



INYO COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INYO COUNTY ASKS CDFW FOR FISHING OPENER POSTPONEMENT

INYO COUNTY, April 17, 2020 – On April 3, 2020 Inyo County Public Health Officer, Dr. James Richardson provided California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) with a letter asking for the postponement of regular fishing season due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts on local healthcare and the community. On April 7, 2020 the County of Inyo provided CDWF with a letter echoing the concerns set forth in Dr. Richardson’s letter and formally asked for the postponement of regular fishing season due to COVID-19. (Letters attached)

Fishermen and outdoor enthusiasts are reminded that under current restrictions set place in the Governor’s Stay at Home Order, and current Inyo County Public Health Orders, that attempting to come to the Eastern Sierra during this time is a violation and may result in a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment, fine, or both (Health and Safety Code §120295).

On Wednesday April 15, California Fish and Game commission granted authority to the Director of Fish and Wildlife to take emergency actions related to the fishing opener in the Eastern Sierra Region. Inyo County Unified Command fully anticipates that authority will be approved by the Administrative Office of Law and the Secretary of State early next week. In anticipation of that approval, the County of Inyo expects the fishing opener will be postponed until the Governor rescinds his executive order barring non-essential travel and the Stay at Home Order.

All campgrounds in Inyo and Mono County have been closed. All hotels and motels have been closed locally as well as RV-parks. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has closed access to Crowley Lake Fish Camp and all roads accessing Crowley Lake.

For updates on fishing restrictions, the public is encouraged to regularly check the following link <https://Wildlife.ca.gov/fishing/inland/closures> or call the CDFW hotline for closures (916) 445-7600.

The County of Inyo, and Unified Command partners are committed to keeping the public up to date with the most accurate and timely information. All COVID-19 Orders and Directives affecting Inyo County are available here: <https://www.inyocounty.us/covid-19/orders-directives>.

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