DATE: August 23, 2021

TO: CBJ Assembly

FROM: Mila Cosgrove, Incident Commander

RE: Situational Update – Level 3 Modified High - Operational Period 35 (08/01/21 – 08/31/21)

Situation Assessment: The 14 and 7 day case rates remain elevated at the very high alert level. The Delta variant is driving case transmission locally and statewide. The community is urged to be cautious. Everyone regardless of vaccination status is now required to mask when indoors in public places. It is highly recommended that individuals limit social contact to mitigate disease spread and allow for effective contact tracing. Individuals should test immediately if they have even mild symptoms. The single most effective strategy to mitigate COVID is to get vaccinated.

Issues of Note:
Due to the high volume of COVID cases the State’s Public Health system is no longer able to provide specialized reporting at the local level. The Juneau EOC will continue to work closely with Juneau Public Health to understand how COVID is transmitting in the community, but case level detail will not be available. The EOC will pivot to the information available on the State dashboard. Not all reporting that we are used to seeing will be available.

Today, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced full approval of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine eliminating its status as an Emergency Use Authorization vaccine. Moderna and the Janssen vaccine are expected to follow shortly.

Case counts continue at a high rate, averaging 18.5 new cases a day in Juneau for the month of August. This is an average increase of 4 cases per day over last week’s high.

General Case Trends:
Juneau Public Health was able to report generalized case trends for the last 7 days.
There are 15 cases connected with one of the mines. The mine is conducting regular testing and all individuals who are positive are isolating.

There is a cluster of cases associated with a social gathering. Everyone who attended has been contacted and it is believed they are following public health guidance.

There are several family groups who traveled and all came back to town positive. In general positive cases related to travel are increasing.

There are a handful of employees right now off of several different small cruise boats. The individuals have not been in the community and are isolating on board.

There are the 9 positive cases associated with the Persons Experiencing Homelessness and related shelters. All individuals are isolating.

A lot of cases are coming from household spread once one person in the house is positive, most people in the household also test positive over the next week or two.

**Daily Numbers update:** We are reporting 63 new cases since the last EOC report on August 19th (F-M). 57 residents and 6 nonresidents.

The state is reporting 84,272 total positive cases, an increase of 1,585 new cases since the last EOC update on August 19th.

**Weekly Summary – 14 day lookback for positive tests August 10th – August 22nd**

Over the last 14 days there have been 330 positive cases in Juneau. Elevated case counts statewide, precludes Public Health from providing more detailed information at the local level about case acquisition, age, race, or gender breakdown, or vaccine breakthrough data.

**Breakthrough Cases:** Vaccine breakthrough (VB) infections of COVID are those detected in a person who is at least 2 weeks beyond their second dose of a 2-dose series or the only dose of a 1-dose series.
Statewide: From January 1–August 14, 2021, seven deaths, 62 hospitalizations, and 2,883 cases with a VB infection were reported among Alaska residents. These counts are provisional and subject to change as more data are compiled. In that same time frame, a total of 30,791 cases, 745 hospitalizations, and 110 deaths were reported.

91% of all cases, 92% of all hospitalizations, and 94% of deaths among Alaska residents from January 1 through August 14, 2021 were in people who were not fully vaccinated.

Variants of Concern:
The Delta variant has become the dominant SARS-CoV-2 variant in Alaska. This variant transmits more easily than other variants. The State of Alaska weekly genomic surveillance report is online at http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/siteassets/pages/humancov/AKSeqCon_GenomicSituationReport.pdf

Testing Summary:
692 COVID tests were processed through BRH since the last EOC report bringing the total number of tests at BRH to 958 for the week. 854 tests were taken through CCFR locations. All tests processed through BRH are returning in less than 24 hours.

Vaccination Updates:
Last week, there were a total of 270, 1st doses and 233, 2nd doses administered in Juneau.

Total: 71.0% of the population of Juneau has received at least 1 dose of vaccine and 66.9% have completed their vaccine series.

12+: 82.8% of the age eligible Juneau population has received at least 1 dose of vaccine. 77.9% have completed their vaccine series.

65+: 91.9% of this age group has at least one dose of vaccine. 89.2% have completed the vaccine series. (State updated dashboard)
Vaccine Clinics:
Every Thursday in August: 9 am – 4 pm, Juneau Public Health Center, 3412 Glacier Hwy
Every day in August: 12:30 – 9:30 - Juneau International Airport
This chart tracks the number of new cases in the past 7 days, controlled for population. King County (Seattle) and Multnomah County (Portland) are included for context and due to travel frequency. The source data for Alaska is from the SOA dashboard. Out of state data is from the Harvard Global Health Institute (https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/) and generally lags a day behind most of our other reporting. Policy recommendations at varying levels (<1, <10, <25, 25+) can be found on their website.