



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental  
Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
Environmental Health Laboratory

5251 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99507-1293  
Main: 907.375.8200  
Fax: 907.929.7335  
[www.dec.alaska.gov](http://www.dec.alaska.gov)

January 21, 2025

**RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of February 17-21, 2025**

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **February 17- February 21** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday Feb. 18, Wednesday Feb. 19, and by noon on Thursday Feb. 20.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday Feb. 18, Wednesday Feb. 19, Thursday Feb. 20, and by noon on Friday Feb. 21.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by noon Tuesday Feb. 18.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday Feb. 18, Wednesday Feb. 19, and by noon on Thursday Feb. 20, 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 Feb. 18, Wednesday Feb. 19, and by noon on Thursday Feb. 20, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples and swabs will be accepted Tuesday Feb. 18– Friday Feb. 21, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month and is next scheduled for the week of February 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research (PCOX) sample will be accepted any workday; however, the testing will be as soon as possible given current backlog.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, February 24, 2025.

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