

PRESS RELEASE

BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2020

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COVID-19 Confirmed in Inyo County

Tribal Council Urges Use of Precautions to Prevent Exposure and Spread

Inyo County's Public Health Officer, Dr. James Richardson, received notification the morning of March 25 from Northern Inyo Hospital District regarding a positive COVID-19 test for an Inyo County resident.

Inyo County Public Health is conducting a thorough investigation to identify potential exposures and notify contacts. At this time the patient is currently isolated at home. NIHD currently has 32 COVID-19 tests pending, and Toiyabe Indian Healthcare Project has 2 COVID-19 tests pending. Due to the volume of tests being analyzed currently in California, the turnaround time can take several days.

On March 20, in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19, Governor Gavin Newsom ordered California residents to stay home. Additionally, on March 20 an Inyo County Public Health Order was released prohibiting non-essential public gatherings, closure and limitations of certain businesses, and required social distancing measures.

The Tribal Council of the Bishop Paiute Tribe has recommended self-quarantine for Bishop Paiute Tribal Members and Bishop Paiute Tribal Employees following the guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health, and the Action Response Plan, which is available for public view at www.bishoppaiutetribe.com.

Tribal members must continue to practice appropriate preventative measures, such as avoiding contact with sick individuals, wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, practicing social distancing, and adherence to State, County, and Tribal Orders. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, coughing or shortness of breath, and think you may have had contact with a person with COVID-19, call your health care provider before seeking medical care so that appropriate precautions can be taken.

Updates will be available to the public as they occur on KBPT-LP 96.1fm at the top of the hour for breaking information and at 8am, 11am, 6pm and 11pm for cumulative information.

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The Bishop Paiute Tribe is a federally recognized Indian tribe located on its 879 acre Bishop Paiute Reservation in Inyo County, California. The Reservation was formed under Congressional Act 5299, P.L. No. 43 of April 20, 1937. The Tribe is committed to the well being of its people. For more information please contact the Bishop Paiute Tribe at (760) 873-3584.

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