

DRAFT Mitigation Plan for the Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Southeast and Yakutat Meeting, January 4-15, 2022, Ketchikan  
Alaska

December 23, 2021

Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Boards Support Section

## Table of Contents

Lead Contacts.....	3
Current Conditions re: COVID-19.....	3
Community of Ketchikan Information .....	3
Expected Attendance.....	4
Facility Considerations.....	4
Mitigation Measures.....	5
Pretesting.....	5
Registration.....	6
Mask Requirement.....	6
Signage.....	6
Traffic Flow.....	6
Physical Equipment.....	6
Facility Measures .....	6
Testing Facilities.....	6
Board Process Changes .....	7
In Meeting Plan.....	7
Response Team.....	7
Medical Facilities.....	7
Symptom Observation .....	7
Testing.....	8
Contact tracing.....	8
Quarantining .....	8
Transportation .....	8
Communication Plan.....	9
APPENDIX 1 – KETCHIKAN TESTING AND MEDICAL FACILITIES .....	10

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## Current Conditions re: COVID-19

As of December 21, 2021, Alaska and communities were sustaining the COVID-19 case counts and related information provided in Table 1. While registration for the meeting is ongoing, it is assumed most of the participants will be coming from these Alaska regions/communities.

**Table 1**

Location	7-Day Case Rate <sup>1 2</sup>	Case Rate Trend as of 12/10/21	Risk Alert Level	Percentage of Fully Vaccinated
Alaska Statewide	20.5	32.0	High	54.0%
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	54.3	123.3	High	63.6%
Petersburg Borough	26.9	44.8	High	65.5%
Wrangell City & Borough	--	--	Low	58.8%
Prince of Wales	18.8	49.3	High	81.2 (Craig only)
Sitka	33.5	21.8	High	73.1%
Haines Borough	--	--	High	90.7%
City and Borough of Juneau	19.8	27.4	High	73.1%
Municipality of Anchorage	20.5	27.7	High	57.4%
Mat-Su Borough	18.1	37.1	High	39.5%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	14.9	19.0	High	51.4%

## Community of Ketchikan Information

As of December 22, 2021, Ketchikan is listed at a High Alert level by the State of Alaska. While conditions are improving, the community has one of the highest case rate levels in the state. For information on the conditions applied to the community at this alert level visit the community's COVID-19 website here - <https://www.kgbak.us/913/COVID-19-Response>.

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<sup>1</sup> The 7-day case rate is a common measurement for comparing the prevalence of COVID-19 in various communities or regions with different populations. Using 100,000 population as the flagpole, it asks "what is the average number of daily cases if you prorate the population to 100,000?". In a community like Juneau with a population of 32,000, roughly a third of 100,000, if the community was sustaining 10 cases/day on average, it's case rate would be 31.25. In a community like Anchorage with a population of 288,970, if there were 50 cases/day on average, it would have a case rate of 17.3.

<sup>2</sup> All data from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services daily COVID-19 updates.

## Expected Attendance

The Southeast and Yakutat Finfish and Shellfish meeting is expected to draw over 200 people between board members, staff and attending public. Table 2 provides a known breakdown at this time.

**Table 2**

Organization	Number of People	Notes
Board of Fisheries members	6	From Anchorage, Eagle River, Wasilla, Willow, Fairbanks, Petersburg, Soldotna
ADF&G – Boards Support	4	3 from Juneau, 1 from Fairbanks and Anchorage each
ADF&G – Commercial Fisheries	18	15 other staff members will participate remotely
ADF&G – Sport Fisheries	15	2 other staff members will participate remotely
ADF&G – Subsistence Section	2	2 other staff members will participate remotely
Other Agency Staff	2	All from Anchorage; another participating remotely
Advisory Committee members	10 (est.)	Pelican, Juneau, Sitka, Petersburg, Yakutat, Wrangell, Ketchikan, Craig, East Prince of Wales, Klawock
General Public*	150	An estimate. As of December 22, 53 individuals have completed registration.
Total in person	197	

\* Actual attendance will vary based on registration numbers between December 22 and the meeting, including registrations at the door.

## Facility Considerations

The Ted Ferry Civic Center is a city owned public facility. The entire facility is 4,250 square feet. The meeting space planned for the Board of Fisheries meeting is shown in Figure 1.

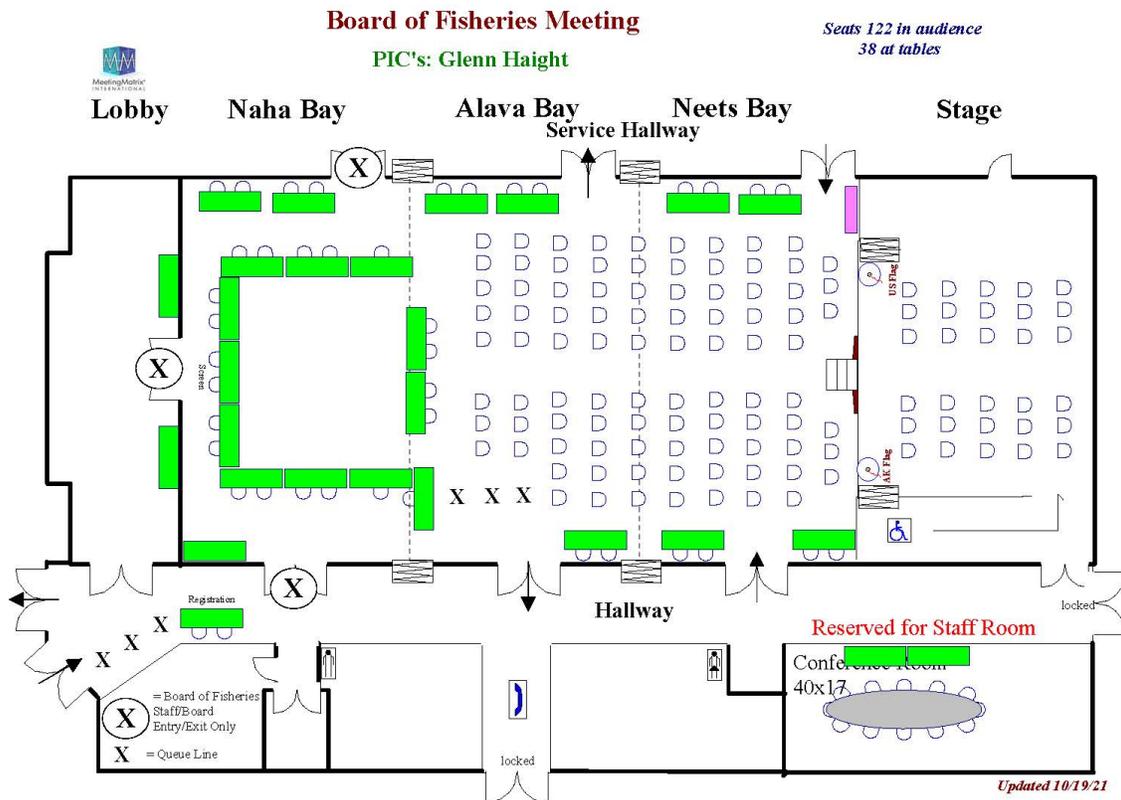


Figure 1

During the Board of Fisheries meeting, the entrance into the building will be limited to the main entrance. Attendees must register to join the meeting and will be provided with a badge that indicates registration. There will be a registration table set-up at the building entrance for those not registered in advance. Pre-registration may be conducted at the board's meeting webpage here - <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo&date=01-04-2022&meeting=ketchikan>.

## Mitigation Measures

### Pretesting

Pretesting is not a requirement of meeting attendees, but highly encouraged. Testing in one's home community three days prior to travel will provide the attendee with information related to infection and whether travel is advisable. Attendees may use at-home antigen tests prior to attendance and according

to package instructions. These are available in most communities either through the local public health center or through the respective city or borough.

### Registration

Registration is required of all non-board and staff attendees. Registration will contain contact information, acknowledgement of a waiver and release of liability, and requested sign-up times for public testimony.

A registration table will be stationed at the front desk and individuals entering will be given a badge and asked to have it available upon request throughout the meeting.

### Mask Requirement

Neither the State of Alaska nor the Ted Ferry Civic Center require masks to be worn in the facility either when moving about and when six feet social distancing cannot be maintained. However, Boards Support strongly encourages attendees consider wearing a mask when joining for the meeting to avoid not only contracting COVID-19, but other common colds which could also derail the meeting. Please remember an outbreak of COVID-19 at the meeting may likely end the meeting.

### Signage

Boards Support will work with facility management to have appropriate and adequate signage around the building in key locations including the front entrance, when entering the meeting room, and in the main meeting area. Signage will provide -

- The local alert status.
- Encouragement to practice social distancing when possible.
- Encouragement to wash hands, use hand sanitizer, and other measures.
- Information on local medical providers.

### Traffic Flow

With no requirement to wear masks, there will be greater emphasis on traffic flow throughout the building. Basic floor markings will be made throughout the meeting area to assist in social distancing.

### Physical Equipment

Boards Support will set up sneeze guards around the regional coordinator/record copy desk. Water bottles will be available as opposed to water coolers. Ample hand sanitizer is available, and Boards Support has masks available on request. Boards Support also has microphone covers to use for shared microphones.

### Facility Measures

This mitigation plan represents the entirety of the facilities mitigation measures.

### Testing Facilities

Testing facilities are available at several locations in the Ketchikan area, although most for a nominal fee (see Appendix 1). Boards Support also has a small supply of home test kits if the need arises. In the event individuals begin to feel symptoms, there will be handouts and signage through the building on

where to find the clinics. Attendees are reminded there are at-home antigen tests that may be taken prior to attendance and according to package instructions. These are available in most communities either through the local public health center or through the respective city or borough.

### Board Process Changes

There are several changes to the board process that will assist in limiting the spread of COVID-19. Sign-up for public testimony through early registration will help reduce the number of people in the board meeting room at the beginning of the meeting. This metered approach to handling public testimony will allow individuals to arrive near their scheduled time for testimony.

There will be increased video capacity in the room. Attendees can watch the meeting elsewhere and better time when they need to be in the room.

Committee of the whole meetings will be conducted using stationary microphones placed throughout the room rather than passing around a single microphone to all speakers.

Finally, many ADF&G staff members will participate remotely and/or time their entrance into the meeting room for when they are most needed. Side rooms with Zoom capacity will help facilitate side conversations between board members, staff, and stakeholders.

## In Meeting Plan

### Response Team

In the event of an outbreak at the meeting, Boards Support will notify all participants and organize a response team to assist affected individuals. Participants will be informed at the outset of the meeting, and repeatedly thereafter, that they can expect confidentiality from the response team in the event of sustaining COVID related symptoms.

The response team will consist of Boards Support, the facility manager, a representative from the Ketchikan Public Health Center, and other appropriate contact tracers.

### Medical Facilities

There are several medical facilities in Ketchikan with varying capacities for treating, testing, and vaccinating for COVID-19. These facilities and available services are found in Appendix 1.

### Symptom Observation

Attendees are encouraged to carefully monitor their own well-being. If an individual is feeling any common COVID-19 symptoms, they should not attend the meeting in person, and get tested at any of the local clinics. Common COVID-19 symptoms include:

- persistent dry cough,
- sore throat,
- congestion/runny nose,
- fever,
- tiredness,
- aches and pains,

- sore throat,
- diarrhea,
- headache,
- loss of taste or smell,
- toes or fingers discoloration,
- difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, and
- chest pain or pressure.

Boards Support staff will monitor for individuals displaying any of the common symptoms and will work with attendees if noted. Instructions to seek testing services will be listed throughout the meeting building.

### Testing

Testing is available at the medical clinics. (Appendix 1.)

### Contact tracing

In the event of a COVID-19 case occurring at the meeting, the lead event contacts will coordinate with the Ketchikan Public Health Center to determine if contact tracing is possible. Messaging will be sent to all registered participants regarding an outbreak with a recommendation that individuals who may know they were exposed to COVID-19 to seek testing. Any work of the contact tracers will be done with confidentiality towards all involved.

### Quarantining

Individuals who contract COVID-19 must isolate until they are no longer infectious. The duration of required isolation is typically 10 days from symptom onset (or a positive test in an asymptomatic person), resuming normal activities on the 11<sup>th</sup> day. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 may not board a plane or ferry until they have successfully passed quarantine.

Individuals who are experiencing COVID-19 related symptoms (see above), must quarantine until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, resuming normal activities on the 11<sup>th</sup> day, or until they have had a negative molecular test performed any time after symptom onset.

Unvaccinated individuals who were in close contact with someone known to have COVID-19 must quarantine until the individual receives a negative molecular test performed on day 6 or 7 from the last date of exposure, resuming normal activities on the 8<sup>th</sup> day.

Vaccinated individuals who were in close contact with someone known to have COVID-19 do not need to quarantine if the individual remains asymptomatic. Vaccinated close contacts are not required to test; however, vaccinated close contacts are recommended to do so, regardless of symptoms, between days 5-7 from the last date of exposure.

### Transportation

Boards Support will endeavor to assist with transportation for individuals showing COVID-19 related symptoms.

## Communication Plan

Through the meeting registration, contact information for all attendees will be collected by Boards Support for rapid communication. Boards Support will use the contact information at several intervals. Prior to the meeting Boards Support will send registrants meeting updates including this mitigation plan. This communication will continue throughout the meeting if there are COVID-19 outbreaks or related medical issues. Boards Support will also include all emails in its Board of Fisheries subscription list for individuals interested in Southeast and Yakutat Areas.

In addition to meeting notices sent out as needed, there will be substantial signage throughout the building to serve as reminders and inform attendees on the change in process.

APPENDIX 1 – KETCHIKAN TESTING AND MEDICAL FACILITIES

Medical Facility, Address, Phone Number	Treatment Facilities	Special Conditions
Beacon Drive-Up COVID Testing Site 4233 Tongass Ave (at AMHS ferry terminal) 907-228-6605	COVID testing only	Free COVID testing. Rapid testing availability is variable with results taking anywhere from 25 minutes to several days.
Capstone COVID Testing Site Ketchikan Airport	COVID testing only	Airport testing facility. You can test upon arrival with results in 20 minutes to several hours.
PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center 3128 Tongass Ave 907-225-5171	Testing, emergency, inpatient, & outpatient care	Testing cost billed to insurance first; remainder billed to patient. Call first (do not come inside) if you have symptoms.
Ketchikan Public Health Center 605 Gateway Court 907-225-4350	COVID testing, COVID+ care coordination, limited outpatient services	COVID testing is <i>only</i> performed here in extenuating circumstances, and no walk-in COVID testing is permitted. If you test positive for COVID, their nurses will assist in contact tracing, clearance letters, and resource acquisition if needed.
Creekside Family Health Clinic 320 Bawden St 907-220-9982	Outpatient care. MAB treatment. Testing.	Testing cost billed to insurance first; remainder billed to patient. Cash pay price is \$88.00. Call first (do not come inside) if you have symptoms. Also offers monoclonal antibody (MAB) treatment for individuals with COVID-19 who are at risk for severe disease.
Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Health Clinic 2960 Tongass Avenue 907-228-9400	Urgent & outpatient care. Testing.*	*Free to enrolled Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Beneficiaries only. They do not provide services to non-KIC-enrolled individuals.
Power of Wellness 3528 Tongass Avenue 907-220-4447	Urgent & outpatient care. Testing.	Testing cost billed to insurance first; remainder billed to patient. Call first (do not come inside) if you have symptoms.
The Safety Specialists (TSS) 120 Carlanna Lake Road 907-247-1431	COVID testing, outpatient labs	Testing cost billed to insurance first; remainder billed to patient. Call first (do not come inside) if you have symptoms.