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FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO TAKES PRECAUTIONS AGAINST AVIAN FLU

Fresno, CA – The highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has made its way to California. Fresno Chaffee Zoo has been monitoring the virus for several months and has decided to take precautionary measures to protect its birds.

"While this is a highly infectious disease, our teams are ready to enact our safety plan for this very scenario," said Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr. Shannon Nodolf. "We are protecting all of our birds and will continue to monitor the level of risk to take further precautions."

Bird flu is an infection caused by avian (bird) influenza (flu) viruses. These flu viruses occur naturally among birds. Wild birds worldwide carry the viruses, but usually do not get sick from them. However, it is very contagious and can cause life-threatening illness in susceptible birds, including many zoo species.

Since the bird flu has now been found in CA, the Zoo has decided to close off access to their aviaries and move birds found outside of the aviaries to alternative housing off-habitat. Guests' favorite, Winged Wonders Bird Show has also been modified and can potentially be canceled depending on the severity of the virus.

To stay up to date on all of the Zoo's updates regarding avian flu, visit their website at fresnochaffeezoo.org.

About Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Centrally located in Fresno, California, Fresno Chaffee Zoo is a 39-acre [Association of Zoos and Aquariums](#) (AZA) accredited zoo. It is home to over 200 different species and features wow exhibits—from Sea Lion Cove to African Adventure—that teach guests about animals all across the globe and the conservation efforts to protect them. The Zoo welcomes over 800,000 guests annually, offering a world-class guest experience and conservation education to all who visit. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

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