

MEMORANDUM
Department of Natural Resources
Chief of Fire and Aviation

STATE OF ALASKA
Division of Forestry
(907) 761-6225

TO: All DOF Employees & Supplemental Resources

DATE: June 12, 2020

FROM: Norm McDonald

PHONE: (907) 761-6225

SUBJECT: Lower-48 Resource Orders COVID Mitigations

The Division of Forestry mission is safe and efficient wildland fire management for protection of life and property. The 2020 season brings an additional emphasis in safeguarding the health and welfare of our firefighters, public and communities from COVID-19. As wildland fire protection agencies, wildland firefighters and support personnel fall under Governor's Order, *Alaska Essential Services and Critical Workforce Infrastructure*, which states; "Certain, critical infrastructure industries have special responsibility in these times to continue to operate," which includes exemptions and instructions for firefighters (public safety) under the category of "First Responders".

Single resource orders will be processed through our regular vetting to insure intent of public safety. Resource order requests will include the Governor's order ([Governor's Order](#)) and link to the latest [DOF COVID-19 Handbook](#) to ensure awareness and expectations of arriving resources.

Responders on resource orders to Alaska, to assist in protection of life and property against wildfire, are also being asked to assist in efforts to combat and prevent the spread of the COVID-19. Testing is one of the many steps the State of Alaska is taking to safeguard our wildland fire responders as well the communities and villages they may be asked to protect. Although voluntary for federal resources, the State of Alaska requests all firefighters follow our course of action and attached procedures as part of our mitigation efforts. The testing efforts do not effectively guarantee every responder is COVID-19 free and they do not replace key prevention and mitigation strategies that have been recommended, such as the use of protective barriers, screening procedures, social distancing and hygiene protocols. Testing is one of the steps identified by the State Division of Public Health to reduce risk to firefighters and the public. Incoming resources will be briefed on COVID safety measures by the receiving unit and will include the following information:

- [NWCG Wildfire COVID Screening Requirements](#) should be conducted at the home base prior to departure.
- Not all agencies can require testing of employees, but acceptance of a resource order to Alaska will indicate compliance with the testing requirements that are put in place by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. Each employee receiving a resource order (RO) can choose to accept the RO or not, based on their choice to take a test.
- COVID testing preflight will not suffice for testing upon arrival to Alaska.
- Incoming resources will track their physical contacts from the time of departure from their home unit throughout their assignment.
- Resources will utilize face coverings and practice social distancing while in travel status and while on assignment when possible.
- Incoming resources are recommended to travel with an initial supply of PPE, hand sanitizer and disinfecting supplies. Personnel ordered to Alaska should plan to be self-sufficient for up to three days of travel.
- COVID testing is to be completed immediately upon arrival to Alaska.
 - If you are arriving in Anchorage (Ted Stevens International Airport), you must pre-register by accessing the Capstone COVID 19 Testing Pre-Registration Portal at [Capstone COVID Testing Registration](#)

- If you are arriving in Fairbanks, (Fairbanks International Airport), you must pre-register by accessing the [Beacon COVID Testing Registration - Wildland Response](#)

PRE-POSITION RESOURCE ORDERS:

- After completed testing at the airport you should go directly to a hotel room or prearranged lodging and remain self-quarantined until you receive your negative test results.
- You should order food in your room and not spend time in public places until you receive your negative test results.
- You should NOT report to your duty station until you receive your negative test results.
- Remain in contact with your dispatch center and keep them apprised of your status.
- If you test positive, inform your dispatch center. You will be provided with further instructions at that time. The State of Alaska has public health care providers available for consultation and contact tracing.
- Test results have been coming in about 24-48 hours but may take longer as the system is loaded. Be prepared to remain in your hotel room for two nights if necessary.

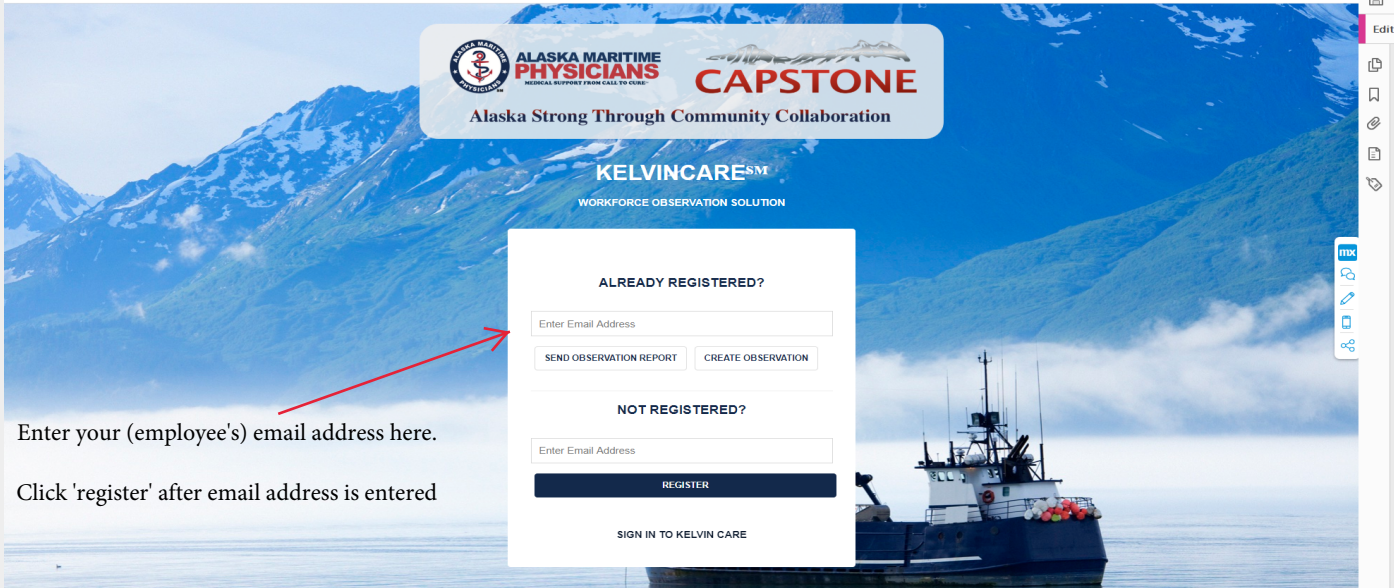
FIRE RESOURCE ORDERS:

Following Department of Health and Social Services direction for an emergency response to provide protection of life and property, wildland firefighters and support personnel will use the following procedures:

- After completing testing at the airport, proceed to check in location as documented on the resource order.
- Protect yourself, your crew, your camp, and your host unit, use due diligence to follow fire and COVID-19 best practices including self-screening, hygiene, social distancing, and face coverings.
- You will be notified of test results as soon as possible. Results have been available in between 24-48 hours although newer equipment is being setup and will expedite wait times.
- If you have any questions regarding testing, contact State Logistics Center Coordinator, Teresa Rose. teresa.rose@alaska.gov or (907) 378-0536.

ACCESSING THE COVID 19 TESTING PRE-REGISTRATION PORTAL

Covid-19 Testing Availability: Instructions for Critical Infrastructure - *You must pre-register.*
 Employees may register at: <https://app.kelvin.care>.



Enter your (employee's) email address here.
 Click 'register' after email address is entered

The 'New Registration' form will appear for completion.



PROFILE IDENTIFICATION

Company

Project

PROFILE INFORMATION

First name

Last name

Date of birth

Email

Cell phone (### ###)

ADDRESS INFORMATION

Address line1

Address line2

City

State

Zip

For the Company in the first section, select your company name. If flying into Ted Stevens Airport, your Company is-Alaska Directed State Activity (Fishing/Firefighters).

For Project, select Ted Stevens C19 if you will be tested in the airport or Dillingham C19 if you will be tested in Dillingham or other appropriate Project.



ACCESSING THE COVID 19 TESTING PRE-REGISTRATION PORTAL

Enter your Arrival date to the airport or the day you will be at the test location.

Enter how you will travel to the test site and how we can identify you (flight number or vehicle etc).

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Arrival date:

Form of travel:

Flight no./Vessel name/License plate/Etc.:

Preferred Test Site:

EXPECTED WORK LOCATION INFORMATION

Boat Name/Mine/Processing Plant/Nearest City/Work Location

Enter where you will get your test done. NOTE: Ted Stevens and Anchorage are different locations. Ted Stevens is on the terminal side of the airport (secure side of TSA). Outside of the Airport, collections are done at Anchorage location.

If traveling into Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport:

Upon de-boarding the aircraft, travelers should proceed to the Concourse and follow signage to the testing site, located across from Humpys restaurant. DO NOT EXIT THE SECURE TERMINAL AREA.



Testing at other locations outside the airport can be accomplished at:

Name: **Anchorage Collection Site**
Address: 301 Calista Court, Anchorage AK 99518
Contact phone number: (907) 538-4421
Fax: (907)802-6196

Name: **Kenai**
Address: 10543 Kenai Spur Hwy., Kenai, AK 99611
Contact phone number: (907) 395-0463
Fax: (907)395-0483

Name: **Wasilla**
Address: 3122 E Meridian Park Loop, Wasilla, AK 99654
Contact phone number: (907) 864-4642
Fax: (907) 357-9519

Name: **Dillingham**
Address: 240 Harbor Road, Dillingham AK 99576
Contact phone number: (907) 764-8879 (This is Carey's number)
Fax: (907) 308-6844

Thank you for pre-registering with Capstone! For questions, please call us at (907) 864-4642.



Fairbanks COVID-19 Testing

A COVID-19 PCR lab-based test will be completed in Fairbanks. The testing site is located at Fairbanks International Airport, near Baggage Claim 2. The testing will include a review of signs and symptoms, temperature and specimen collection via nasal or oral swab. Results are typically reported within 72 hours.

Instructions to Register for COVID-19 Testing

Prior to arrival please complete testing registration form using following link:

[Beacon COVID Testing Registration - Wildland Response](#)

Hours of operation are Monday –
Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00pm If you
have any questions, please contact
(907) 375-4381.

