

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Situation Report (SitRep)

20-0265 2020 Novel CoV | September 4, 2020

Incident Information		
Incident Number: 20-0265 2020 Novel CoV	SitRep Version: Update	SitRep #136
Incident Type: Pandemic	SitRep Period: 09/03/20 1600 to 09/04/20 1600	
SEOC Activation Level: Level 1 – Full	Disaster Manager: Rob Lang	
Activated Emergency Centers: See pages 3 and 8	Activated Emergency Support Functions (ESF): 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, and 20	
SEOC Supervisor: Rob Sabarese	Date/Time SEOC Supervisor Approved: 09/04/20 1600	

General Situation
<p>The Washington State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) continues to respond to the global outbreak of COVID-19.</p> <p>Fully activated since January 22, 2020, the SEOC has been coordinating the acquisition and delivery of personal protective equipment (PPE), the use of non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs), intelligence and advanced planning, and logistical support to stakeholders.</p> <p>This situation report includes SEOC and state agency activities related to the continued incident response and the Governor’s Safe Start reopening plan.</p> <p>The SEOC is monitoring Mission #20-2375 Civil Unrest Response and wildland fire activity. ESFs 1, 4 and 13 were activated in support of the Evans Canyon Fire (Mission #20-2772) on Sept. 3.</p>
<p>Today’s Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer parties use COVID-19 prevention practices this Labor Day weekend. Here is a short list of things to remember when it comes to gathering together in the time of COVID-19: outside is safer than inside; small groups are safer than large groups; less time together is safer than more time together; and within six feet, face coverings are better than no face coverings. Read the full blog post from DOH here • In case you missed it: Washington Listens helps people manage stress and anxiety they may be experiencing because of COVID-19. If you or anyone you know is having difficulties managing stress, call the Washington Listens support line at 1-833-681-0211. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. TTY and language access services are available by using 7-1-1 or their preferred method. Resources and self-help tips are available on walistens.org.
<p>Current Risks (Intelligence Section and Advanced Planning Team)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misinformation about the positive impacts of mask wearing, and misinformation about negative health effects of mask wearing could be exacerbated further with the scientific debate on infectious transmission of COVID 19. • A possible seasonal influenza epidemic in the fall will lead to additional challenges including disruption of the health and social care systems and a large resurgence of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and Covid-like Illness (CLI) with local or regional epidemics. A generalized increase in respiratory infections over the winter could also rapidly overwhelm test and trace capacity.

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- Following the suspension of routine clinical care and general fear from the public around healthcare systems during the pandemic, there will likely be an increase in the number of poorly-managed chronic conditions or undiagnosed diseases combined with a surge in post-COVID-19 morbidity resulting in overall and long term health consequences.
- There are other “capacities” that should continue to be increased in the response, in addition to healthcare capacity. Without increasing these, the interconnected response/recovery network and the community cannot move into the “New Normal”. These capacities include: Healthcare System, Statewide Broadband, Affordable Housing, Business Solvency, Online Education, Distributed Work, Food Security, and Social Services.

COVID-19 Snapshot

COVID-19 Projected Costs (updated weekly, as of 8/31/20)

Expenditures of Interest*	Cost
N95 Respirators	\$248,586,404
Ventilators	\$17,360,629
Additional PPE	\$140,362,285
Total PPE Expenditures	\$406,309,318
SEOC Average Daily Costs (Includes DOH)	\$263,600
Total Estimated Expenditures	\$844,585,817

*Note: Some state agencies are reporting projected costs and revenue loss as part of their COVID-related costs. The estimated costs will fluctuate as actual revenue is received or goods and service orders are cancelled.

COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard (as of 9/2/20)

Source: [Washington State Coronavirus Response](#)

Washington State Key Metrics*	Value	Change	Goal	Meeting Goal
Rate per 100K of newly diagnosed cases over two weeks	94.9	0.0	<25	No
Average daily COVID-19 testing rate per 100K over a week	178.7	+2.9	--	--
Percent of positive tests over a week	3.5%	0.0%	<2%	No
Percent of licensed beds occupied by patients	60.6%	0.0%	<80%	Yes
Percent of licensed beds occupied by COVID-19 patients	2.8%	0.0%	<10%	Yes

*Metrics for testing updated on 8/25/20.

Effective Reproductive Number (R_t) (as of 8/17/20)

The estimated number of new people that a single COVID-19 patient will infect. The goal is for the effective reproductive number to be < 1.

Western WA R_t estimate: 0.9 (0.0)

Eastern WA R_t estimate: 0.9 (0.0)

Refer to Risk Assessment Dashboard for more information on each metric and county-level details.

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DOH COVID-19 Data Dashboard

Source: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/DataDashboard>

Data as of 9/2/20 11:59 PM

County & Safe Start Status	ECC/EOC	New Cases							Cumulative Totals			
		31-Aug	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	Week	Cases	Tests	Deaths
Adams	P	1	4	24	----	----	----	----	29	664	3,339	8
Asotin	M	0	0	4	----	----	----	----	4	56	2,034	2
Benton	F	10	13	8	----	----	----	----	31	4,187	28,557	123
Chelan	P	1	4	7	----	----	----	----	12	1,737	15,417	12
Clallam	F	0	2	1	----	----	----	----	3	212	5,702	1
Clark	F	24	13	25	----	----	----	----	62	2,244	52,281	56
Columbia	P	0	1	1	----	----	----	----	2	15	407	1
Cowlitz	M	3	3	0	----	----	----	----	6	548	15,196	6
Douglas	P	1	0	2	----	----	----	----	3	1,157	7,606	8
Ferry	P	0	0	2	----	----	----	----	2	27	704	0
Franklin	F	18	9	18	----	----	----	----	45	3,988	17,685	58
Garfield	M	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	4	168	0
Grant	P	11	24	45	----	----	----	----	80	2,376	16,872	17
Grays Harbor	F	1	4	8	----	----	----	----	13	255	6,708	6
Island	F	1	0	0	----	----	----	----	1	272	8,066	11
Jefferson	P	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	70	2,369	0
King	F	51	94	99	----	----	----	----	244	19,892	480,544	732
Kitsap	F	8	11	6	----	----	----	----	25	1,023	31,863	11
Kittitas	F	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	451	4,731	21
Klickitat	P	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	177	3,891	3
Lewis	P	0	1	9	----	----	----	----	10	353	9,183	4
Lincoln	M	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	31	818	1
Mason	P	0	1	1	----	----	----	----	2	323	8,792	1
Okanogan	P	1	1	1	----	----	----	----	3	999	10,790	7
Pacific	P	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	60	2,070	3
Pend Oreille	P	1	0	0	----	----	----	----	1	54	1,490	0
Pierce	F	31	47	58	----	----	----	----	136	6,931	115,778	175
San Juan	F	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	29	3,401	0
Skagit	P	2	4	14	----	----	----	----	20	1,040	31,938	22
Skamania	M	1	0	0	----	----	----	----	1	59	1,812	1
Snohomish	P	24	31	37	----	----	----	----	92	6,287	114,110	207
Spokane	P	34	50	46	----	----	----	----	130	5,436	72,465	138
Stevens	F	0	2	1	----	----	----	----	3	128	3,841	1
Thurston	P	4	0	10	----	----	----	----	14	939	35,969	16
Wahkiakum	P	0	0	0	----	----	----	----	0	6	477	0
Walla Walla	P	2	3	3	----	----	----	----	8	772	13,243	5
Whatcom	P	6	10	4	----	----	----	----	20	1,118	50,440	39
Whitman	M	28	72	56	----	----	----	----	156	655	2,583	0
Yakima	F	15	13	18	----	----	----	----	46	10,994	60,580	243
Unassigned		2	1	23	----	----	----	----	26	287	274,169	6
Totals		281	418	531	0	0	0	0	1,230	75,856	1,518,089	1,945

County ECC/EOC Activation Levels: M=Monitoring

P=Partial F=Full

Safe Start Phases:

Phase 1 Mod 1 Phase 2 Phase 3 Phase 4

Currently Hospitalized:	309
Currently Ventilated:	50

Note: Data may change from previous days as cases are confirmed, assigned, or removed with further investigation.

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Hospital Surveillance and Projections

Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) Projections (as of 9/3/20)

Source: <https://covid19.healthdata.org/united-states-of-america/washington>

Hospital Resource Use Projections	9/5/20	9/6/20	9/7/20	9/8/20
All Beds Available 4,907; Needed (approx.)	264.63	264.03	263.62	263.38
ICU Beds Available 341; Needed (approx.)	71.84	71.73	71.67	71.64
Invasive Ventilators Needed (approx.)	63.89	63.81	63.78	63.77
Daily Death Current Projections	9/5/20	9/6/20	9/7/20	9/8/20
Current Projection (approx.)	6.78	6.76	6.75	6.75
Projected Total Deaths by January 1, 2021 (+/- last projection)	Current Projection	Mandates Easing	Universal Masking	
	5,400 (+990)	6,785 (+2,131)	2,744 (+123)	

Click [HERE](#) to see the 9/3/20 modeling update brief.

State Resource Requests

Status of Resource Requests (as of 9/4/20)

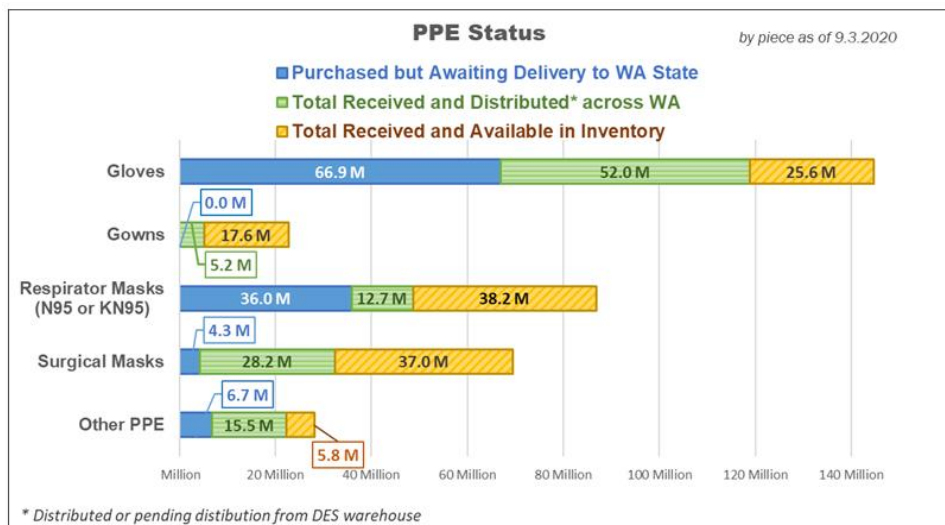
Total number of consolidated resource requests to state agencies, tribal nations, and counties is **5,103 (+34)**.

The cumulative status of resource requests in Resource Tracker (WebEOC) are as follows:

Unassigned	Assigned	Accepted	In Transit	On Scene	Completed
0	82	100	1	119	4,391

Please note, there are several requests whose status not currently summarized in the WebEOC dashboard, which is the source for the above roll-up. They are included in the total count, but not the status breakdown.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Status and Distribution (as of 9/3/20)



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SEOC Objectives

Strategic Objectives in Priority Order

1. Ensure the safety of our healthcare and other critical infrastructure workforce.
- 2b. Continue to implement and maintain a public health and healthcare system response that slows the infection rate of COVID-19 and prevents the healthcare system from becoming overwhelmed with special considerations for the most vulnerable populations (over 65, living in congregate settings, underlying chronic health conditions, pregnant, experiencing homelessness, etc.).
23. Maintain situational awareness and capability to respond to other incidents.
- 11a. Support the implementation of the Safe Start phased approach to re-opening Washington State.
13. Address Human Service needs, including: childcare, sheltering, mental health, and hunger relief with an emphasis on protecting vulnerable populations.
- 3a. Maintain the community lifeline support (e.g., food, health, communications, etc.).
4. Ensure the development, maintenance, and use of data collection and analysis systems across the response that inform decision making processes and allow for evaluation of intervention efforts.
5. Plan for economic, physical and behavioral health, social and healthcare system recovery.

Operational Objectives

(Operational objectives should be completed within the operational period of SEOC IAP #34)

- 6b. Provide personnel, planning capability, equipment and supplies in support of contact tracing, testing, medical surge, isolation and quarantine efforts; and address medical support needs. (SO #2)
22. Support communities impacted by wildfires. (SO #1, #3a, #5, #23)
- 15e. Implement re-alignment plan to reduce food bank staffing support by the National Guard and identify other sustainable long-term options. (SO #5)
- 14b. Expand cloth mask distribution statewide to include at-risk communities, children and various economic sectors. (SO #2b, #11a, 5)
21. Develop and maintain state operation staging areas to meet the PPE needs of the incident. (SO #2b)
- 8a. Mitigate impacts to food supply, supply chain, and health and safety of agricultural and food processing workers. (SO #3, #4)
- 10d. Continue developing processes to collect, analyze, and visualize key data elements for the internal Intelligence Portal to support decision making and situational awareness. (SO #4; EEs: 06, 07, 09, 10, & 13)

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State Benefit Program Updates

Employment Security Department (ESD) Benefits Data Dashboard (as of 8/29/20)

Source: <https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/dashboard>

\$10.07 Billion
Total paid

For payments made since
March 8, 2020 – August 29, 2020

\$3,263,871,719
State unemployment insurance

\$5,689,536,493
Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

\$886,679,536
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance

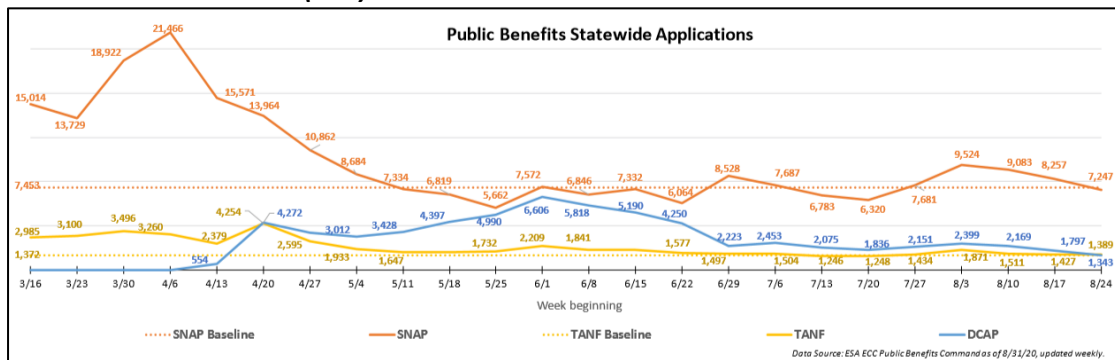
\$194,058,303
Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation

\$22,302,744
Extended Benefits

FPUC, PUA, PEUC, and EB are federal unemployment programs made available through the federal CARES Act.

\$10.07 Billion paid (March 8, 2020-August 29, 2020): \$3,263,871,719 UI | \$5,689,536,493 FPUC | \$886,679,536 PUA | \$194,058,303 PEUC | \$22,302,744 EB

Dept. of Social and Health Services (DSHS) (updated weekly, as of 8/24/20) Economic Services Administration (ESA)



Acronyms: SNAP – Supplemental Food Assistance Program; TANF – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; DCAP – Disaster Cash Assistance Program

RESPONSE/RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

Operations Section

ESF 2 Communication, Information and Warning Systems

- Work with the National Guard to determine what technology needs are anticipated for their operations and work on agency-wide comms plan in preparation for wildfires. Demonstrating new satellite solutions to support wildfire response efforts.
- **Monitoring Evans Canyon fire closely, with a focus on the Clemans Mtn. and Old Durr Road communications sites. Currently, the Clemans Mtn. site is being threatened and back burning is taking place to attempt to prevent fires from moving any closer. Participated in daily fire status brief out call. Continued outreach to local exchange carriers and broadband providers to ensure they have contingencies in place if the Old Durr Road site is burned over.**

ESF 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing and Human Services

- **Outreached to American Red Cross to support unmet needs in Yakima County.**
- **Networked with Tribal Liaison to gather accurate distribution numbers of child masks.**

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- Uploaded the child and adult cloth masks dashboards to ESF-6 Activity Log.
- **To date 612,918 adult masks distributed and 31,870 child masks distributed.**

ESF 8 Public Health, Medical and Mortuary Services

- Continued focus on: case and contract tracking; testing and collection logistics; disease containment; data and statistical reporting.
- Continued to work with Chelan/Douglas Health District to ensure proper resources are deployed in a timely manner.
- **Medical Surge (Isolation & Quarantine) continues technical assistance visits to central Washington counties.**

ESF 11 Agriculture and Natural Resources (Operating remotely)

- WSDA continued coordination with response partners (Governor’s Office, SEOC, DES, WSDOT) to support the Farm Bureau in distributing PPE including hand sanitizer and cloth masks to the agricultural, seasonal, and farmworker workforce.
- WSDA Rapid Response & Emergency Management Program manager and staff served as Dept. of Agriculture representatives on a Pandemic Health Workgroup. A second series of workgroup participation began on 8/28/2020 to discuss testing and meetings will be on-going.
- Continued monitoring of the Evans Canyon Fire and current needs at the Yakima County Fairgrounds for livestock and animal sheltering; **and impacts on cattle on open range land in the area.**

ESF 14 Long-Term Community Recovery

- Continue monitoring on-going wildfires for anticipated recovery-related needs and issues.
- **Continue supporting local and state recovery planning efforts.**

ESF 15 External Affairs – Joint Information Center

- ESF 15 continues to provide support to the JIC. Contacts for the JIC are 253-512-7491 and JICdirector@mil.wa.gov. Media inquiries can be routed to DOH-PIO@doh.wa.gov.

ESF 20 Defense Support to Civil Authorities

- Supported food bank, liaison support, testing site support, and planning for contact tracing missions.
- Continuing Blackhawk for support to the Evans Canyon wildfire.

Tribes and Nations Status

Tribe/Nation	Proc/Dec Issued	EOC/ECC Status	Tribe/Nation	Proc/Dec Issued	EOC/ECC Status
Conf. Tribes of Chehalis Res.	3/13/20	Monitor	Quinault Indian Nation	3/18/20	Monitor
Conf. Tribes of Colville Res.	3/16/20	Full	Samish Indian Nation	3/12/20	Monitor
Cowlitz Indian Tribe	3/16/20	Monitor	Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe	3/20/20	Monitor
Hoh Indian Tribe	3/5/20	Monitor	Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe	3/18/20	Monitor
Kalispel Tribe of Indians	3/18/20	Partial	Skokomish Indian Tribe	3/13/20	Monitor
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	3/13/20	Monitor	Snoqualmie Tribe	3/1/20	Monitor
Lummi Nation	3/3/20	Monitor	Spokane Tribe of Indians	3/16/20	Monitor
Makah Tribe	3/13/20	Partial	Squaxin Island Tribe	3/20/20	Full
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	3/18/20	Monitor	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	3/5/20	Partial
Nisqually Tribe	3/17/20	Monitor	Suquamish Tribe	3/9/20	Full
Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe	3/9/20	Monitor	Swinhomish Tribe	3/9/20	Partial
Puyallup Tribes	3/18/20	Partial	Tulalip Tribes	3/10/20	Monitor

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State Agency COVID-19 Webpages	
<p>Agriculture (WSDA) Link</p> <p>Attorney General (ATG) Link</p> <p>Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) Link</p> <p>Commerce (COM) Link</p> <p>Conservation Commission (SCC) Link</p> <p>Corrections (DOC) Link</p> <p>Ecology (ECY) Link</p> <p>Employment Security (ESD) Link</p> <p>Financial Institutions (DFI) Link</p> <p>Financial Management (OFM) Link</p> <p>Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Link</p> <p>Gambling Commission (WSCG) Link</p> <p>Governor Inslee Link</p> <p>Health (DOH) Link</p> <p>Health Care Authority (HCA) Link</p> <p>Insurance Commissioner (OIC) Link</p>	<p>Labor and Industry (LNI) Link</p> <p>Licensing (DOL) Link</p> <p>Liquor & Cannabis Board (LCB) Link</p> <p>Natural Resources (DNR) Link</p> <p>Parks & Recreation (PARKS) Link</p> <p>Revenue (DOR) Link</p> <p>Social & Health Services (DSHS) Link</p> <p>Superintendent of Public Instruction Link</p> <p>State Patrol (WSP) Link</p> <p>Transportation (WSDOT) Link</p> <p>Treasurer (OST) Link</p> <p>University of Washington (UW) Link</p> <p>Utility & Transportation (UTC) Link</p> <p>Veterans Affairs (DVA) Link</p> <p>Washington State University (WSU) Link</p> <p>WA State Coronavirus Response Link</p>
Government Actions Undertaken (Note: Older information condensed for brevity)	
<p>Presidential and Federal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidential Proclamation Declaring a National Emergency – 3/13/20 • FEMA Major Disaster Declaration for Washington State – 3/22/20 • COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (HHS) – extended on 7/25/20 • REAL ID Act deadline extended to 10/1/2021. • Operation Warp Speed (HHS National Vaccine Strategy) 	
State of Washington Actions Undertaken	
<p>Travel and Border Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington State Ferries – Several routes are operating on reduced schedules dependent on Washington State Ferries’ COVID Response Service Plan. Link to details • Amtrak Cascades – Service continues between Seattle and Eugene; still no service north of Seattle. • Seattle-Tacoma International Airport – Regular updates for the traveling public. • US—Canada Border – Border closure extended to 9/21/20 for nonessential travel (Forbes). Requirements for travel: Canadians and permanent residents Non-Canadians 	
<p>Governor’s Office</p> <p>Statewide emergency proclamation Wildfire - 8/19/20 - until September 30 at 11:59 PM.</p> <p>Food Production Workers Paid Leave Proclamation – 8/14/20</p> <p>Washington State Governor’s State of Emergency Proclamation – 2/29/20</p> <p>To view all new, amended or extended proclamations relating to COVID-19, visit Governor’s Proclamations</p>	

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“Safe Start” Expansion Proclamation 20-25.4 – 5/31/20

- 8/28/20 – Updated guidance for [agritourism](#) and [agriculture workers’ health](#).
- 8/26/20 – DOH announced standardized activities for counties in modified Phase 1. [Link to details](#)
- Previous business safe start guidance can be located [here](#).

County Safe Start Phase Approval Dates

County	Mod 1	Ph 2	Ph 3	Ph 4	County	Mod 1	Ph 2	Ph 3	Ph 4
Adams	-----	5/22			Lewis	-----	5/22	6/19	
Asotin	-----	5/18	6/10		Lincoln	-----	5/08	6/05	
Benton	7/04				Mason	-----	5/23	6/19	
Chelan	6/10				Okanogan	-----	6/05		
Clallam	-----	5/28			Pacific	-----	5/23	6/16	
Clark	-----	6/6			Pend Oreille	-----	5/08	6/05	
Columbia	-----	5/08	6/5		Pierce	-----	6/05		
Cowlitz	-----	5/23			San Juan	-----	5/23		
Douglas	6/10				Skagit	-----	6/05		
Ferry	-----	5/08	6/5		Skamania	-----	5/11	6/11	
Franklin	7/04				Snohomish	-----	6/05		
Garfield	-----	5/08	6/6		Spokane	-----	5/22		
Grant	-----	5/23			Stevens	-----	5/11	6/05	
Grays Harbor	-----	5/22	6/17		Thurston	-----	5/27	6/24	
Island	-----	5/23	6/19		Wahkiakum	-----	5/11	6/05	
Jefferson	-----	5/23			Walla Walla	-----	5/27		
King	-----	6/19			Whatcom	-----	6/05		
Kitsap	-----	5/28			Whitman	-----	5/15	6/06	
Kittitas	-----	5/27	6/23		Yakima	7/4			
Klickitat	-----	6/01							

School Reopening Information

- DOH’s [K-12 Schools – Fall 2020-2021 Guidance, Decision Framework](#) and [District Early Learning Planning Guide](#)
- OSPI’s [Reopening Washington Schools 2020 District Planning Guide](#)
- Higher Education Institutions’ [Campus Reopening Guide](#)
- Washington Education Association [Public School District Reopening Plans Fall 2020](#)

DOH COVID-19 Literature Review

The scientific literature on COVID-19 is rapidly evolving and some articles were selected for review based on their relevance to Washington State decision making around COVID-19 response efforts.

Key Takeaways (9/3/20)

- The recombinant nanoparticle vaccine NVX-CoV2373 induced higher anti-spike IgG and neutralizing responses compared to convalescent serum without serious adverse events. [More](#)
- Use of intravenous treatment with the steroid dexamethasone plus standard care compared with standard care alone resulted in 2.2 more ventilator-free days among patients with COVID-19 who had moderate to severe respiratory failure. [More](#)
- There was a strong dose-response relationship between the frequency of movement and self-reported history of COVID-19. Those who report using public transport or visiting a place of worship more frequently were also more likely to have a history of SARS-CoV-2 infection, even after adjusting for social distancing behaviors. [More](#)

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- The severity of disease was strongly associated with the likelihood of mounting a robust neutralizing antibody response among patients who had recovered from SARS-CoV-2 infection. [More](#)

Media Clips (9/4/20)

DOH Quotes / Mentions

[Report: Procedures involving aerosol may have spread COVID-19 in Bremerton hospital - KOMO](#)
[COVID-19 testing in Washington gets boost from organizations, volunteers - MyNorthwest.com](#)
[Nearly 1% of Washington population has been infected with COVID-19, stats show - Tacoma News Tribune](#)
[Here's why Whatcom COVID test results that used to take days are now ready hours later - Bellingham Herald](#)
[As Virus-Stricken Bremerton Hospital Took New Patients, Public Was Kept in Dark - Centralia Chronicle](#)
[Face coverings are making a 'difference' in COVID-19 activity in Spokane County - The Spokesman-Review](#)
[State says first responders, high-risk people will likely get COVID vaccine first - MyNorthwest.com](#)
[Washington state laying the ground work for COVID-19 vaccine distribution - Q13 FOX](#)
[Why Washington state won't rush out a Covid-19 vaccine before it's proven - KUOW](#)

Testing / Data / Contact Tracing

[Health leaders: COVID-19 deaths caused by virus, not underlying illnesses - KEPR](#)
[Model predicts over 400,000 Americans could die by January 1 \(CNN\)](#)

Schools / Childcare

[Local virtual academy enrollment driven sky-high by COVID-19 - Longview Daily News](#)
['Let us play': High school students rally in Olympia to resume fall sports - KREM](#)
[Pac-12 reaches agreement for rapid COVID testing - KOMO](#)
[School-based health clinics will be open for students this fall \(KUOW\)](#)

Outbreaks

[Virginia Mason Medical Center dealing with COVID-19 outbreak \(Seattle Times\)](#)
[With COVID-19 outbreaks dampened for now, corrections officials say they are preparing for the long haul \(Seattle Times\)](#)
[COVID-19 outbreak at Bremerton hospital possibly traced to aerosol-generating procedures, report says \(Seattle Times\)](#)
[Labor Day precautions needed to prevent COVID-19 spike in schools, health officer warns \(Port Townsend Leader\)](#)

WA State Re-opening

[Is your business Covid-safe? This company has tech which can tell \(KUOW\)](#)
[COVID-19 prompts new TSA security measures at Sea-Tac Airport - KOMO](#)
[King County Metro implementing new COVID-19 safety measures - KOMO](#)

Nation

[Fauci warns coronavirus cases are 'unacceptably high' as Labor Day weekend approaches \(Q13\)](#)
[Who should get coronavirus vaccines first? Here's what the CDC is telling states \(News Tribune\)](#)
[Third virus vaccine reaches major hurdle: final US testing \(Spokesman\)](#)
[U.S. will not 'cut corners' in developing coronavirus vaccine, Pence says \(Reuters\)](#)
[President Trump's New COVID-19 Advisor Is Making Public Health Experts Nervous \(NPR\)](#)

Global

[Russia's Covid-19 vaccine generated an immune response, study says \(CNN\)](#)
[Sweden now has one of Europe's lowest Covid-19 death rates \(CNN\)](#)

Economy / Business

[Washington, Idaho senators request CARES Act funding for wheat farmers \(KXLY\)](#)

Community

[Black Americans, hit hardest by the pandemic, feel they're hurt by both the virus and inequities tied to race \(KXLY\)](#)

Mental / Behavioral Health

[Puget Sound suicide hotline sees surge in calls during coronavirus pandemic \(KING\)](#)
[Grants to combat youth substance abuse in Southwest Washington \(Columbian\)](#)
[It takes more than shame to make people put on a mask \(Crosscut\)](#)

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

[Signs of depression have tripled in the U.S. since the COVID-19 pandemic got underway](#) (Seattle Times)
[How chronic stress and Covid-19 might be linked](#) (Vox)

Weather and Fire Information

National Weather Service (NWS) Alerts for 9/4/20 as of 15:30 PDT

Air Quality Alert – Effective 9/4/20 9:25 am to 9/5/20 11:00 am – for Kittitas, Klickitat and Yakima Counties. A Smoke Air Quality Alert has been issued. Wildfires burning in the region combined with forecasted conditions will cause air quality to reach unhealthy levels. Information about air quality is on the Washington Department of Ecology Web site at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/air.html> or call 360-407-6000.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/7/20 8:00 pm – Central Cascade Valleys, Eastern Washington East Columbia Basin, Northern Columbia Basin, Okanogan Valley and South Central Cascade Valleys. Winds: Northeast 15 to 25 mph with gusts up to 40 mph. Humidity: As low as 10-20 percent. Impacts: Rapid fire spread of any new or ongoing fires will be possible. Heed burn ban restrictions. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/7/20 8:00 pm – Northeast Mountains and Okanogan Highlands. Winds: Northeast 10 to 20 mph with gusts up to 30 mph. Humidity: Around 20 to 30 percent. Impacts: Rapid fire spread of any new or ongoing fires will be possible. Heed burn ban restrictions. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/7/20 8:00 pm – for Eastern Washington Southern Columbia Basin and Lower Columbia Basin of Washington. Winds: North to northeast 15 to 30 mph with higher gusts. Humidity: Around 20 percent before rising in the evening. Impacts: Any fires that develop will likely spread rapidly. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/8/20 10:00 pm – for East Slopes of the Southern Cascades and Yakama Alpine District. Winds: North to northeast 15 to 30 mph with higher gusts Monday then easterly 10 to 20 mph on Tuesday. Humidity: Around 20 percent Monday then 10 to 15 percent on Tuesday. Impacts: Any fires that develop will likely spread rapidly. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/9/20 1:00 pm – for South Washington Coast and Willapa Hills. Winds: Northeast 10 to 20 mph with gusts up to 40 mph. Relative Humidity: As low as 10 to 15 percent. Impacts: Conditions may be favorable for rapid fire spread which may threaten life and property. Use extra caution with potential ignition sources, especially in grassy areas. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/9/20 8:00 pm – East Willapa Hills and Extreme south Washington Cascades and Foothills. Winds: East 10 to 20 mph with gusts up to 40 mph. Relative Humidity: As low as 10 percent. Impacts: Conditions may be favorable for rapid fire spread which may threaten life and property. Use extra caution with potential ignition sources, especially in grassy areas. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/9/20 8:00 pm – Clark County Lowlands. Winds: Northeast 10 to 20 mph with gusts up to 35 mph. Relative Humidity: As low as 10 percent. Impacts: Conditions may be favorable for rapid fire spread which may threaten life and property. Use extra caution with potential ignition sources, especially in grassy areas. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

Fire Weather Watch – Effective 9/7/20 11:00 am to 9/9/20 8:00 pm – Black Hills and Southwest Interior Lowlands, Central Coastal Lowlands, East Portion of the Olympic Mountains, Northeast Puget Sound Lowlands Generally Below 1500 Feet, Southeast Puget Sound Lowlands Generally Below 1500 Feet, West Slopes of the Central Cascades Generally above 1500 Feet, and West Slopes of the North Cascades Generally above 1500 Feet. Winds: East 10 to 20 mph with gusts 35 to 40 mph. Humidity: Around 16 to 25 percent. Impacts: A combination of moderate breezes, low relative humidity, and warm temperatures can contribute to rapid rates of spread and down-wind spotting on existing fires.

For additional details – NW Alerts for State of WA website: <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/wa.php?x=1>

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

NWCC Briefing for 9/4/20 as of 06:52 PDT

Northwest Fire Weather Summary

Westerly general winds will pick up a bit over the Columbia Basin, the Columbia River Gorge, and sections of central Oregon today and Saturday while relative humidity remains low. An upper ridge of high pressure will keep conditions warm and dry through Labor Day and beyond. The pressure pattern will shift early next week to favor strong, dry and gusty northeast to east winds over much of the Cascades and west side. No lightning is expected for the time being. No rain is in sight.

Northwest Fire Potential Summary

Fire danger continues to rise to near record values across many PSAs driven by the unusually warm and dry weather. Winds will be light to moderate east of the Cascades through Sunday with low relative humidity but not critically strong. On Monday, winds will switch dramatically to north or northeast as a frontal system arrives from Canada. This will shift the focus of greatest new fire potential to the Cascades and west side next week.

Source – NW Interagency Coordination Center (NWCC): <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/predict/intelligence.aspx>

Active Fires as of 9/4/20 – State Fire Mobilization/FMAG* or fires over 1,000 acres

Evans Canyon* | Started 8/31/20 | Cause: Unknown

Location: 8 miles NW of Naches in Yakima County and NE into Kittitas County

69,920 acres, 10% containment.

- State Route 821 was closed and additional Level III (“Go now”) evacuations occurred last evening.
- 126 people sheltered.
- Eight total aircraft supporting fire.
- 12 structures have been destroyed (six homes, six other)
- Listed as the highest priority fire in the Northwest Area (Washington and Oregon)
- Fire Management Assistant Grant was approved (5342-FM-WA).
- Estimated containment: November 1

Palmer* | Started 8/18/2020 | Cause: Unknown

7 mi SW of Oroville in Okanogan County

17,988 acres, 95% containment.

2 homes destroyed, 35 other structures destroyed

Source – NW Interagency Coordination Center (NWCC): <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/predict/intelligence.aspx>

* FMAG – Fire Management Assistance Grant (federal assistance)

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