May 4, 2022

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of May 30-June 3, 2022

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be closed on Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for May 30-June 3 must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday May 31, Wednesday Jun. 1, and by noon on Thursday Jun. 2.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday May 31, Wednesday Jun. 1, Thursday Jun. 2, and by noon on Friday Jun. 3.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted on Tuesday May 31 and by noon on Wednesday Jun. 1.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday May 31, Wednesday Jun. 1, and by noon on Thursday Jun. 2, 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 31, Wednesday Jun. 1, and by noon on Thursday Jun. 2, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday May 31– Friday Jun. 3, 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 weeks of May 23rd & Jun. 20th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled approximately once a month and is next scheduled for the weeks of May 23rd & Jun. 20th.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, Jun. 6, 2022.

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,

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory