June 18, 2020

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of June 29-July 3, 2020

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for June 29-July 3 must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Monday June 29, Tuesday June 30, by noon on Wednesday July 1.

- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday June 29, Tuesday June 30, and by noon on Thursday July 2.

- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by noon Monday June 29.

- Raw meat samples will be accepted Monday June 29, Tuesday June 30, by noon on Wednesday July 1, 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 Monday June 29, Tuesday June 30, by noon on Wednesday July 1, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.

- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday June 29 – Thursday July 2, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.

- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is already scheduled for the week of June 8th and then July 27th.

- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled minimum once a month, and is already scheduled for the week of June 15th and then July 13th.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, July 6, 2020.

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 or 907-375-8231.

Regards,

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