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Advisory Announcement

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Attention Fortymile Caribou Hunters

(Fairbanks) – Hunters please use safe practices to prevent the spread of **Covid-19**, by avoiding close contact with residents in communities along the Taylor and Steese Highways, including Chicken, Eagle, Central and Circle. These communities are working to do their part to slow the spread of coronavirus, and your cooperation is part of this process. We are asking that hunters please minimize their presence in the areas near these communities.

Hunters are also reminded that no services (fuel, food, lodging, etc.) are available for hunters along the Taylor Highway at this time and the highway is currently being cleared of snow by the Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT). Please respect DOT vehicles and personnel and stay back at least 500 feet. The Taylor Highway has been plowed up to approximately Mile Post 80 as of the release of this advisory announcement.

Hunters are encouraged to maintain social distancing and avoid forming groups of more than 10 people per the issued mandates. For additional information about recommended social distancing practices and other health and safety procedures to combat the spread of Covid-19, visit the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Covid-19 webpage by clicking on the link below.

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/default.aspx>

What should hunters do to prevent the spread of respiratory infections?

- Keep at least 6 feet away from ill people who are coughing or sneezing.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds. If you don't have soap and water, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.
- Try to avoid touching your face, mouth, nose, and eyes.
- If you feel ill, stay home! Stay home for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and throw away the tissue after use. If you don't have a tissue, cough and sneeze into the inside of your elbow.
- If you think you have COVID-19, call ahead and make an appointment before seeing a clinician. This will help the health care provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed. When you call, make sure you tell the provider if you think you may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19, either through travel or with a case of the disease.

What else can hunters be doing to prepare for COVID-19?

- Stay informed. Follow updates from public health officials as well as from schools and your employer.
- Whether for a pandemic, an earthquake, or some other disaster, Alaskans should have an emergency kit. Include supplies like soap, hand sanitizer, and tissues. If you or a family member regularly take a prescription medication, talk to your health care provider and pharmacist about getting a larger supply. Have any

nonprescription drugs and other health supplies on hand, including pain relievers, stomach remedies, cough and cold medicines, fluids with electrolytes, and vitamins. For more information about emergency kits, please see this information from CDC and this information from the Department of Homeland Security.

- Do your part to fight fear, stigma, and misinformation that can surface when people are anxious about a new disease.

How can hunters help others?

- Understand that this may be a stressful situation and respond with calm, thoughtful planning, and intentional action.
- Alaskans are known for helping each other when we are faced with obstacles, and this is the time to help each other.
- Stay calm and share accurate information.

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