

**From:** jdecker@afdf.org  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 25, 2020 6:59 AM  
**To:** Riley Smith  
**Cc:** Decker, Julie; Ekaterina Ratzlaff  
**Subject:** COVID-19 updates from AFDF  
**Attachments:** NFI COVID Sitrep #64 23-24 Jun 2020: (214 KB)

To: AFDF Members

June 25<sup>th</sup>: Important recent COVID-19 information to help you navigate this pandemic.

## **ECONOMIC RELIEF**

*NOTE: the economic relief programs at the federal and state level continue to change (extensions, eligibility, total funds, etc). Please continue to review programs for more details if you previously did not qualify. Additionally, communities are starting to roll out their set of economic relief programs from the CARES Act funds distributed to communities. Fishermen and processors may qualify for some of those programs as well.*

1. **NEW – PPP changed to include 1099-MISC payments – deadline to apply still June 30th:** From an email from Senator Lisa Murkowski's office:

Senator Murkowski has been working really hard to get Treasury to amend the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) so fishermen who report "Fishing Boat Proceeds" in Box 5 on Form 1099-MISC can participate. My colleague, Ann Robertson, expects Treasury to make this critical change very soon – today or tomorrow. Can you please spread the word among lenders in Alaska because **the deadline for applying for PPP is still June 30!** The details:

- Treasury is planning to issue a Temporary Final Rule to amend its implementation of the Paycheck Protection Program 'eligible payroll cost' calculation to include "Fishing Boat Proceeds," which are reported in Box 5 on Form 1099-MISC.
- This change will allow fishermen to use the payments they make to crewmembers in their calculation of "average monthly payroll" for the purposes of calculating the loan amount they are eligible to borrow.
- Previously, fishermen were not able to include 1099 payments in their payroll calculations, making them eligible for loan amounts that are far lower than what their business may require to operate through the pandemic.
- We will provide additional details from Treasury as soon as we know how they plan to address "double-dipping," i.e. making sure a crewmember has not already applied for their own PPP loan using their 1099 income.
- **The most critical part – the deadline to apply for PPP is still June 30, so fishermen only have a short window to take advantage of this change. We are requesting that lenders be prepared and accommodating to make sure fishermen who wish to apply for PPP under this new rule are able to do so.** We are happy to assist with any obstacles the lenders encounter in helping fishermen obtain these resources.

Businesses must work through a bank to apply for a PPP loan (which can be converted to a grant, if the requirements are met). [Here is a list of participating banks.](#) It is highly recommended that you work with a bank with which you already have a financial relationship.

2. **NEW – Expansion of AK CARES Grant Program:** On June 17<sup>th</sup>, the Alaska Dept. of Commerce announced that it will be expanding this grant program which makes grants of \$5,000 to \$100,000 to eligible businesses and non-profits. *Businesses and non-profits that received LESS THAN \$5,000 in PPP/EIDL funds will soon be eligible to apply.* Additionally, both 501(c)3 and 501(c)6 non-profits will be eligible to apply. The changes are anticipated to be in place approximately July 1<sup>st</sup>, so keep [checking back to this website](#) for more information. Also, see these [FAQs](#). [Credit Union 1](#) will be processing the applications and distributing the funds.
3. **SBA EIDL Program Re-Opened:** On June 15<sup>th</sup>, this program was re-opened. “To further meet the needs of U.S. small businesses and non-profits, the U.S. Small Business Administration reopened the [Economic Injury Disaster Loan \(EIDL\) and EIDL Advance Program portal](#) to all eligible applicants experiencing economic impacts due to COVID-19 today.” If your business or non-profit has not applied yet, you are likely qualified to receive an advance (which does not need to be repaid) of \$1,000 per employee, up to a total of \$10,000, in addition to other potential loan options.
4. **\$50 Million for Fishermen/Processors/Etc:** The state is still working on the eligibility criteria for distribution of the \$50 million that the state received for fishermen, processors, charter fishermen, and aquaculture businesses. An additional \$1 million was received for Alaska tribes. The following three links are the most current info to date:
  - ADFG: [https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/news/hottopics/pdfs/cares\\_act\\_guidance\\_6520.pdf](https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/news/hottopics/pdfs/cares_act_guidance_6520.pdf)
  - NOAA: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/commerce-secretary-announces-allocation-300-million-cares-act-funding>
  - ALFA: <http://www.alfafish.org/news-1/2020/5/15/noaa-fisheries-allocate-50-million-in-covid-19-disaster-relief-funds-to-divide-between-alaska-commercial-fishermen-charter-operators-and-processors>
5. **Alaska Chamber:** The [Alaska Chamber](#) has many resources related to the various economic programs available to businesses, including Q&A webinars.

## HEALTH SAFETY

1. **FISHERMEN - Health Mandate 17:** A member of Alaska’s Unified Command reported yesterday that Health Mandate 17 is expected to be updated and revised, given new information available to the state. However, these revisions are not expected to be completed for approximately two weeks.
2. **SEAFOOD PROCESSORS – Review of Protective Plans:** A member of Alaska’s Unified Command reported yesterday that the desk-top review of the protective plans is almost completed. The next stage of review will be conducted by calling each processing company to discuss the results of the desk-top review. The last stage could be a site visit to plants. As you know, the State of Alaska revised Health Mandate 10, to include [Appendix 1 – Enhanced Protective Measures for Seafood Processing Workers](#), which strengthens the 14-day mandatory quarantine under three options for processors.
3. **UFA Message to the Fleet:** UFA, with support from PSPA, has [created this flyer](#) that can be posted on social media, or printed and posted in communities and onboard vessels. UFA also has 1,000 copies printed and laminated. Contact UFA if you would like them mailed to you for distribution.
4. **Helpful Industry Websites with COVID Info:**
  1. [United Fishermen of Alaska \(UFA\)](#)
  2. [Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association \(BBRSDA\)](#) – including a [Bristol Bay Fishermen’s Handbook](#)

3. [Alaska Fishermen's Network](#)
4. [Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation \(AFDF\)](#)

6. **National Fisheries Institute (NFI) Sitrep #64** (see attached email)

*Coastal communities and the seafood industry are in this together, and working together is how we will keep everyone safe and keep businesses open.*

Good health to you.

Julie Decker  
Executive Director

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