Help detect and put a stop to avian influenza

As a hunter, you have a vital role to play in preventing its spread and helping to detect it in wild birds.

**Avian influenza can easily spread through:**
- Secretions and excretions from infected birds, especially faeces
- Contact with contaminated material, including vehicles
- International and illegal trade of birds

**Act as a sentinel!**
You can help detect avian influenza in wild animals by:
- Staying informed on the disease that might be present in waterfowl and other birds
- Monitoring the health of wild birds
- Reporting sick or dead animals to local Veterinary Authorities
- Being vigilant to the health of mammals, who can catch the disease too

**How can you help prevent avian influenza?**
Because avian influenza viruses are highly resistant in the environment, you can carry them on your boots, clothes and equipment, putting yourself and animals at risk.

**Adopt these good practices:**
- Never handle birds that appear sick or are found dead
- Do not visit poultry farms unless necessary
- Do not leave food for wild birds
- Clean and disinfect your equipment and hunting trophies
- Respect any ban on hunting and restriction on movement of axillary hunting birds (decoy birds, falcons...) imposed by authorities
- Ensure proper disposal of offal from hunted birds
- Always wash hands with soap and water immediately after handling animals, and when cooking or preparing animal products

Learn more with:
- Our webpage on avian influenza
- Our situation reports to follow the disease evolution
- Our WAHIS system and its distribution list to get informed on the areas affected