



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
Environmental Health Laboratory

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May 15, 2024

### RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of May 27-31, 2024

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **May 27- May 31** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday May 28, Wednesday May 29, and by noon on Thursday May 30.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday May 28, Wednesday May 29, Thursday May 30, and by noon on Friday May 31.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by 3pm Tuesday May 28.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday May 28, Wednesday May 29, and by noon on Thursday May 30, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, generally once a week.
- Slaughter sponge samples are good for 24 hours per USDA. Sponges will be accepted Tuesday May 28, Wednesday May 29, and by noon on Thursday May 30, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday May 28– Friday May 31, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is scheduled for the week of May 13 and then June 10.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research (PCOX) sample will be accepted Tuesday May 28– Friday May 31, however the testing will be as soon as possible given current backlog.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, June 3, 2024.

Assistance is available with timing of sample collections, completion of submission forms, packaging, temperature requirements, shipping, and sample tracking. Sampling questions, planned sampling activities, and shipping notifications, can be made to [DEC.EH-Lab-ShippingReceiving@alaska.gov](mailto:DEC.EH-Lab-ShippingReceiving@alaska.gov) or 907-375-8231.

Regards,

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA  
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory