

Chair & County Health Officer,

Dr. Charles Stringham

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Ron Cerri, County Commissioner

Mike Bell, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

Humboldt County Health Board

Humboldt County Courthouse
50 West Fifth Street Room 205
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nicole Maher, PIO
Humboldt County Health Board
Phone: (775) 761-2624
Email: nicole@winnemucca.net

HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS ONE CONFIRMATION, URGES PRECAUTIONS OVER LABOR DAY

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of one more positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 115.

Overall, 102 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, and 12 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 56 tests, with 56 negative and no results pending. Any positives through the Community Health Nurse will be reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe has 84 total cases; 76 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, while eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 661 tests, 71 people have recovered, one person has died, two people are hospitalized and the tribe has 14 active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County case are being identified or have been notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest case follows:

- Case 115 – A man in his 30s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 114 cases, 106 have recovered, one is hospitalized, three are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has five active cases.

This weekend marks the "unofficial end of summer" and Labor Day, especially, can be a time for gathering and celebration. However, officials are asking residents to remember to wear masks and socially distance this holiday weekend in an effort to ward off any possible spikes in COVID-19 cases.

"We are very worried about a potential uptick in numbers," said Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD. "We know from past experience that one gathering can result in dozens of cases, so we are asking people to be very cautious and to do the right things."

The doctor said several recent cases were transmitted by asymptomatic carriers of the virus.

“They had no idea they were carrying this virus, or passing it along to others,” said the doctor. “It’s a good reminder that people don’t immediately experience, or they might never experience, symptoms, but they can pass it to others without knowing.”

The doctor said that’s why it’s so important for people to wear masks, distance socially, practice good hand hygiene, and gather in smaller groups with the right precautions, or not at all.

“COVID-19 continues to inhibit our daily activities, and to inhibit our forward movement as a community,” said Dr. Stringham. “I hope we can be wise in protecting ourselves and our families against this very dangerous and unpredictable virus.”

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a facial covering if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid visiting sick people or those who are self-isolating.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Self-isolate if they have had a known exposure, or if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

The Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic continues to test symptomatic and exposed residents from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The clinic may be accessed from the ramp entrance on Mizpah Street. Residents should call (775) 623-5222, ext. 1379, to alert staff and wait for assistance.

The Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse also is offering testing to asymptomatic persons with no known exposure. For more information or to make an appointment, residents may call the clinic at (775) 623-6575.

Free cloth masks are available to community members at the Olsen’s and Ridley’s pharmacies, courtesy of the Mucca Mask Makers, or by messaging the group on Facebook @Mucca Mask Makers.

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish @CovidEspanol. Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at @HumboldtCountyNV and @StopHumboldtCoronavirus.

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