

Fighting BIRD FLU with Technology



The State of Minnesota's response to the H₅N₂ avian flu outbreak, March - June, 2015

ECONOMIC IMPACT

 **9,024,632**
Total number of birds affected

23 Minnesota counties impacted 

 **108** Affected farms

#1 Minnesota's rank as a turkey producer nationwide 

 **500+**
Government workers responded
Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Board of Animal Health, Federal USDA, MN.IT Services

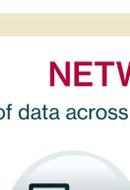
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

 An emergency response center was set up in Willmar, MN. This required the expansion of the State of Minnesota's fiber network (MNET) as well as the deployment of a great deal of technology.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Connecting government partners to each other, and to the public.

 Desktop Phones

 Video Conferencing

 Toll Free Number

 Mobile Devices

NETWORKING

Enabling the flow of data across government agencies and county lines.

 Network Expansion

 Virtual Office Devices

 Network Connections

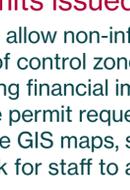
 Multi-Function Devices & Network Printers

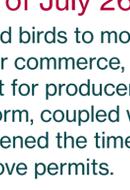
DESKTOP

Everyday tools to make the effort run.

 Laptop Computers

 Printers

 Monitors

 Desktop Computers

 **3,055**
Permits issued as of July 26

Permits allow non-infected birds to move out of control zones for commerce, lessening financial impact for producers. An online permit request form, coupled with real-time GIS maps, shortened the time it took for staff to approve permits.

MAPPING THE VIRUS

In order to track patterns in the spread of the disease and respond to infection zones, government workers relied on Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) and the creation of maps.

 **1,488**
Printable maps created

 **30+**
Layers of geographic information in maps, updated regularly

 **1,000+**
Lines of code needed for processing data and maps daily

WEB AND SOCIAL OUTREACH

Clear and regular communication with the public was key in the effort to stop the spread of the avian flu.

 **9,000**
Website visits to the avian influenza page on the Board of Animal Health website

 **4,000+**
New visitors to the Board of Animal Health website.

 **522**
Average daily reach via Facebook

 **171**
Added page "likes"



Responding to avian influenza has been a very difficult job. The support we received from the State's information technology professionals was second to none. They set up new workstations, ordered and programmed extra phones and worked long hours to keep up with mapping and other requests. I would like to personally thank each and every MN.IT employee for helping us when we needed it the most.

- Dr. Bill Hartmann
Executive Director and State Veterinarian
Board of Animal Health

Visit The Board of Animal Health Website for more information bah.state.mn.us/avian-influenza



Information Technology for Minnesota Government