Role description

General information

Title:	Surveillance Lead			**Classification:**	PO3
Division:	Biosecurity	**Branch:**	Animal Biosecurity	**Business unit:**	H5 Bird Flu Program
Type of appointment:	Term Contract	**Hours of duty:**	37.5	**Location:**	Metropolitan Adelaide

About us

South Australia is internationally recognised for the quality of its agriculture, food, and wine. Our regions are the backbone of our state and the economic powerhouse that drives prosperity for all South Australians.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) is a key economic development agency working in partnership with our primary industries, regional stakeholders and across all levels of government to advance the prosperity and sustainability of South Australia's primary industries and regional communities.

We are a passionate team of around 800 people working across metropolitan and regional South Australia to develop and protect our state's regions and food, wine, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, grains, livestock, dairy and horticulture industries.

Purpose

The primary purpose of the role is to lead the strategic coordination and day-to-day management of H5 bird flu surveillance and disease investigations, supporting timely, risk-based decisions on reported sick or dead birds and other animals.
The role provides professional leadership for H5 bird flu investigation criteria, triage, sampling, laboratory interface, data quality and operational reporting, ensuring surveillance activities are consistent, evidence-informed and aligned with approved program priorities.

Key accountabilities

- Leading the design, implementation and review of H5 bird flu investigation and surveillance criteria, including priorities, sampling, biosecurity and laboratory submission requirements.
- Overseeing triage, investigation allocation and follow-up systems so reports are assessed and actioned according to risk and program priorities.
- Providing authoritative professional advice on H5 bird flu surveillance, investigations, epidemiological risk and operational implications.
- Leading and supporting Senior Triage Officers, Triage Officers and other surveillance personnel, including workload allocation, briefing, quality assurance and capability development.
- Maintaining effective coordination with field operations, laboratory, intelligence, planning, wildlife and communications functions.
- Monitoring surveillance data, information quality, results and emerging trends to identify risks, gaps and required changes to approach.
- Forecasting workforce and other resource requirements and advising the Operations Manager on priorities, constraints and surge needs.
- Ensuring surveillance activities comply with legislation, approved H5 bird flu plans, work health and safety, biosecurity, information management and recordkeeping requirements.

Key deliverables / results

- H5 bird flu surveillance and investigation activities are effectively coordinated and delivered in accordance with approved, risk-based program priorities.
- Investigation criteria, triage guidance, sampling requirements and operational surveillance procedures are clearly documented, maintained and consistently applied.
- Priority reports are promptly assessed, allocated, investigated and closed, with appropriate records and follow-up maintained.
- Accurate and timely surveillance advice, data and operational updates are provided to support program leadership and decision-making.
- Surveillance, sampling, laboratory submission and data capture practices are consistently applied and meet required quality standards
- Emerging H5 bird flu risks, significant findings, information gaps and operational constraints are identified and escalated in a timely manner..
- Effective handovers, briefings and information flows are maintained to support continuity and coordination of surveillance operations.
- Surveillance processes are regularly reviewed and improved in response to operational outcomes, workload, data quality and stakeholder feedback..

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Relationships

- Role reports to the Operations Manager and is part of the H5 Bird Flu Program team.
- Roles reporting to this role include the Senior Triage Officer.
- Works closely with H5 Bird Flu Program Leadership, Field Operations, Intelligence, Planning, Laboratory Interface, technical advisers and the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline
- Maintains working relationships with the Department for Environment and Water, laboratories, veterinarians, wildlife carers, industry, other government agencies and surveillance partners.

Requirements

- Out of hours work and inter / intrastate travel may be required.
- Australian residency or current works permit is required (responsibility of applicant to provide evidence of a current work permit).
- You acknowledge your work, health and safety obligations and our expectations when applying for a role.
- The incumbent will be required to undertake emergency management training and must be willing to participate in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities required by government agencies.
- Must be able to work effectively in a time-critical operational environment and maintain confidentiality.

Qualifications

Essential:

- A relevant tertiary qualification in veterinary science, animal health, epidemiology, biological science or a related discipline.

Desirable:

- Experience in animal disease surveillance, biosecurity, epidemiology or incident management and training in AIIMS.

Capabilities

Capability	Behaviours
Professional and technical knowledge Applies substantial professional knowledge of H5 bird flu surveillance, animal disease investigation, epidemiology and biosecurity in a complex operational setting.	• Demonstrated experience providing authoritative professional advice on surveillance priorities, investigation criteria, sampling requirements and laboratory pathways. • Demonstrated ability to interpret epidemiological, laboratory, field and stakeholder information to inform operational decisions. • Comprehensive knowledge of animal disease surveillance, H5 bird flu risks, relevant legislation, response plans and professional standards. • Demonstrated ability to exercise sound professional judgement where information is incomplete, uncertain or changing. • Demonstrated experience assessing and assuring the technical quality and consistency of surveillance activities, procedures and decisions. • Demonstrated ability to develop the technical knowledge and capability of surveillance personnel through professional guidance, mentoring and feedback
People Management Employing approaches to motivate, inspire, develop and empower staff to enhance and optimise their capacity to achieve the goals of the business.	• Ensures surveillance personnel understand their responsibilities and are supported to achieve agreed work outcomes. • Provides advice, guidance and direction to support staff capability, effective decision-making and performance. • Maintains a balanced focus on surveillance delivery, staff capability and wellbeing when allocating work and managing competing priorities.
Analytical thinking	• Synthesises surveillance, laboratory and operational data to identify trends, gaps and emerging risks.

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Assessing information, perceiving implications and making sound judgements using a logical, systematic approach.	• Applies a risk-based approach to prioritising investigations and resources. • Evaluates options and recommends defensible changes to surveillance approaches.
Planning and organising (work management) Establishing a course of action for self and/or others to accomplish specific goals; planning effective, timely work assignments and the appropriate allocation of resources.	• Translates H5 Bird Flu Program objectives into practical surveillance workflows, tasking and schedules. • Anticipates workload and resource pressures and adjusts arrangements to maintain timely delivery. • Monitors progress, quality and outcomes and implements improvements.

HRMS no.:	P71141	**ANZCO Code:**		**Objective ID:**	
Delegate approval:	Executive Director, Biosecurity			**Date:**	
Approved and classified by People and Culture:	Senior HR Business Partner, Biosecurity				

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