

Issued: April ##, 2020

By: Governor Mike Dunleavy
Commissioner Adam Crum, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer, State of Alaska

To prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the State of Alaska is issuing its XXXXXth health mandate based on its authority under the Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration signed by Governor Mike Dunleavy on March 11, 2020.

Given the increasing concern for new cases of COVID-19 being transmitted via community spread within the state, Governor Dunleavy and the State of Alaska are issuing the following mandate to **go into effect April ##, 2020 at 8:00 am and will be reevaluated by April ##, 2020.**

This Mandate is issued to protect the public health of Alaskans. By issuing this Mandate, the Governor is establishing consistent mandates across the State in order to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. The goal is to flatten the curve and disrupt the spread of the virus.

The purpose of this Mandate is to enact protective measures for independent commercial fishing vessels operating within Alaskan waters and ports in order to prevent, slow, and otherwise disrupt the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.

The State of Alaska acknowledges the importance of our commercial fishing fleet to our economy and our lifestyle as Alaskans. In order to ensure a safe, productive fishing season this year while still protecting Alaskan communities to the maximum extent possible from the spread of the virus, we are establishing standardized protective measures to be followed by all independent commercial fishing vessels operating in Alaskan waters and ports.

For the purposes of this Mandate, “independent commercial fishing vessels” are defined as all catcher and tender vessels that have not already agreed to operate under a fleet-wide plan submitted by a company, association, or entity that represents a fleet of vessels. This Mandate alleviates the requirement for independent commercial fishing vessels to submit a Community/Workforce Protective Plan in response to Health Mandates 010 or 012. This Mandate does not apply to skiffs operating from shore; protective measures for those vessels will be provided under separate guidance.

Health Mandate 0## – Protective Measures for Independent Commercial Fishing Vessels.

Effective 8:00 am April ##, 2020

Independent commercial fishing vessels operating in Alaskan waters and ports will enact the protective measures and procedures in Attachment D, the Alaska Protective Plan for Commercial Fishing Vessels.

Compliance with this Mandate does not constitute a right to travel or access into any areas. It is incumbent upon the individual traveler to ensure that any proposed travel itinerary is still possible, and to adhere to any additional restrictions enacted by air carriers and lodging facilities or by small communities in accordance with the State Alaska Small Community Emergency Travel Order (Attachment B).

Vessel captains must enact controls on their vessel to ensure crewmember compliance with this Mandate.

Vessel captains are required to maintain documentation as directed by Paragraph I below, and must provide a copy of the Mandate **XX Acknowledgement Form (Attachment E) upon request by any seafood purchasing agent or Federal, State or local authority, to include law enforcement and fisheries regulators.**

A violation of a state COVID-19 Mandate may subject a business or organization to an order to cease operations and/or a civil fine of up to \$1,000 per violation.

In addition to the potential civil fines noted above, a person or organization that fails to follow the state COVID-19 Mandates designed to protect the public health from this dangerous virus and its impact may, under certain circumstances, also be criminally prosecuted for Reckless Endangerment pursuant to Alaska Statute 11.41.250. Reckless endangerment is defined as follows:

(a) A person commits the crime of reckless endangerment if the person recklessly engages in conduct which creates a substantial risk of serious physical injury to another person.

(b) Reckless endangerment is a class A misdemeanor.

Pursuant to Alaska Statute 12.55.135, a defendant convicted of a class A misdemeanor may be sentenced to a definite term of imprisonment of not more than one year.

Additionally, under Alaska Statute 12.55.035, a person may be fined up to \$25,000 for a class A misdemeanor, and a business organization may be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding the greatest of \$2,500,000 for a misdemeanor offense that results in death, or \$500,000 for a class A misdemeanor offense that does not result in death.

This Mandate supersedes and replaces all previously submitted Protective Plans for independent commercial fishing vessels.

This Mandate does not supersede or replace any previously enacted Protective Plans for corporate vessel fleets.



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
INDEPENDENT FISHING VESSEL PROTECTIVE MEASURES
ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM
MANDATE **XX AND ATTACHMENT D**



The State of Alaska acknowledges the importance of our commercial fishing fleets to our economy and our lifestyle as Alaskans. In order to ensure a safe and productive fishing season this year while protecting Alaskan communities to the maximum extent possible from the spread of the coronavirus, protective measures are necessary for independent commercial fishing vessels operating within Alaskan waters and ports in order to prevent, slow, and otherwise disrupt the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Vessel name:			
Alaska home port:			
Captain's name:			
No. of crew total:		immediate family members:	non-family members:

I, _____, have read and understand all of the requirements of Mandate **XX**. As captain of the above-named vessel, I hereby acknowledge and agree to comply with the protective plan outlined in Attachment D of Mandate **XX** for the 2020 fishing season.

I agree to comply with all other Mandates and health advisories issued by the State of Alaska and any local community mandates, ordinances, or directives that are not in direct conflict with this Mandate. I agree to keep a copy of this form and any other documentation required under this Mandate and Attachment D for the entirety of the 2020 fishing season. I shall produce this form and any other required documentation upon request to the United States Coast Guard, the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, Department of Health and Social Services, and/or the Alaska State Troopers.

CERTIFICATE: I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the above information I provided on this document is true and correct. I swear or affirm I will comply with all of the requirements set out in Attachment D of Health Mandate **XX**.

WARNING: If you provide false information on this form, you may be convicted of a Class B felony under AS 11.56.200 and/or a Class A misdemeanor under AS 11.56.210. Additionally, due to the imminent danger to the public by the spread of coronavirus, if you violate the self-quarantine regulations set forth in the Mandate, you may also be convicted of a class A misdemeanor which is punishable by a fine of up to \$25,000, or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both pursuant to AS 12.55.035 and AS 12.55.135.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Alaska Protective Plan for Independent Commercial Fishing Vessels

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- I. Documentation.** Vessel captains are required to maintain a ship's log as a written or time-stamped electronic document covering, at a minimum, the following information:
- a. An acknowledgement of the requirements of this Mandate and an explicit description of which protective plan (State or fleet-wide plan) they are enacting and enforcing on the vessel.
 - b. Certification that crew members have been screened upon arrival in accordance with Paragraph III.
 - c. Certification when crew members have completed self-quarantine in accordance with Paragraph IV.
 - d. In the event of a sick crewmember, documentation of the information required in Paragraph VII.c.iii.

For the 2020 season each vessel captain must sign the Mandate XX Acknowledgement Form (Attachment E) prior to actively participating in the 2020 commercial fishing season. This form will indicate that the captain and owner will comply with this Mandate.

Prior to accepting any fish—or making any payment for fish to an independent fishing vessel—a tender or processor must receive and confirm a signed copy of the vessel's Acknowledgement Form. The vessel captain must submit a copy of the Acknowledgement Form the first time they sell fish to a tender or processor. Subsequent sales to the same tender or processor do not require submission of another copy of the Acknowledgement Form (*e.g.*, the form only needs be submitted once per fishing season per tender or processor), but every tender or processor that an independent commercial fishing vessel sells to must have, and retain until December 31st, 2020, a signed copy of the Acknowledgement Form. This form shall be provided to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game upon request.

By accepting the Acknowledgement Form, the tender or processor may rely upon the submission of the Acknowledgement Form as proof of compliance of Mandate XX and Attachment E. The tender or processor is not required to confirm compliance with Mandate XX and Attachment E, other than to collect the Acknowledgment Form, and assumes no liability for any failure to comply by any independent commercial fishing vessels.

II. Travel Procedures.

- a. All crewmembers in transit on commercial or chartered aircraft must wear a cloth face covering that meets the recommendations contained in Health Alert 010. This face covering must be worn while transiting air terminals (to be temporarily removed for security screening), while on the plane and any follow-on ground transportation until they reach their self-quarantine facility (*e.g.*, bunkhouse,

vessel or private lodging). Crewmembers should clean or dispose of face coverings in accordance with Health Alert 010.

- b. Crewmembers in transit should carry documentation on vessel or company letterhead indicating that they are an essential Critical Infrastructure Worker as defined under State Health Mandates.
- c. Arriving crewmembers must proceed directly to the vessel or their designated self-quarantine location, must practice social distancing and avoid interaction with the community, and may not stop at any location between arrival at the local airport and transport to the vessel or self-quarantine location.

III. Screening of Personnel. All crewmembers will be screened upon arrival to the vessel, using the following procedures or an equivalent medically vetted procedure:

- a. Verbal Screening Questions
 - i. Have you experienced any cough, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, sore throat, unusual fatigue or symptoms of acute respiratory illness in the last 72 hours?
 - ii. Have you experienced a fever (100.4° F [38° C] or greater using an oral thermometer) within the last 72 hours?
 - iii. Have you experienced signs of a fever such as chills, aches & pains, etc. within the last 72 hours?
 - iv. Have you traveled within the past 14 days to an affected area as identified by the CDC? (refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>)
 1. If “yes,” obtain a detailed travel history and cross reference with the CDC website for a risk assessment. refer to (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>)
 - v. Have you had contact within the past 14 days with a lab-confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case patient? (Contact defined as being within 6 feet of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time (10 minutes) or having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case).
- b. Physical Screening
 - i. Each crewmember should demonstrate a measured temperature < 100.4. (This reference is for oral temperature, a forehead (temporal) scanner is usually 0.5°F (0.3°C) to 1°F (0.6°C) lower than an oral temperature. An ear (tympanic) temperature is 0.5°F (0.3°C) to 1°F (0.6°C) higher than an oral temperature.)
 - ii. Anyone performing a physical screening should wear appropriate PPE. If PPE is not available, the crewmember may take their own temperature.

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- iii. Each crewmember must be free of fever or respiratory symptoms. A possible exception would be if crewmember has mild symptoms that are clearly attributable to another source (i.e. allergies).
 - c. If a crewmember fails verbal or physical screening or is displaying viral symptoms they will not be allowed to board.
 - d. Additionally, vessel captains should assess each crewmembers' individual risk factors (e.g., older age; presence of chronic medical conditions, including immunocompromising conditions) and enact additional protective measures as needed to minimize their risk.
- IV. Self-Quarantine.** The requirements of Health Mandate 010 remain in effect, all people arriving in Alaska, whether resident, worker or visitor, are required to self-quarantine for 14 days after arriving in the State and monitor for illness. To the greatest extent possible, arriving people should self-quarantine at their final destination in Alaska.
- a. Arriving crewmembers should be aware that some local communities, boatyards, or harbormasters may have enacted additional protective measures, and must comply with those measures.
 - b. Crewmembers' temperature should be taken twice daily during self-quarantine, should fever symptom develop, follow the **Identification** protocol in Paragraph VII.a.
 - c. If arriving crewmembers must work or the vessel must get underway while some crewmembers are still within their 14-day self-quarantine period, they must not have contact with local populations during the 14-day period and should only travel between quarantined lodging and worksite or vessel.
 - d. If a new crewmember joins a quarantined worksite or vessel, they must practice social distancing and take all steps to minimize contact with other crew for 14 days. If this is not possible, an alternative would be to restart the 14-day clock for the entire crew.
 - e. For crewmembers who live locally or return to port daily, crewmembers and families or roommates should practice social distancing for the duration of the season.
 - f. If self-quarantine is not being observed on the vessel, crewmembers should only travel between their designated self-quarantine lodging and worksite.
 - g. The time spent in transit from the final out-of-State port to Alaska on a vessel, demonstrated through a ship's log or equivalent record, will count towards the in-State 14-day mandatory self-quarantine period if all protective measures are followed.
 - h. The vessel must report that it is undergoing self-quarantine or has a self-quarantined crewmember on board if it has any contact with another vessel, a processor, or a harbormaster. Vessels are encouraged to fly a "Lima" flag or

similar yellow and black pennant if they have any crew on board still under self-quarantine.

- i. Once the initial self-quarantine period after arriving in the State has been observed, there is no requirement to repeat the self-quarantine period when moving between Alaskan communities.

V. Protecting the Public. It is anticipated that catcher and tender vessels may have local community contact for the following reasons: offload, resupply, and maintenance; planned shipyard work at the beginning of the season; vessels that return to port daily or frequently as part of their fishery; medical or other unforeseen emergencies. Vessel captains and crewmembers must use the following procedures to limit contact with members of the public to the greatest extent possible:

- a. For crewmembers who live locally or return to port daily, crewmembers and families or roommates must comply with Health Mandate 011 on social distancing.
- b. Other crew may not disembark the vessel while in port for non-essential purposes.
- c. All face-to-face interaction between crew and shore-based workers will be kept to an absolute minimum, such as receiving for supplies, off-loading catch, fish tickets, and refueling. Those interactions that cannot be conducted remotely must follow social distancing guidelines.
- d. Vendors providing services to or onboard vessels in port should use the following procedures:
 - i. Ideally, any deliveries could be made without a vendor boarding a vessel. The delivery should be disinfected if possible before bringing it on board.
 - ii. In the event that a vendor must board a vessel, they must undergo the same screening as a crewmember boarding a vessel and be denied boarding if fever, respiratory symptoms, or a high-risk COVID-19 exposure in the prior 14 days.
 - iii. Vendors should wear a mask and face shield on board and should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer prior to boarding and after leaving.
 - iv. Vendors and crew should practice social distancing and remain 6 feet apart if possible.
 - v. If working in a loud environment, find an alternate communication method to yelling. Yelling across a loud engine room is a dangerous practice that could spread disease. Consider using radios or microphones.
 - vi. If working in an engine room, keep ventilation fans running for circulation, even at the dock.
 - vii. Try to allow vendors to work alone and use only the absolute minimum required number of workers in a space.

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- viii. Carefully control the ingress and egress of vendors from the vessel. Vendors should minimize the number of trips they must make – bringing tools and equipment as necessary.
- ix. Vendors may wish to bring food on board rather than leave the vessel to eat.
- x. Any time a vendor enters or leaves a vessel, hand hygiene protocols must be followed.
- xi. Consider fitting vessels with more remote diagnostic tools, try to provide guidance and solutions verbally rather than sending a worker to the vessel.
- xii. Vendors should bring their own tools and not use onboard tools. If they must use onboard tools they must be disinfected prior to and after use.
- xiii. After a vendor leaves, the ship should be disinfected and all crew should wash hands.
- xiv. Any runners, or those delivering supplies to a vessel, should be educated on social distancing and hand and cough hygiene protocols.
- e. Vessel captains should check in with the harbormaster prior to any port of call, and follow the directives of harbormasters while in their ports.
- f. Private sector businesses such as retailers, hotels and air carriers may also enact additional measures as a part of their protective plans which must be followed in order to obtain their services.

VI. On Board Protective Measures. All crewmembers must receive training on the requirements of this Mandate, including Attachment D. Vessel captains should enact protective measures as appropriate to their vessel size and design in order to limit proximity of persons while onboard or underway.

- a. Vessel captains should consider limiting the number of crewmembers allowed in operational spaces such as the wheelhouse and engine room, and staggering meal times to reduce the number of crew in the mess area. These social distancing measures are not required if the entire vessel crew is comprised of members of a single family unit.
- b. Best practices for galleys and mess areas are:
 - i. Ensure all crew wash hands before eating or touching any food items or utensils.
 - ii. Any crew with cough or respiratory symptoms must eat separately. Galley should be prepared to send individual meals to sick crew and clean dishes separately.
 - iii. Eliminate buffet or family-style dining and any common serving dishes. Identify one crewmember to handle food and to prepare a plate for each crew. Do not allow serving utensils to be shared.

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- iv. Consider having a galley crewmember prepare individual snacks for the day and distribute to each crewmember. Eliminate common bowls of snacks or opportunities for multiple people to touch food or packaged food products.
- v. Galley crew should practice meticulous hand and cough hygiene and should wear a mask and gloves while serving food.
- vi. Some additional considerations include:
 - 1. Self-service utensils – to reduce the opportunity for items to be touched by multiple people, set up trays with utensils on them and hand them out or set table before service.
 - 2. Use of single use cups/plates/etc.
 - 3. Aggressive sanitizing of push button/lever beverage dispensers, condiments, etc. – areas that people may be touching during the meal service.
 - 4. Stagger meal breaks to reduce the number of people in the galley at one time or reducing the seating capacity in the galley so people are spaced farther apart.
 - 5. Ensure people sanitize their hands on the way to and from the galley.
- c. Best practices for cleaning and sanitation of PPE, surfaces and spaces are:
 - i. Dedicated person(s) should be assigned to the tasks of cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. After tasks are completed, they should spray disinfectant chemical on the soles of their shoes, to prevent any cross-contamination. They should also change out of their uniform, and send to laundry in sealed bag, and take a shower. Consider the use of “dissolvable laundry bags” for contaminated linen and clothing.
 - ii. Daily disinfection of surfaces that people touch frequently can help decrease the spread of germs. When illness has been identified on board consider disinfecting surfaces multiple times per day.
 - iii. Surfaces that people touch a lot (door handles, railings, light switches, chairs and tables) and bathroom and kitchen surfaces should be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected at least “x” time a day.
 - iv. Detailed recommended procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting a vessel and disposal of PPE can be found at:
<https://discoveryhealthmd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID19-Catcher-and-Tender-Vessel-Procedures-v1.5.pdf>
- d. Vessel captains should encourage basic common hygiene practices, such as: frequent and thorough hand washing; respiratory etiquette, including covering

coughs and sneezes; discouraging crewmembers from using others' personal property, work tools and equipment.

- e. Crewmembers are required to stay in their assigned accommodations if they are sick.
- f. For any material (e.g., lines, fish tickets) that must be passed between vessels or to shore, crewmembers should wear gloves and face coverings when handling material and perform hand hygiene after transfer. Crewmembers must disinfect any new supplies that arrive on board. After handling material, crew should remove and discard or wash gloves, immediately wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, and then disinfect any personal items they may have touched, such as radios.
- g. If the crew will be completing the 14-day self-quarantine on-board, it is acceptable to continue to fish during this time. Restrict contact with tenders or shore-personnel as much as possible. If contact with other vessels or personnel must occur, adhere to the safety plans set up by tender or port facilities, and utilize the following precautions:
 - i. Restrict personnel from boarding the vessel, any communication should be done by phone or radio instead of in person if possible
 - ii. Wipe down rails, door handles, and surfaces frequently with disinfecting wipes.
 - iii. Vessels are required to fly a "Lima" flag or similar yellow and black pennant if they have any crew on board under quarantine.

VII. Procedures for Crewmembers who Become Ill. Vessels must follow the following procedures for identification, isolation and assessment of crewmembers who begin to show symptoms of infection:

- a. **Identification.** Screen crew daily for:
 - i. New signs of fever, cough, difficulty breathing, loss of smell or taste, unusual fatigue or shortness of breath
 - ii. If there is a respiratory illness identified on board, take temperature twice daily of each crewmember
 - iii. If there are symptoms presenting, repeat the screening from Paragraph II.
 - iv. If a crewmember screens "yes" to any of the symptom questions (1-3), place a surgical mask on if tolerated.
 - v. If a crewmember screens "yes" to BOTH: (1) any of the symptom questions (1-3); AND (2) an epidemiological risk factor questions (4 or 5), place a surgical mask on crewmember if tolerated and isolate per the **Isolation** protocol below. If an isolation room is not available, consider the entire vessel under isolation.

- vi. Evaluating provider must don appropriate PPE and begin to document who has had exposure to the crewmember within the last 2 days
 - vii. If available, or as soon as practicable, obtain a rapid influenza swab. If positive, and no other reason to suspect COVID-19, treat crewmember as an influenza case, not a COVID-19 case. There can be co-infection with COVID-19 and influenza, if there is any suspicion for COVID-19 exposure in the prior 14 days, continue to treat as a suspected COVID-19 case.
 - viii. If a crewmember screens “yes” to fever and respiratory symptoms, but does not clearly have an exposure that would qualify for a COVID-19 suspect case, seek medical evaluation and, at a minimum, recommend isolation for 72 hours AFTER the fever ends without the use of fever-reducing medications AND an improvement in initial symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath) before returning to work.
- b. Isolation.** Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. When possible, isolate sick crewmembers in a separate stateroom and designate a head that is only for isolated crew. In vessels that cannot accommodate isolation, consider the entire vessel under quarantine for 14 days.
- i. If a crewmember is identified as a potential COVID-19 case, immediately ask them to wear a facemask (a surgical mask, not N-95) if tolerated. If there are no face masks available, a cloth face covering may be used as a last resort.
 - ii. Place the crewmember in a private room with the door closed, ideally an airborne infection isolation room if available. Place a label on the door indicating no one is to enter the room without proper PPE. This room should have separate toilet and bathing facilities.
 - iii. Any staff entering the room should use Standard Precautions, Contact Precautions, and Airborne Precautions, and use eye protection such as goggles or a face shield. If N-95 masks are not available, a surgical mask may be considered an acceptable alternative at this time.

 - iv. Access to the room should be limited to personnel involved in direct care. Meals should be delivered to the room and dishes and utensils cleaned separately. Anyone with exposure to the crewmember should document the date and time of exposure, nature of exposure (close contact, same room, secretions), and PPE worn. Meticulous hand hygiene MUST be performed immediately after doffing PPE.
 - v. Maintain a distance of 6 feet from the sick crewmember and keep interactions with them as brief as possible.

 - vi. Limit the number of people who interact with sick people. To the extent possible, have a single person give care and meals to the sick person.

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- vii. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- viii. Wash your hands often with sudsy soap and warm/hot water and wash your hands immediately after leaving the presence of the sick crew member with soap and water. If soap and water are not available and if hands are not visibly soiled, use a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- ix. Provide tissues and access to soap and water, and ask the sick crewmembers to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue (or facemask) when coughing or sneezing.

c. **Notification.**

- i. Per 33 CFR 160.216, all cases of persons who exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or other flu like illness must be reported immediately to the USCG Captain Of The Port (COTP) as a hazardous condition. 42 CFR 71.1 provides the definition of an ill person onboard a vessel.
- ii. The hazard of COVID-19 adds reporting requirements due to the increased risk to the port, even where a vessel might not have previously deemed a crewmember's illness reportable because the vessel did not believe that the level of symptoms posed a risk to safe manning requirements or to the port facility. In the current situation, where a person onboard shows symptoms of COVID-19, even where those symptoms may be minor, those cases must be reported to the COTP, per the Novel Coronavirus Marine Safety Information Bulletin MSIB 02-20 (Change 1), as amended and MSIB 06-20. This determination does not reduce or minimize the standing regulatory requirement to report hazardous conditions to the COTP.
- iii. Have the following information available before contacting the nearest CDC Quarantine Station
<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/quarantinestationcontactlistfull.html>:
 - 1. List of the sick traveler's signs and symptoms, including onset dates;
 - 2. The sick traveler's highest recorded temperature;
 - 3. The sick traveler's embarkation date and port;
 - 4. The ship's ports of call during the 14 days before the person got sick;
 - 5. List of ports of call where the sick traveler disembarked during the 14 days before the person got sick.
- iv. According to U.S. federal regulations, all deaths and ill persons displaying any of the following signs and symptoms must be reported to CDC:

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Fever (has a measured temperature of 100.4 °F [38 °C] or greater; or feels warm to the touch; or gives a history of feeling feverish) accompanied by one or more of the following:

1. skin rash;
2. difficulty breathing or suspected or confirmed pneumonia;
3. persistent cough or cough with bloody sputum;
4. decreased consciousness or confusion of recent onset;
5. new unexplained bruising or bleeding (without previous injury);
6. persistent vomiting (other than sea sickness);
7. headache with stiff neck;

OR

Fever that has persisted for more than 48 hours;

OR

Acute gastroenteritis, which means either:

1. diarrhea, defined as three or more **episodes** of loose stools in a 24-hour period or what is above normal for the individual, or
2. vomiting accompanied by one or more of the following: one or more episodes of loose stools in a 24-hour period, abdominal cramps, headache, muscle aches, or fever (temperature of 100.4 °F [38 °C] or greater);

- v. Vessels must notify the local and state authorities and shore-based medical facilities prior to entering port with a sick crewmember on board.
- vi. If the ill crewmember does not require shore-side medical attention, the vessel may continue to fish and complete a 14-day quarantine at sea. If unloading to a tender/processor is necessary during this time, all crew must wear gloves and face coverings, and follow the procedures in Paragraph VI.g.
- vii. If the vessel returns to port, the vessel must call the local medical facility or alternate care site to determine if all crewmembers should undergo evaluation.

d. **Transportation.** Procedure on transportation of suspected COVID-19 cases at disembarkation

- i. For the crewmember with suspected COVID-19: A facemask should be worn by the patient for source control. ~~If a nasal cannula is in place, a facemask should be worn over the nasal cannula.~~ Alternatively, an oxygen mask can be used if clinically indicated. If the patient requires intubation,

see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html> for aerosol-generating procedures.

- ii. If ambulance transportation is required: Local EMS should be notified that this is a potential COVID-19 case so that responders may use appropriate PPE and follow their protocols.
 - iii. If private vehicle transportation is utilized: Anyone who will be driving a crewmember with suspected COVID-19 should maintain as much distance from the crewmember as possible, wear a mask if available, and avoid unnecessary contact with the ill person and their belongings. If the driver will provide direct care to the ill person (*e.g.*, moving patients onto stretchers), they should wear recommended PPE. After transportation is complete and before reentering a driver's compartment, the driver should remove and dispose of any PPE in sealed plastic bag and perform hand hygiene. Windows should be down to allow for air exchange if possible.
 - iv. Personnel should avoid touching their face while transporting.
 - v. The receiving healthcare facility must be notified that a patient with suspected COVID-19 is being brought in so that they may take appropriate infection control precautions.
- e. **Quarantine.** Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. If separate staterooms with designated bathrooms are available, this procedure may be considered for individual crew. Otherwise, consider for the entire vessel under quarantine.
- i. Passengers and crew members who have had high-risk exposures to a person suspected of having COVID-19 should be quarantined in their cabins. All potentially exposed passengers, ship medical staff, and crew members should avoid leaving the vessel and self-monitor under supervision of ship medical staff or telemedicine providers until 14 days after the last possible exposure (if the ill crewmember remained on the vessel and could not be fully separated from healthy crew, consider the entire vessel under quarantine for 14 days after the case is determined by public health to no longer need isolation). If an entire vessel is under quarantine, they may continue to work..
 - ii. A high-risk exposure could occur through close contact with the suspected case without PPE. Close contact is defined as:
 - 1. being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time (10 minutes or longer); (close contact can occur while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a healthcare waiting area or room with a COVID-19 case);

OR

2. having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)
- iii. For a catcher or tender vessel with a suspected case, consider the entire crew to have had a high-risk exposure.
- iv. If personnel develop fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or other symptoms of COVID-19 while in quarantine, they should be isolated and undergo medical assessment, reporting and transportation as per the other relevant sections of this Mandate.
- v. Vessel management and telemedicine providers should remain in contact with personnel through the self-monitoring period to oversee self-monitoring activities.
- vi. If the vessel returns to port with a sick crewmember, remaining crewmembers are not permitted to leave the vessel except to receive medical care or to move directly to a suitable quarantine location. No off-vessel work is permitted. The vessel must coordinate delivery of food or other necessities. Vessels are required to fly a “Lima” flag or similar yellow and black pennant if they have any crew on board under quarantine.
- vii. The remaining exposed crewmembers must complete a 14-day quarantine period, from the time the sick crewmember is transported, on the vessel or in a suitable quarantine location.

VIII. Continuity of Fisheries Operations.

- a. Vessel captains should consider the impact that this pandemic will have on the fishing industry as a whole, their suppliers and wrap-around services such as fuel, groceries and lodging.
 - b. Vessel captains should consider the potential impact to their operations that may arise as a result of outbreaks or increased rates of crewmember absenteeism, and enact plans for cross-training crewmembers to the greatest extent possible.
 - c. Vessel captains must cease operations and return to port if they do not have enough healthy crewmembers remaining to safely operate the vessel.
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