



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mono County Health Department

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HEALTH OFFICER ISSUES ORDER CLARIFYING RECREATIONAL TRAVEL AND LODGING WITHIN THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES AND UNINCORPORATED MONO COUNTY

May 20, 2020 - Mono County Health Officer Dr. Tom Boo issued a new Recreational Travel and Lodging Order replacing his April 1, 2020 Amended Order *Clarifying Governor's "Stay-at-Home" Order as Related to Lodging Facilities*. The purpose of the new order is to provide additional clarification regarding lodging facilities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes and to rescind clarifications previously provided within unincorporated Mono County.

The new 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 rescinds the Mono County Health Officer Order of April 1, 2020.

Legally, this order does not change the reality that the State currently prohibits Californians from traveling for recreational or non-essential travel purposes. Hotels/lodging for leisure and tourism are not permitted in Stage 2. They are a stage 3 activity grouped with personal services, entertainment venues, libraries, community centers, public pools, playgrounds, picnic areas and concert venues/festivals.

Clarification for Unincorporated Areas of Mono County

For the unincorporated areas of Mono County, today's order rescinds the previous Mono County clarification of the State's order and simply says that Mono County remains subject to the Governor's Stay-At-Home Executive Order. Again, we are in Stage 2 of the California Resilience Roadmap and vacation travel and lodging are not allowed until the State permits Mono County to enter Stage 3. Additionally, under the State's orders, workers managing or servicing hotels or other lodging facilities

are not authorized to return to work except to the extent needed for COVID-19 response – to accommodate essential workers, or providing housing solutions, including protecting homeless populations. At this time, Mono County does not know when the transition to the additional lodging uses under Stage 3 will occur. 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.

Clarification in the Town of Mammoth Lakes

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 Resilience Roadmap 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.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 epidemic and this extension provides the Town of Mammoth Lakes with more defined short-term lodging rental parameters, along with the ability for ongoing enforcement to support the order. This order strictly prohibits any homeowner, or anyone acting on a homeowner’s behalf, from engaging in efforts to rent or lease any short-term rental within the Town of Mammoth Lakes for any purpose other than for essential services.

It is acknowledged that a property owner (second home owner) may travel to Mono County or the Town of Mammoth Lakes to check, secure, or prepare property for future use of their properties including condos, vacation rentals, and homes (only members of single household are to be together).

For the duration of this order or when Mono County is permitted to enter Stage 3 of the State Resilience Roadmap, lodging properties should not be inviting people to come to Mono County for leisure or recreational purposes.

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