



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PO Box 330  
TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

EDWARD D. WENGRYN  
*Secretary*

MIKIE SHERRILL  
*Governor*

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL  
*Lt. Governor*

**June 30, 2026**

### **Quarantine Order To Prevent New World Screwworm from Entering New Jersey**

**WHEREAS**, New World screwworm (“NWS”) refers to the parasitic larvae of the New World screwworm fly (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*), a blow fly species that spreads rapidly, infecting and seriously injuring all warm-blooded animals and humans when the adult female fly lays its eggs in open wounds on a living host’s skin, and in other openings such as eyes, ears, noses, and mouths, with the eggs hatching into larvae that burrow into and eat the host’s flesh as hundreds of larvae incubate therein, spawning hundreds of additional NWS flies from open wounds, which spread to additional hosts through flight and the movement of the host itself; and

**WHEREAS**, NWS threatens U.S. and NJ agriculture, wildlife, public health, and the economy; and

**WHEREAS**, NWS is considered a U.S. foreign animal disease (“FAD”) that is immediately reportable under the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s (USDA-APHIS) National List of Reportable Animal Diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, USDA-APHIS issued a “NWS Response Playbook,” which states: “All guidance should be developed in collaboration with Federal and State, Local, Territorial and Tribal (SLTT) officials using the One Health approach to protect animal, human, and environmental health”; and

**WHEREAS**, NWS is already present in the United States, and New Jersey seeks to prevent the introduction of NWS into our state by implementing reasonable quarantine measures through a multi-agency One Health effort including the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and the New Jersey Department of Health (“DOH”); and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (“NJDA”) is authorized pursuant to NJSA 4:5-13 to issue quarantines in the State for any area threatened with a contagious or infectious disease among animals, and such quarantines may prohibit the bringing of any animals into the State, or moving them within the State, without inspection and the issuance of a written permit signed by NJDA or its agent prior to such movement; and

**WHEREAS**, NJDA is authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 4:1-21.5 to institute and enforce such measures as it may deem necessary to control infectious or contagious diseases of livestock and poultry, as well as to control injurious insects, including by issuing local and general quarantines; and

**WHEREAS**, NJDA regulations at N.J.A.C. 2:2-1.1 have long recognized NWS as a “particular and dangerous menace to animal health in the State”; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture has authorized the Director of the Division of Animal Health, NJDA, to issue prospective quarantines for such diseases subject to the Board’s subsequent approval pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:5-2.1;

**WHEREAS**, the NJDA Director of Animal Health is also officially designated as the “State Veterinarian” or “State Animal Health Official (SAHO),” and USDA-APHIS Veterinary Service has issued the “NWS Response Playbook,” which states that the APHIS Veterinary Services Division (“APHIS VS”) serves as the “operational lead for domestic preparedness and responses to NWS...” and that APHIS VS is “coordinating with SAHOs of the affected State(s)... to enable efficient and effective incident management”; and

**WHEREAS**, APHIS VS has issued the “Disease Response Strategy New World Screwworm Myiasis” report, which states that “suspect cases must be reported to a SAHO....” for further investigation and control measures; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Veterinarian will issue the quarantine measures described in this Order, which includes a series of testing and treatment requirements, and prohibitions related to the movement of domestic and wild animals, including cats and dogs, from and through NWS infested states into the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOH concurs with the issuance of this Order; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:4-1, the New Jersey Department of Health (DOH) is authorized to take certain actions to prevent the spread of disease affecting humans, which includes authorization to “maintain and enforce proper and sufficient quarantine, wherever deemed necessary” per N.J.S.A. 26:4-2(d); and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 26:4-1 defines communicable disease as any infectious or contagious disease so declared or defined by law or which has been or may hereafter be declared a communicable disease by the state department of health; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-2.10(a), the DOH, upon receiving a report of a confirmed or suspected case of a communicable disease, infection, or condition, shall issue a written order that establishes isolation and/or quarantine measures as medically and epidemiologically necessary to prevent or control the spread of the disease, infection, or condition; and

**WHEREAS**, DOH is also authorized to regulate the sanitary conditions of kennels, pet shops, animal shelters and pounds and, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:23A-1.9(n), if DOH has confirmed or has reason to suspect the existence of a zoonotic or other communicable disease that would be harmful to human or animal health in any animals housed in such a facility, the Department may order the quarantine of those animals and any other animals deemed susceptible or exposed to those animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOH maintains an existing rule at N.J.A.C. 8:23-1.1 that prohibits any person from bringing a dog into this State except when the dog is in transit or is intended for breeding, laboratory, or exhibition purposes, unless the dog is accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued by a licensed veterinarian of the state or nation of the dog's origin indicating that the dog is free from rabies and other communicable diseases and has not recently been exposed to any such disease; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, DR. AMAR PATIL, Director of the Division of Animal Health of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the aforementioned statutes and regulations, do hereby establish a QUARANTINE ORDER:

1. The following terms as used in this Order shall mean:

- **Accredited veterinarian:** a veterinarian who has achieved and maintains official approval from the USDA APHIS to perform specific animal health functions.
- **Adjacent surveillance zone:** Zone that immediately surrounds an Infested Zone. The perimeter should be between 21 and 40 km (~13.1 to 24.9 miles) beyond the Infested Zone. The distance may vary depending on ecological or geographic barriers.
- **Domestic animals or warm-blooded animals** (mammals and birds):
  - Livestock (N.J.A.C. 2:2-1.1): cattle, horses, swine, small ruminants, rabbits, and poultry. All equids (e.g., horses) are considered livestock and subject to movement requirements.
  - Companion Animals: includes animals considered as pets or for companionship, such as dogs, cats, and exotic pets. This includes feral companion animals held in captivity as well as animals housed in rescues/shelters.
- **Infested Premises:** Premises where there is at least one presumptive positive or National Veterinary Services Laboratories (“NVSL”) confirmed positive case of an animal infested with the larvae of NWS.
- **Infested Zone:** The zone that is at least 20 km (~12.4 miles) beyond the perimeter of an Infested Premises, location of infested wildlife, or location of NWS wild fly detections.
- **New World screwworm or NWS:** A parasite of warm-blooded animals, including domestic animals, wild animals, humans, and birds. NWS are the larvae of blowfly *Cochliomyia hominivorax*. Per N.J.A.C. 2:2-1.1, NWS is designated as a particular and dangerous menace to animal health of the State.
- **Myiasis:** A parasitic infestation caused by the NWS.

- **State Animal Health Official (SAHO) or State Veterinarian:** The lead animal health official for a state. The key point of contact and primary USDA APHIS partner on all animal disease-related matters within the state.
  - **Wound:** Any non-healed traumatically or surgically induced lesion of any size, as well as natural physiological exposures susceptible to infestation. This term specifically includes fresh brands, dehorning sites, castration sites, vector bites, and unhealed umbilici (navels).
2. The following requirements and restrictions concerning the movement of domestic animals into the State shall immediately take effect:
- a. Any species of domestic animal infested with or suspected to be infested with NWS shall not enter New Jersey.
  - b. Any species of domestic animal originating from an infested zone shall not enter New Jersey until the animal has been examined and determined to be free of NWS by an appropriately USDA-accredited veterinarian for the animal species (category I or II accreditation).
  - c. Any species of domestic animal originating from a premises currently under quarantine by any federal, state, local, territorial, or tribal authority for NWS or where suspicion of NWS exists shall not enter New Jersey until that premises has been deemed free of infestation by the respective State Animal Health Official.
  - d. Domestic animals, originating in a US state or transiting through a US State that contains an infested zone or adjacent surveillance zone, shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), in accordance with N.J.A.C. 2:3-1.4 and N.J.A.C. 8:23-1.1, issued by an accredited veterinarian within 5 days prior to entry into New Jersey with a statement indicating freedom from infestation. The CVI or document shall contain a statement that all animals were individually inspected by an accredited veterinarian, state animal health official, or federal animal health official and found free of obvious wounds and evidence of NWS infestation. The statement should read “The animal(s) have been individually and completely inspected by an accredited veterinarian and found free of any wounds or NWS infestation.”
  - e. Domestic animals, originating in or transiting through an infested zone (but not areas outside of the infested zone in a state) shall be treated by an accredited veterinarian with a

systemic product with United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) authorization for use against NWS, prior to entry and must be within the labeled duration of action of the product upon entry into New Jersey. The name of the product used, and the date and route of administration shall be noted on the CVI.

- f. Dogs, cats, exotic pets, and rabbits originating from any place in a US state that contains an infested zone or adjacent surveillance zone shall be treated by an accredited veterinarian with a systemic product with FDA, USDA, or EPA authorization for use against NWS prior to entry and must be within the labeled duration of action of the product upon entry into New Jersey. The name of the product used, and the date and route of administration shall be noted on the CVI.
- g. All livestock animals originating in or transiting through a US state that contains an infested zone or adjacent surveillance zone must obtain permitted approval prior to movement, via permit number from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture Division of Animal Health. A permit number may be requested by telephone at (609) 671-6400, by fax at (609) 671-6413, or by email at [state.veterinarian@ag.nj.gov](mailto:state.veterinarian@ag.nj.gov) (non-holiday weekdays, 8:45 am to 4:30 pm, ET).
- h. Shipment of hatching eggs and birds up to 3 days of age are exempt from the individual examination requirement. Poultry over 3 days of age must be examined and may be shipped using a CVI or 9-3 form including a statement regarding inspection as provided in d. above, but at flock level.
- i. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:5-7.1, any person who violates this Order shall be liable for monetary penalties of at least \$1,000, and up to \$2,000 per unit or violation for the first offense. Subsequent offenses will result in monetary penalties of \$2,000 per unit or violation and may subject the offender to imprisonment for not more than one year.



**Amar Patil, DVM, MVSc, PhD, Dipl. ACVM**  
**Director, Division of Animal Health/State Veterinarian**  
**New Jersey Department of Agriculture**