

**MONO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**Public Health Officer Order:**  
**A Clarification of State of California Orders Related to**  
**COVID-19 and Recreational Travel and Lodging**

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**May 18, 2020**

This order provides an update on the status of the State of California's Stay-At-Home order (Executive Order N-33-20, March 19, 2020), which remains in effect, and supersedes the Mono County Health Officer Order of April 1, 2020, which shall be of no further effect. The purpose of this order is to provide additional clarification regarding lodging facilities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes and unincorporated Mono County.

WHEREAS, a state of emergency has been declared by the State of California, and local emergencies have been declared in both Mono County and in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, in response to the virus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there are limited critical healthcare infrastructure and resources, including hospital beds, ventilators and workers capable of adequately treating mass numbers of patients at a single time – should the virus spread unchecked; and

WHEREAS, in direct response to such limited healthcare resources, governments across the world are taking actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 in order to reduce the numbers of individuals infected at any one time by minimizing situations where the virus can spread; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this effort, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by this reference, requiring all persons residing in the State to remain in their homes or places of residence, except as needed to maintain the continuity of operations for critical infrastructure (the "Stay-at-Home Order"); and further Orders by the California State Public Health Officer setting forth the process by which businesses in California may open referred to as the State of California's "Resilience Roadmap".

WHEREAS, the Governor's executive order includes a prohibition of non-essential travel including vacation and leisure travel; and

WHEREAS, the State of California's prohibition of non-essential travel does not change in Stage 2 of the State's Resiliency Roadmap but may be lifted when the Governor and State Health Officer declare California to be in Stage 3 of the Resiliency Roadmap and modify restrictions accordingly; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, effective immediately, under the authority of California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 101085 and 120175 and Title 17 California Code of Regulations, Section 2501, the Mono County Health Officer **HEREBY ORDERS** as follows:

**Clarification for lodging within the Town of Mammoth Lakes:**

1. Short-term lodging facilities (including short-term rentals, vacation rentals, timeshares, hotels and motels) within the Town of Mammoth Lakes may remain open for the following limited purposes:
  - a. To serve as short-term lodging facilities which are used for the following COVID-19 mitigation and containment measures:
    - i. Lodging to protect the homeless population and stranded travelers;
    - ii. Lodging for persons who have been displaced and cannot return to their residence because there is a person residing at the residence that must isolate or quarantine or is at a higher risk of severe illness; and/or
    - iii. Lodging for persons who need to isolate or quarantine.
  - b. Short-term lodging facilities (including short-term rentals, vacation rentals, timeshares, hotels and motels) which are used to house essential workers performing functions that are essential to maintain the continuity of operations for critical infrastructure, as listed in the Essential Workers List, which may be reviewed at <https://covid19.ca.gov/essential-workforce/> but only to the extent and for the period of time necessary for such workers to stay in lodging facilities in the Town of Mammoth Lakes in order to perform such functions.
2. No homeowner, agent of the homeowner, marketing agent, listing agent, or real estate agent shall engage in efforts to rent or lease any short-term rentals, vacation rentals, timeshares, hotels or motel within the Town of Mammoth Lakes for any purpose other than those identified in Paragraph 1 above.
3. In the event of a question or uncertainty as to whether a particular short-term lodging use falls within the above exemptions (i.e., whether it constitutes a mitigation or containment measure, or involves an essential worker, or whether the essential worker's essential functions require staying in lodging facilities within the County), a written determination or directive from the Unified Command Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Mono County Health Officer, Town of Mammoth Lakes Finance Department, or other personnel designated by the Mono County Emergency Operations Center to make such determinations, that the use is authorized, shall be adequate to authorize such use.
4. This Order does not prohibit the owner of a unit (home, condo, or other property unit) from visiting and staying in the unit. Units may need maintenance or repairs, to be prepared for future rental use, to provide upkeep and prepare for transition between seasons, or and to check for other public health and safety risks including but not limited to clearing of brush and debris to maintain defensible space for fire season, checking for any rodent presence that may spread hantavirus, or any damage to wiring, roofing or structural damage. This applies only to the owner and members of the owner's household or living unit.

5. The Governor's Order and implementing Orders issued from the State Public Health Officer still prohibit non-essential travel. Guidance from the State on the opening of business sectors is outlined in the State Public Health Officer's May 7, 2020 Order available at <https://covid19.ca.gov>.
6. This Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until June 30, 2020 unless Mono County enters Stage 3 of the State of California's COVID-19 Roadmap to Resilience prior to that date. The Health Officer, in consultation with the Unified Command/Emergency Operations Center, will review this Order every fifteen (15) days to determine its efficacy and the continuing need beyond June 30, 2020.

**Clarification for lodging within unincorporated Mono County:**

Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 applies statewide and shall continue to apply within unincorporated Mono County until rescinded or revoked by the Governor. The Governor's Order and implementing Orders issued from the State Public Health Officer continue to prohibit non-essential travel. Guidance for the State on the opening of business sectors is outlined in the State Public Health Officer's May 7, 2020 Order available at <https://covid19.ca.gov>. Businesses should refer to this State-provided guidance for further information.

**General Provisions**

1. This Order is issued as a result of the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as "novel coronavirus," which has infected at least 529,591 individuals worldwide in 175 countries and is implicated in over 23,970 worldwide deaths.
2. This Order is issued based on evidence of transmission of COVID-19, scientific evidence regarding the most effective approach to slow transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect the public from the risk of spread of or exposure to COVID-19.
3. This Order is intended to reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, by referencing restrictions issued by the State of California and providing additional clarifications within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, thereby slowing the spread of COVID-19 in communities worldwide. As the presence of individuals increases, the difficulty and magnitude of tracing individuals who may have been exposed to a case rises exponentially.
4. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the: March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March

15, 2020 Declaration of Local Health Emergency based on an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of novel COVID-19 in Mono County; the March 17, 2020 Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mono proclaiming the existence of a Local Emergency in the County of Mono regarding COVID-19 and ratifying and extending the Declaration of Local Health Emergency due to COVID-19; the guidance issued on March 11, 2020 by the California Department of Public Health regarding large gatherings of 250 people or more; Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 of March 12, 2020 preparing the State to commandeer hotels and other places of temporary residence, medical facilities, and other facilities that are suitable as places of temporary residence or medical facilities as necessary for quarantining, isolating or treating individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who have had a high-risk exposure and are thought to be in the incubation period; the guidance issued on March 15, 2020 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and other public health officials through the United States and around the world recommending the cancellation of gatherings involving more than fifty (50) or more persons in a single space at the same time; the March 16, 2020 order of the Public Health Officer prohibiting all gatherings with expected presence above ten (10) individuals; and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 of March 19, 2020 ordering all persons to stay at home to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and to establish consistency across the state in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

5. This Order is made in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to: Health and Safety Code sections 101030, et seq.; Health and Safety Code sections 120100, et seq.; and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations section 2501.

6. To the extent necessary, pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all Chiefs of Police in the County ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order.

7. This Order is made because of the propensity of the virus to spread person-to-person and also because the virus is causing physical property loss or damage due to its proclivity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time.

8. Copies of this Order shall promptly be posted on the County of Mono's Public Health Department's website (monohealth.com) and provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

*Thomas Boo, MD*

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Thomas Boo, MD  
Local Health Officer  
For Mono County  
and the Town of Mammoth Lakes

Date 05-20-2020

