Information about the Novel Coronavirus and Migratory Birds











What we know:

The novel (new) coronavirus causing the COVID-19 global pandemic is thought to be spread mainly through close contact between people, in respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Currently, there is no evidence that you can get the novel coronavirus from eating subsistence foods, game meat, or store-bought foods. While some other types of coronaviruses do occur in migratory birds, those types are not known to pose a disease risk to humans.

General Food Safety Guidelines for Hunting and Processing Migratory Birds:

- √ Do not harvest birds (or other game) that appear sick or are found dead.
- √ Wear rubber or disposable latex gloves while handling and cleaning game.
- √ When done handling game, wash hands thoroughly with soap or disinfectant, and disinfect knives, equipment, and surfaces that were in contact with game.
- √ Do not eat, drink, or smoke while handling game.
- √ All game should be thoroughly cooked to an internal temperature of 165°F.

To Report Observations and Concerns about Migratory Birds:

Alaska Sick/Dead Bird Hotline: 1-866-527-3358

Local Environmental Observer Network: www.leonetwork.org

For more information about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html