



Collapse Survivor H5N1 Pandemic Scenario Lessons Learned Report

For over a decade now, biologists have been testifying before Congress and warning that a human-to-human contagious version of Avian (bird) flu, H5N1, is “inevitable.” U.S. taxpayer funded “gain of function” research has already proven that you can expose mammals like ferrets to bird flu and the constant influenza virus mutations will eventually yield an air transmissible, mammal contagious version.ⁱ Unfortunately, the results of this research were published, allowing not just enemy countries, but terrorist groups like al Qaeda and even dedicated lunatics the knowledge to develop this deadly virus. Fortitude Ranch has been warning its members for years that when a human-to-human contagious version of Avian Flu starts spreading, it will be the worst pandemic our species has experienced and lead to a collapse that could kill most of mankind.

In 2022, the “Bird Flu” H5N1 virus mutated to a variant that can spread more easily among mammals, killing off a wide variety of mammals, including mink with respiratory systems very similar to humans. But neither WHO or the CDC issued public warnings.

In early 2023 the World Health Organization did issue a warning that they are detecting a sharp rise in Avian Flu killing other species—including mammals. Some media like the leading British newspaper the “Daily Mail” did report on the rise of H5N1 spread in mammals and its horribly high fatality rate in humans. The CDC refused to update its long-standing assessment that H5N1 poses a “low risk” to humans, but groups like the “Advisory Board,” a decades old group of five thousand healthcare organizations, warned its members about the escalating Avian Flu threat.

Lawrence Gostin, a professor of public health law at Georgetown University warned in recent years of “quite a high probability that we're going to have more frequent pandemic-like threats and we need to take them seriously as a national security threat.” An MIT biologist, said people in his own lab could design a deadly virus from DNA ordered on the internet for under \$1,000. Gostin stressed that the impact of a bad pandemic compared to Covid-19 would be “ten- or even fiftyfold in terms of the economic and social harms the United States would suffer” and condemned woefully inadequate public spending and preparations for a pandemic.ⁱⁱ

A rare, realistic federal level biological attack exercise conducted in 2001 called “Dark Winter” did lead to a collapse. Participants were well aware that people would not simply stay at home and politely starve to death, but turn to violence to survive. But rather than stockpiling food or preparing the country to deal with a collapse, the exercise lessons learned were ignored.ⁱⁱⁱ A Defense Science Board study warned that even a relatively benign event could trigger widespread loss of law and order and collapse: “[F]ood and medicine distribution systems would be ineffective, transportation would fail or become so chaotic as to be useless. Law enforcement, medical staff, and emergency personnel capabilities could be expected to be barely functional in the short term and dysfunctional over sustained periods.”^{iv}

Mount Weather, Site R, and many other facilities to keep top political and government officials continued to expand and improve, but nothing has done to protect the public—not even an honest warning that they need to get ready to survive on their own.

The mutated version of H5N1 that caused the pandemic in the Collapse Survival SimWarn simulation Scenario 1 was not from a completely natural mutation, but from deliberate exposure of both ferrets and imprisoned



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humans who were given the more mammal virulent H5N1, which mutated in them (viruses are always mutating) into a highly air transmissible H5N1 variant. *(this is what happened in the simulation, not actual/true information)*

A mutated form of H5N1 may have different human lethality rates than the current/older versions of H5N1 that are roughly 60% lethal. The 1918-2019 “Spanish” Flu was less than 2% lethal, and Covid-19 was far less than 1% lethal. Any double-digit lethality rate would likely be enough to convince 99% of people not to risk going to work or any public contact. As a result, public infrastructure (water, electricity, etc.) and food deliveries, and production of all types of goods will stop. Some utilities (sewers for example) may be able to operate for a few days without human intervention, but a high lethality pandemic will eventually cease almost all economic activity.

Do not expect the military to come to your rescue in a bad pandemic or any bad collapse. Like police, military forces will be prioritized to protect government officials and facilities. “Continuity of Government” is the long-standing priority, not protecting citizens. The reasoning is that government is essential to manage collapse operations and recovery. That is true, but a better explanation is that top elected officials prioritize keeping themselves (and their families) alive. Mount Weather is not just for Congressmen, but Congressmen and their families—complete with special media rooms so they can keep in touch with their constituents if media is operating (their re-election campaigning never ends). With the need to protect government agencies and some private facilities capable of rapid vaccine manufacture, federal military forces in a pandemic are not likely to be deployed to attack big marauder groups. State National Guard forces will also prioritize protecting state government, but can and should be used to help provide security, distribute any food stockpiles that are available. But in a pandemic, many Guardsman may decide that they need to stay home to protect their families. People serve in the military to protect the country from foreign military threats, assuming families left at home are safe. This is not true in a domestic collapse situation. Not predictable, but some Federal and Guard forces, perhaps a large percent in a really bad collapse with loss of law and order and heavy marauding of homes, will desert or refuse to report to duty, quit. The same is true of police, many of them will quit when either police duty is too dangerous from a breakdown in law and order, or they feel they must quit working and stay home to protect their families. To make matters worse, a large part of the Army Guard are policemen who are also in the Guard. So if you mobilize them, you’ve not added any security manpower, just transferred their work status. The loss of law enforcement/military will probably be much worse in a pandemic situation, especially for local law enforcement personnel. If they stay on duty, getting exposed to people, they are going to catch the virus. Worse, they could unknowingly bring it home and infect, kill their families. In a bad pandemic, like H5N1, we should be prepared for most police and other first responders to quit their jobs and stay home to avoid the virus and protect their families. Unfortunately our irresponsible government refuses to acknowledge or prepare for this reality. They don’t even provide honest warnings to Americans that when a bad collapse disaster hits, particularly a highly lethal pandemic, there will likely be no law and order, no one to protect you.



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As you saw in the simulation, the two million Americans in jail (the “land of the free” United States of America has more citizens locked up per capita than any other nation on earth thanks to our hundreds of thousands of laws, many violating the Constitution and our natural rights, and a political system dominated by lawyers who love creating more laws and regulations that generate high profit business for them). In a pandemic the guards won’t come to work—so the prisoners will have to be released, or will break out on their own. Now to the one million known gang members in the United States, add two million prisoners who just got out—with no home, no preparations. The number of marauders will get much bigger over time as “good” Americans facing starvation reluctantly decide they must go steal (and sometimes kill) to get food.

Trying to survive at your home or (much better) a remote, prepared bug out location or (ideal) survival community, your task is to keep a lot of guards on duty and people always armed and ready to defend (and ideally deter marauder attacks by having clearly effective defenses). The vast majority of the time you will be far better off defending against a marauder attack, not attacking. A defender behind walls with cleared lines of fire, guns resting on barricades is about ten times as effective as an attacker out in the open. Even if some in your group have relevant military experience (and most military veterans have little to no real combat experience), it is far more difficult to execute an attack than to defend your well-known static positions. Add to this the advantages of defending terrain you know, having interior lines to safely move in reinforcements or withdraw to a more defensive “keep” plus the advantages of far fewer calories being burned sitting still than out trying to maneuver with your heart racing, and you should generally stay put to stay alive in a collapse situation. In military operations research studies, a defender behind walls and with simple defensive cover, cleared lines of fire (no cover for attacking forces) has anywhere from a 3-to-1 to a 10-to-1 advantage.

The worst decisions you will likely have to make in a collapse is whether or not to give away food or other scarce resources you need to survive. We make no recommendations or judgments on the morally right course of action. When you can help someone at no harm or unreasonable risk, we certainly recommend and commend that. Whether or not you give food to a starving, begging woman and child, as you had to decide in this scenario is a horrible choice you must make. In this simulation, there was a small chance (random number generator) that the begging lady and child were actually decoys for a marauder group trying to sneak in on the other side. The other thing to consider is that even if you give a small amount of food with the order that they never come back to beg again, they may come back again begging. And they may let others know you have food. A marauder group may learn you’ve given away food. Again, there is no right or wrong or easy moral decision—but you need to consider the risks. Normal conduct and morality may be dangerously, fatally different in a collapse survival situation.

People in cities and suburbs should expect their municipal water system to fail in a collapse. If the grid goes down, there will be no municipal water flowing. If workers don’t come in to work, or people are hoarding water, the system may also go down, as it did in this scenario. Surviving most types of a collapse in a city or suburb is especially difficult, almost impossible if you don’t have some reliable source of water—and the ability to get it without exposure to marauders.

The post simulation live podcast covered some other lessons learned in this scenario:



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoBqwWhSuR8&t=21s>

What you want to plant in a collapse situation is very different from normal good times gardening. You want high calorie crops that your soil/climate/water can support. A good website to learn about this is:

<https://urbansurvivalsite.com/highest-calorie-crops-survival-garden/>

Many other lessons learned and survival tips will be offered in future survival simulation scenarios and after action lessons learned reports and podcasts.

There are few absolutely right decisions or preparations you can make; much depends on the particular situation you are in, who you are with, what resources you have. We encourage you to talk with others about this pandemic simulation and consider their ideas on what were good and bad ideas. We encourage you to prepare, and invite you to join us for the next collapse disaster, coming (real or simulated) soon. The Collapse Survivor App launches a new 6 day simultaneous play scenario every Monday morning (some occasional weeks off for major App updates—many improvements in calculations and features planned).

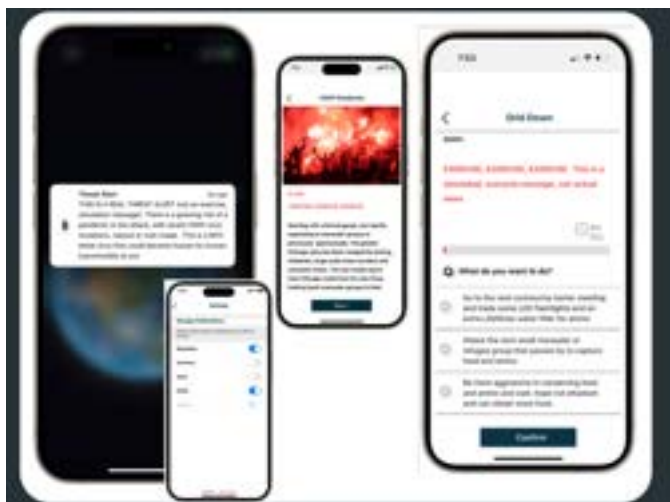
Please help educate and warn your friends about the many collapse threats we face by emailing this report to them.

ⁱ Dr. Drew Miller, “The Age of Designer Plagues,” The American Interest, Dec 2017, <https://www.the-american-interest.com/2016/09/20/the-age-of-designer-plagues/>

ⁱⁱ Gostin, quoted in Karen Weintraub, “As COVID turns 3, experts worry where the next pandemic will come from – and if we'll be ready,” USA Today, March 15, 2023

ⁱⁱⁱ Senator Sam Nunn, Congressional testimony in 2001, <https://www.nti.org/analysis/articles/senator-nunn-testifies-senate-foreign-relations-committee/>; Dr. Drew Miller, “Triggered Collapse, Part 3: Lessons in Lawlessness,” Domestic Preparedness, March 11, 2020, <https://www.domesticpreparedness.com/commentary/triggered-collapse-part-3-lessons-in-lawlessness/>

^{iv} Defense Science Board, “Resilient Military Systems and the Advanced Cyber Threat,” Jan 2013, p. 5.



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