

March 19, 2021
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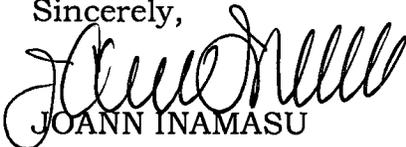
- USDA certification is not required when hunting, catching, butchering the meat for home consumption. For donations to agencies that will prepare or repurpose the meat for public consumption, there might be a need for certification to avoid any liability issues.

Per Dr. Bell - USDA never requires the inspection of exotic animals and these types of products are under FDA and local health department jurisdictions. That being said, the state the animals are harvested in or being shipped to could require this inspection. This question would be best posed to local lawmakers as I don't want to interpret how the State applies their statutes to hunting/catching/butchering/donating. John Medeiros of DLNR, who was also on the zoom meeting, would probably be the best resource for you.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you again for your inquiry.

Sincerely,



JOANN INAMASU
Director