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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 10, 2020 Contact: Mimi Taylor Office: (208) 521-6722

Eastern Idaho Public Health's Board Issues Order for Mandatory Face Coverings and Other Restrictions in Fremont, Jefferson and Teton Counties

(SE Idaho) – In July, EIPH's Board of Health (BOH) adopted the <u>COVID-19 Regional Response</u> <u>Plan</u> for the eight-county region (Bonneville, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton Counties). The Plan is stratified by risk levels starting with a Minimal Risk Level/green and escalating towards the Critical Risk Level/red. Each level has its own metrics and mitigation strategies to reduce the impact of COVID-19. Different parts of EIPH's region may be at different risk levels at any one time. When a location within the district advances to a higher level, the BOH convenes to determine which mitigation strategies need to be enacted to protect the health of the community.

On August 10, 2020, the BOH determined Fremont and Jefferson Counties had escalated to the yellow or Moderate Risk Level and issued an order for face coverings and other restrictions for the Counties. Fremont and Jefferson Counties join Bonneville and Teton Counties who already have an Order in place. In addition, the Order for Teton County, enacted on July 16, 2020 is being updated to include additional language regarding social gatherings and events as well as adding a face covering exception. All Orders are reviewed 14 days after issuance and are in effect until the BOH amends, supersedes, or rescinds them. Copies of all the Orders can be viewed on EIPH's website at www.EIPH.Idaho.gov.

COVID-19 cases are increasing exponentially and it is important, RIGHT NOW, to do your part to slow our spread of COVID-19, particularly staying home if you are sick, practicing physical distancing (maintaining at least 6 feet between individuals not of the same household), not hosting or attending large gatherings, which makes physical distancing difficult, and wearing a face covering in public when not able to physical distance. Wearing face coverings needs to be done in conjunction with other disease reduction strategies, not instead of doing them.

Stay Informed

The COVID-19 Regional Response Plan, current COVID-19 active and total case counts, details on all cases, Response Plan metrics, and much more, can be found on our website and dashboard at <u>www.EIPH.Idaho.gov</u>. EIPH also has a COVID-19 call center to answer questions. Call 208-522-0310 or toll free at 855-533-3160. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In addition, questions can be submitted via email to COVIDQuestions@eiph.idaho.gov or asked through our Facebook page at @EIPH.Idaho.