

Guidance for Placer Mining Operations During COVID-19 Response

- 1.) Per the Alaska Essential Services and Critical Workforce Infrastructure Order, Section II(e)(i)(1) mining is identified as "critical infrastructure." This includes placer mining as well as lode mining.
- 2.) Per Health Mandate 010, if placer miners are traveling from outside AK, they will be required to submit out a Traveler Declaration form by one of the following methods:
 - a. Submitting an online form at <https://ready.alaska.gov/Form>;
 - b. By email to akcovidplans@ak-prepared.com; or
 - c. By mail to Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, ATTN: Protective Plans Task Force, PO Box 5750, JBER, AK 99505-5750.
 - d. If you are flying to AK, forms are being made available by airlines and are collected by TSA at the airport.
 - e. If you are driving back to AK, know that the Canadian border is restricted to only essential travelers. It is advised that you check with Border Patrol to ensure you will be allowed to transit through Canada to Alaska, and to determine what type of documentation will be required.
 - f. Per Health Mandate 010, if any workers are traveling interstate, you must submit a plan or protocol outlining how you will avoid the spread of COVID-19 and not endanger the lives of the communities in which you operate, of others who serve as a part of that infrastructure or the ability of that critical infrastructure to function.
 - i. Please visit <https://covid19.alaska.gov/unified-command/worker-mitigation-plan/>.
- 3.) Upon arrival in AK, all miners and their families coming in from outside of Alaska will be **REQUIRED** to quarantine for 14-days in the location designated on the Traveler form. **This quarantine must occur BEFORE miners begin to acquire supplies and mobilize to their placer operations.**
- 4.) For miners who have been in Alaska and who have been abiding by the "hunker down" orders in Health Mandates 011 and 012, you can purchase supplies/provisions at the appropriate store IN YOUR LOCAL HOME AREA, as long as you maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet, cover your face, and follow other related health guidelines, such as frequent handwashing, presented on the State's COVID-19 website covid19.alaska.gov
- 5.) Miners may travel from their home to the placer operation utilizing their standard means of transportation but should maintain social distancing and wear a face covering if stopping to purchase fuel along the way. Wash or sanitize your hands immediately after purchasing fuel and before continuing to your placer site.
- 6.) Per Health Mandate 012, if any workers are traveling between communities, you must submit a plan or protocol outlining how you will avoid the spread of COVID-19 and not endanger the lives of the communities in which you operate, of others who serve as a part of that infrastructure or the ability of that critical infrastructure to function.
 - a. Please visit <https://covid19.alaska.gov/unified-command/worker-mitigation-plan/>

- 7.) Once at your placer mine, stay at your placer mine, just as you would your home, and monitor yourself for symptoms for 14 days.
 - a. Stay current on health information and updates of health mandates. Information is available online at covid19.alaska.gov and many radio stations across the state are broadcasting the Governor's daily COVID-19 status updates.
- 8.) If you need to resupply while at your placer mine, you may travel to your nearest grocery or parts store, but you MUST practice social distancing, consider covering your face if social distancing is going to be difficult to maintain, and wash or sanitize your hands.
- 9.) In general, good hygiene and safe, careful operations at your placer mine are more important now than ever before. Our medical system, while very focused on being prepared to assist a large number of COVID-19 patients, is still there to assist in the event you have any medical emergency. However, we are all trying to do our part to avoid the need for medical assistance so that much needed supplies of blood, masks, gloves and hospital beds remain available in the event that Alaska experiences a large spike in COVID-19 cases. BE SAFE – STAY HEALTHY!