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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Dr. Bob Gerlach, State Veterinarian, (907) 375-8200

### **DEC Tests Poultry at Alaska State Fair in Palmer**

**Anchorage**—Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) State Veterinarian is providing infectious disease surveillance testing to poultry owners and producers free of charge at the Alaska State Fair today in Palmer. DEC staff will provide testing today from 4PM to 8:30PM and again on August 28 from 3PM to 8:30PM. The fair runs from August 23 through September 3, 2007.

The samples collected will be tested at the State's Environmental Health Laboratory in Anchorage, with results expected within one week. Information about backyard biosecurity to protect pet birds and flocks from infectious diseases will be available in the poultry exhibition area. Information can also be obtained from University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension agents.

To schedule free onsite surveillance testing, poultry producers may contact the Office of the State Veterinarian at (907) 375-8200 or at [Bob\\_Gerlach@dec.state.ak.us](mailto:Bob_Gerlach@dec.state.ak.us).

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