THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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December 2, 2020

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of December 28, 2020-January 1, 2021

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Friday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **December 28-January 1** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Monday Dec. 28, Tuesday Dec. 29, by noon on Wednesday Dec. 30.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday Dec. 28, Tuesday Dec. 29, Wednesday Dec. 30 and by noon on Thursday Dec 31.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by noon Monday Dec. 28.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Monday Dec. 28, Tuesday Dec. 29, by noon on Wednesday Dec. 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 Monday Dec. 28, Tuesday Dec. 29, by noon on Wednesday Dec. 30, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday Dec. 28 – Thursday Dec. 31, 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 next for the week of Jan. 11th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled minimum once a month and is already scheduled next for the week of Jan. 19th.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, January 4, 2021.

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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Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory