

Humboldt County Health Board



January 5, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 864 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 386 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.—Humboldt County has been notified of 13 more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county’s total to 864.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 184 positive cases. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 2,635 tests, 173 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has 10 active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County cases 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 cases follows:

Case #	Gender	Age Range	Contact	Status
864	Woman	40s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
863	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
862	Man	60s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
861	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
860	Male	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
859	Man	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
858	Man	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
857	Man	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
856	Woman	30s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
855	Male	Teen	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
854	Woman	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
853	Woman	60s	Investigation in progress	Hospitalized
852	Woman	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating

Of the previous 851 cases, 467 have recovered, 366 are self-isolating, seven are hospitalized locally, and 11 have died; Humboldt County has 386 active cases.

Local facebook users continue to propagate false information that any cold or flu can show up positive on a COVID test.

“That is not true,” said Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD. “The numbers we release as COVID-positive cases are just that: COVID-positive. They are not colds or flu that have been mistaken as COVID.”

Dr. Stringham said the swab or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test is specially designed to detect SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19.

“COVID-19 testing is very specific,” said Dr. Stringham. “The test detects the genetic information of the virus, the RNA. That’s only possible if the virus is there and someone is actively infected. So, the claim that the PCR test can misdiagnose a cold or flu as COVID-19 is false.”

Dr. Stringham said the advantage of having such a specific COVID test is that each positive result gives a good indication of who else might be infected, and who else needs to quarantine.”

“It allows us to break the transmission chain,” he said, “and to get a clearer picture of what’s happening and how the virus is spreading.”

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](#).

COVID-19 testing locations in Humboldt County include:

- **Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic** - Offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic persons from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch), and by-appointment screening with a provider for symptomatic persons from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch; call 775-623-5222, ext. 1379 to schedule an appointment). Located at 51 E. Haskell Street, across from Humboldt General Hospital.
- **Golden Valley Medical Center** - Private clinic owned by Nevada Gold offers screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Call (775) 625-4653 for an appointment.
- **Ridley's Pharmacy** - Offers in-vehicle, self-administered asymptomatic and symptomatic testing. Go [here](#) and follow the prompts to schedule an appointment.
- **HGH Emergency Department** - Those who experience severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department, which is open 24 hours a day, or call 9-1-1 for

emergency assistance.

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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