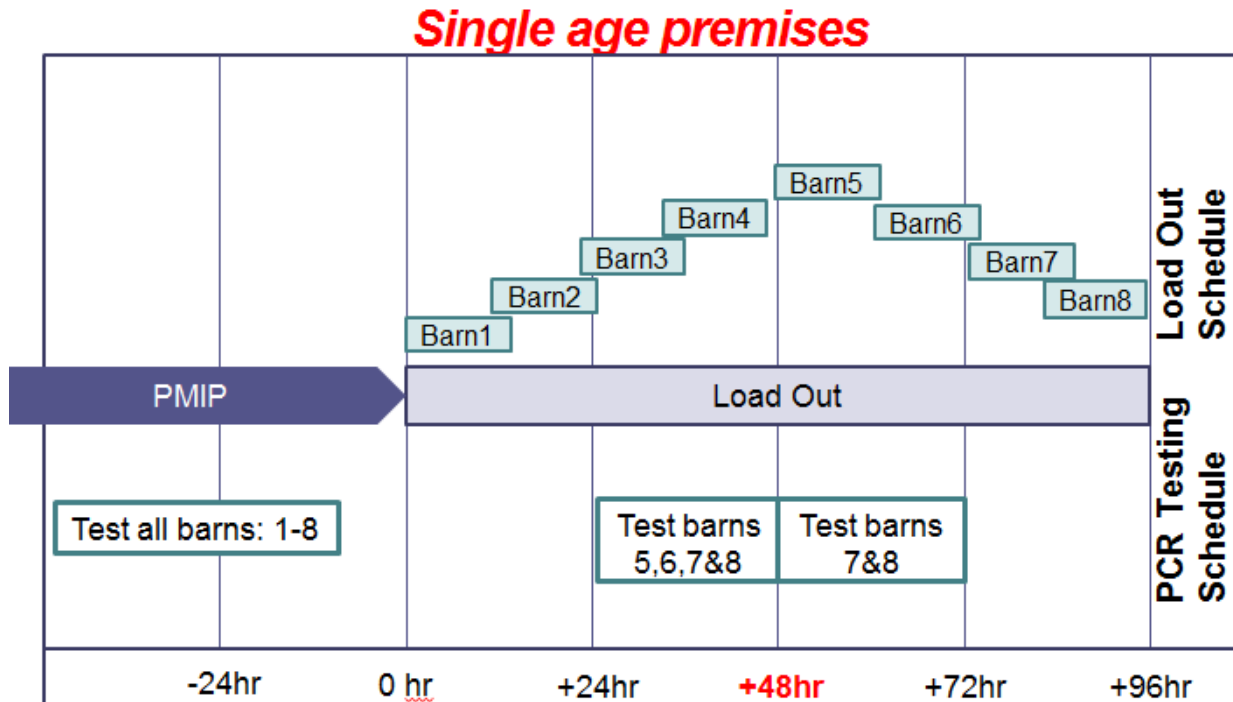


Figure 2. Daily testing is required of birds in all barns that are not loaded out within 48 hours of the start of premises-level load-out. In this example, there are eight barns on a single-age premises and complete depopulation of the premises takes 96 hours.



## SPS Permit Guidance

### Moving Turkeys from Grow-out Farms to Slaughter

**Figure 3.** Daily testing is required of birds in all barns that are not loaded out within 48 hours of the start of premises-level load-out. In this example, barns 1-8 are market-age turkeys, and barns 9-12 are 12-week-old turkeys. Depopulation of the market-age birds takes 96 hours.

