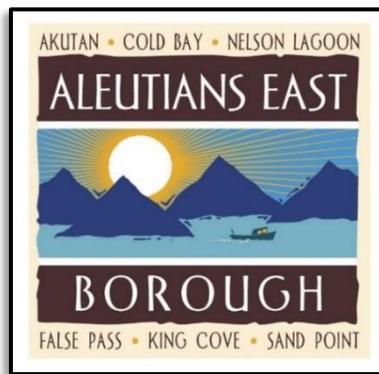
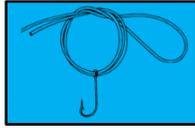


# In the Loop



## **Total Alaska COVID-19 Confirmed Cases**

Earlier this evening (April 2, 2020), Alaska Chief Medical Officer Dr. Anne Zink reported that the statewide number of confirmed COVID-19 cases total 147. That total was announced during a streamed press conference. Those figures include 13 hospitalizations and three deaths (one out of state) since Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.

This afternoon, the Governor's office and the Department of Health and Social Services unveiled the new [Alaska COVID-19 Dashboard](#) to keep the public updated on the latest numbers. It includes geographical data, cumulative data by day from Public Health and commercial labs and total cases by gender.

[KTUU story on Alaska COVID-19](#)

[KTVA story on Alaska COVID-19](#)

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(Sharing press releases)

## **RavnAir Group reduces flights/schedule due to COVID-19**

RavnAir Group today announced that due to the dramatic and continuing 90% reduction in passenger revenue bookings resulting from the COVID-19 coronavirus, it has been forced to take further actions to drastically cut costs.

As a result, effective today Ravn will be further reducing its flying operations by 90% and shrinking its operating fleet from thirty (30) aircraft to three (3) Dash 8s to minimize expenses, maintain service to our Essential Air Service communities, and continue flights to the other markets it currently serves with these aircraft (i.e. Kenai, Homer, Valdez, King Salmon, Dillingham, St. Paul, Bethel, Aniak, St. Mary's, McGrath, and Unalakleet).

For now, this will also mean that all aircraft will be parked at RavnAir Connect and all operations there will be stopped. However, RavnAir Alaska Dash 8 flights will continue to operate.

### **Related Links:**

[Anchorage Daily News](#)

[KTUU](#)

[KTVA](#)

[Alaska Public Media](#)



**For Immediate Release**

## **Governor Dunleavy Issues a Statement on RavnAir**

**April 2, 2020 (Anchorage)** – Governor Mike Dunleavy issued this statement following today’s announcement that intrastate air carrier RavnAir will reduce air service.

“We want rural Alaskans to know the aviation industry is working cooperatively to ensure essential passenger service, bypass mail and freight service is maintained to their communities during these uncertain times,” **said Governor Dunleavy**. “This morning I also spoke with officials from the United States Postal Service and they assured me they are working with contract carriers to maintain scheduled service to rural areas. The importance of the supply chain to rural Alaska communities is a priority for my administration.”

[Link to press release from Governor's office](#)

**As of 5 p.m. today on April 2, 2020, EAT is thankful that the Eastern Aleutian Tribes' region has NO confirmed positive cases of COVID-19.**



## EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES

3380 C Street, Suite 100, Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 277-1440 • Fax: (907) 277-1446  
www.EATribes.org

April 2, 2020

To My Community Partners,

As we navigate through these unprecedented times, due to the effect of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), Eastern Aleutian Tribes is adapting to meet the clinical needs of our communities. Through this, we remain committed to providing high quality care as well as protecting the health and safety of our patients, employees, physicians and community at large.

In accordance with recent guidance from the CDC and the Surgeon General, we have made the difficult, but necessary, decision to implement the following changes to our health clinics:

- Clinics are not accepting walk-ins but you can make a same day appointment by calling your local clinic.
- All non-essential clinic appointments will be postponed until further notice.
- To reduce the spread of infection, our clinics are limiting visitors who accompany patients.
- Clinic doors may be locked to protect our patients and staff. You may be screened before being allowed to enter the facility.
- To continue to protect the health and safety of our patients, coworkers and communities, we are restricting all visitors to our clinics.

I appreciate your understanding and support as we continue to do everything we can to prepare for the potential impact of COVID-19 on our community. We are in this together — six feet apart.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Mueller', is written over a horizontal line.

Paul Mueller, Interim CEO

**Shared from Rep. Bryce Edgmon's recent newsletter:**

**The Legislature passed a budget in record time. Here's what it means.**

**\$88 million for COVID-19 response**

**Immediate help for displaced workers**

**No teacher layoffs or K-12 school cuts**

**\$1,000 Permanent Fund Dividends**

**No massive rate hikes at Pioneer Homes**

**Full funding for the Senior Benefits Program**

**Power Cost Equalization is protected**

**Health providers are paid Medicaid bills they're owed**

**Vital Alaska Public Media reporting will continue**

**"Alaskans take care of Alaskans."**

*Speaker Bryce Edgmon, (I) Dillingham*

[Link to Rep. Bryce Edgmon's newsletters](#)

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Division of Wildlife Conservation  
Eddie Grasser, Director  
PO Box 115526  
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Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner  
PO Box 115526  
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## Advisory Announcement

*For immediate release: April 2, 2020*

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**Email: [ryan.scott@alaska.gov](mailto:ryan.scott@alaska.gov)**  
**Asst. Director, Div. of Wildlife Conservation**

### Bear hunting in Alaska: A letter from ADF&G Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang

(JUNEAU) — Yesterday, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game closed non-resident and resident general hunting for brown and black bear through May 31. This was done to reduce non-critical travel in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus across Alaska.

Upon further consideration, the Department has decided to rescind the resident portion of this closure. The non-resident hunts remain closed. To protect public health, resident hunters participating in spring bear hunts in Alaska are required to abide by all issued health mandates, including social distancing mandates and intrastate travel mandates.

Specific to intrastate travel mandates, all instate travel between communities is prohibited unless travel is necessary to support critical infrastructure, or for critical personal needs. General hunting has not been identified as a critical personal need. As such, all hunting activities, other than subsistence, must conform with the intrastate travel health mandate. ADF&G will be issuing additional details in the coming days regarding conduct of these hunts in context of the issued mandates.

Protection of public health is critical at this time. Abide by the issued health mandates. It is our hope to flatten the curve by keeping people hunkered down, and not traveling for non-critical reasons. We will get through this together.

I, like all of you, hope we can get control of this situation and get back to more normal lives. But until then, I ask for your patience and understanding as this situation evolves.

These are unprecedented times and we are taking uncharted steps to protect the well-being of Alaskans. I'd rather err on the side of caution and take a step too far, rather than come up short and cost fellow Alaskans their lives.

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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If you have news you'd like to share or if you'd like to subscribe, please email [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org) or call Laura Tanis at (907) 274-7579.





*Thank you for reading **In the Loop**. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org). For more information about our communities, our people, and our fisheries, please visit us at [www.aleutianseast.org](http://www.aleutianseast.org) and [www.aebfish.org](http://www.aebfish.org). For the latest news, find us on Facebook:*

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[\*Link to Sand Point Department of Public Safety page\*](#)

