



Public Health

Idaho North Central District



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Tara Macke

PHONE: (208) 799-3100

DATE: March 30, 2020

HEADLINE: Five Newly Confirmed Cases of Novel Coronavirus in Nez Perce County

LEWISTON, IDAHO –Public Health – Idaho North Central District (PH-INCD) has confirmed the five newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) in Nez Perce County. There are now ten confirmed cases of COVID-19 in north central Idaho.

The investigation into these new cases are in the preliminary stages. Four of the five cases are over the age of 75 and one in their 50's. None of these cases were hospitalized and all are recovering at home.

Epidemiologists with PH-INCD will work to determine reasonable risk criteria for locations visited by the patients and investigate any close contacts. If other people are found to have been exposed, public health officials will provide guidance to them and will monitor them closely for symptoms.

Additional case-specific information about these individuals is confidential and will not be released.

To stay healthy and slow the spread of COVID-19, there are simple actions we can all take. These actions include:

- Staying home if you are sick.
- Covering your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs using a disinfecting solution.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoiding non-essential travel if possible.

In an effort to release accurate information in a timely and consistent manner in this rapidly changing environment, Public Health will continue to release information via press release for the following in our Health District:

- an initial confirmed case for a county
- community transmission is detected
- an initial death in a county

For current information regarding ongoing confirmed cases, our website will be updated daily at 3 p.m. Pacific Time.

For more information about the novel coronavirus please visit www.idahopublichealth.com or <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/> or call our Public Health Hotline at 1-866-736-6632.