



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Marc Gorelnik, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 27, 2022

TO: Council Members, Advisory Body Members, Co-managers, and Stakeholders

FROM: Merrick Burden, Executive Director

SUBJECT: June 2022 Council Meeting COVID Protocols

Dear Council Members, Advisory Body Members, Co-managers, and Stakeholders

This memorandum communicates COVID protocols for the upcoming June 2022 meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council. With a focus on the health of the PFMC family, we will be implementing several measures intended to reduce the risk of COVID spread and exposure. These measures are subject to change as the Council meeting draws nearer. At a minimum we will follow Clark County, WA COVID requirements. In addition, we plan to implement the following measures.

- COVID testing requirement
 - Everyone is asked to self-administer a COVID test no more than 24 hours before arriving at the Council meeting location. Free tests are available at covid.gov/tests. In the event a free test cannot be acquired and must be purchased, that test will be considered a reimbursable expense if you are traveling under Council authorization.
 - Council members and Advisory Body members will be given two COVID rapid response tests upon arrival. One test should be administered upon arrival at the Council meeting. The second test is available in the event an individual feels it necessary to test a second time. Council staff will provide tests to Council members and Advisory Body members.¹
- Masking
 - As of the date of this memorandum we intend to follow CDC and NOAA guidance on masking and implement a masking-optional policy for in-person attendees.

¹ Each committee will have a supply of testing kits available. Please contact the appropriate staff officer, or see Patricia Crouse, if more are needed.

Should Clark County transmission rates rise from Low to Medium, this policy will be re-evaluated. This policy is also subject to change at the Council's discretion up to and during the Council meeting.

- Distancing
 - Council staff will set up the meeting venue to provide for social distancing to the extent possible.

If an individual contracts COVID during the Council meeting, that person is asked to notify the Executive Director and/or the Council's Chief Administrative Officer at:

- Merrick Burden, Executive Director: 503.820.2418 or Merrick.j.burden@noaa.gov
- Patricia Crouse, Administrative Officer: 503.820.2408 or Patricia.Crouse@noaa.gov

Upon receipt of such notice, Council staff will work with the hotel to ensure the comfort of that person and the protection of the broader Council, including steps for notifying those that may have been in close contact. Individuals traveling under Council authorization who contract COVID will have travel expenses reimbursed regardless of their ability to participate in the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the above protocols, please contact me or one of my staff.

Thank you



Merrick Burden
Executive Director