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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Lodging Within Unincorporated  
Mono County to Align with State's Purple Tier Guidance**

*Purple Tier Guidance Differs from Town of Mammoth Lakes Lodging Order*

**MONO COUNTY, Calif. (JANUARY 31, 2021)** – Effective January 25, 2021, lodging facilities within the unincorporated communities of Mono County are subject to the State's Widespread Tier 1 (Purple) of the Blueprint for a Safer Economy (Blueprint), the State's "stringent and slow plan for living with COVID-19 (Coronavirus)." These facilities are not subject to the Town of Mammoth Lakes Lodging Order announced on Sunday, January 31, 2021.

"Visitation within the unincorporated areas of Mono County is substantially lower during the winter season, resulting in significantly less tourism and a diminished impact on lodging occupancy," stated Bob Lawton, Mono County Administrative Officer. "Following our stated commitment to align with State guidance, and in an effort to balance both public health and economic interests as we continue to navigate the pandemic, we do not see the need to further restrict lodging within the unincorporated communities of Mono County."

While the Purple Tier of the Blueprint does not place restrictions on lodging occupancy, it does include modifications and guidance related the following:

- Cleaning and disinfection protocols
- Masking requirements for guests and employees
- Employee screening and education
- Workplace COVID-19 prevention plans
- Vacancy periods between guests
- Guest education, signage, sanitation supplies and equipment
- Physical distancing
- Ventilation

While in the Purple Tier, fitness centers may only operate outdoors. Outdoor hot tubs can open only for use by household groups or in cases where six feet of distancing can be maintained, and

indoor pools, hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms must remain closed. Meeting venues and banquet rooms must remain closed and only unoccupied units may be rented.

Lodging operators within unincorporated Mono County must familiarize themselves with and implement the State Guidance for Hotels, Lodging, and Short-Term Rentals to the extent mandatory. Violation of any mandatory provision of the State's guidelines is a misdemeanor and may result in civil or criminal penalties. Detailed guidance on hotels, lodging, and short-term lodging rentals can be accessed here: <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/#hotels-guidance>. Details on the Blueprint can be accessed here: <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>.

### **Summary Status of Mono County Business Sector Operations (Effective January 25, 2021)**

#### **Open Indoors with Modifications:**

- Critical Infrastructure: Open with modifications
- Hair Salons and Barbershops: Open indoors with modifications
- Offices: Remote
- Personal Care Services: Open indoors with modifications
- Retail: Open indoors with modifications (25% capacity)
- Grocery: Open indoors with modifications (50% capacity)

#### **Open Outdoors with Modifications:**

- Restaurants: Open outdoors with modifications
- Wineries and tasting rooms: Open outdoors with modifications
- Bars, Breweries and Distilleries : Open outdoors if meal provided
- Museums: Open outdoors with modifications
- Places of Worship: Open outdoors with modifications
- Movie Theaters: Open outdoors with modifications
- Gyms and Fitness Centers: Open outdoors with modifications
- Family Entertainment Centers (including Bowling Alleys & Climbing Walls): Open outdoors with modifications
- Indoor pools, hot tubs, saunas and steam rooms: Closed

All Mono County residents and visitors are asked to do their part to **#StaySafeToStayOpen**. This is more than a hashtag – it needs to become a way of life. Additional information regarding the Blueprint for a Safer Economy is available online: <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap-counties/> or by visiting the Mono County COVID-19 Portal in English: **MonoHealth.com/Coronavirus** or Spanish: <https://monohealth.com/coronavirus-es>.

Cover. Distance. Wash and **#StaySafeToStayOpen!**

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