

Santa Rosa Island Research Station (SRIRS) - COVID Shared Housing Plan - Updated July 2023

Objective - To maintain safe operating conditions at the Santa Rosa Island Research Station at 90% capacity.

Accommodations – While efforts to reduce exposure and spread of COVID-19 will continue given continued detection of cases, given other CSU and NPS policy changes reducing housing density restrictions, occupancy of bedrooms/sleeping areas will revert to 90% of pre-COVID numbers to increase from the current 75% occupancy but still allow for easy implementation of isolation procedures. Overall overnight occupancy will be at 90% means a combined total of 32 individuals sharing SRIRS housing: 20 in bunkhouse accommodation, and 12 respectively in the 2 tent cabins.

- It is highly recommended that all trip participants visiting SRIRS for overnight trips be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in line with [CDC definitions and guidelines](#), including being up-to-date on booster doses. Trip participants with questions about where to access COVID-19 vaccinations will be referred to CSU Channel Islands Environmental Health and Safety Office. In advance of their overnight trip, Group leaders are no longer required to provide confirmation of proof of full vaccination for all trip participants.
- Group leaders will submit signed waivers, SRIRS COVID agreements will no longer be collected.
- Per CSUCI policy for overnight school trips, a negative antigen COVID test will still be required for all overnight visitors within 72 hours of the trip. We will continue to encourage CSUCI participants to use on site testing or at home tests available from the CSUCI Camarillo Campus. Should testing on campus be infeasible for trip participants or should testing be unavailable because of campus closures or changes in testing availability on campus, COVID-19 home test results are acceptable provided results are labelled with the participants' name and the date the test was completed. This testing requirement will not apply to day trips.
- SRIRS Staff and visitors will be provided with PPE and cleaning supplies during their stay.
- SRIRS Staff will continue to be educated on symptoms of COVID-19, variants, as well as health and safety guidelines by local, state, and federal agencies.
- SRIRS will follow DOI masking protocols. In addition, SRIRS will require masks indoors when mandated by either Santa Barbara County Public Health or Ventura County Public Health. Masking protocols will be determined according to whichever authority has the strictest requirements. Masking wearing in shared communal areas will be optional when DOI, Santa Barbara County and Ventura County are not mandating mask wearing.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in all bedrooms and communal areas, at the expense of the SRIRS.
- Use of outdoor space for group discussion/lessons will continue to be encouraged.
- Pre-trip discussions will be conducted with all overnight group leaders to review the shared housing policy, as part of the Group Leader Safety Orientation.
- When arriving to the island, as part of the Island Orientation, SRIRS Staff will identify the shared housing guidelines and isolation protocols for the group leader and post throughout the facility so it is available to all trip participants .
- A copy of this plan will be posted throughout the Bunkhouse for all visitors to refer to during their stay and will be included in Facility Use Agreements with all non-CI visitors.

Isolation Plan – To be implemented should someone become ill while staying at the SRIRS and in line with [NPS Action Steps for Managing and Reporting COVID-19 Cases Among Commercial Service Providers, Contractors, and Partners](#) as well as [CSU Channel Islands COVID-19 Safety Protocols for Professional Visitors, Vendors, General Contractors, Construction Contractors, and their Employees working on CSU Channel Islands or affiliated sites](#) and [California Department of Public Health Guidelines on Isolation and Quarantine for the General Public](#).

Should anyone develop symptoms of COVID-19 while at the SRIRS, they will be moved into a designated isolation area separate from other island visitors. At the SRIRS – the Santa Rosa room will be utilized as it has its own bathroom attached to the bedroom.

- If anyone who is symptomatic and/or has tested positive displays any emergency warning signs, a Medi-vac will be coordinated with NPS-CHIS island staff, Sequoia Dispatch, and other pertinent medical professionals.
- FDA authorized or approved rapid antigen tests are on hand at the Staff House, for use in the event someone becomes ill while on island. Person(s) presenting symptoms will be required to take a test as soon as possible.
- If a symptomatic person's test comes back **positive**, that person will be held in isolation until they can be returned to the mainland. The beginning of the isolation period will be dated from the onset of symptoms. In the event a person tests positive who is asymptomatic (e.g. someone re-testing on day 5 of their trip), the isolation period will be dated from the day of their positive test.
 - If a symptomatic person's test comes back **negative**, a second confirmatory test will be completed, and they will continue to isolate until symptoms improve
 - If the second test comes back **positive**, isolation will continue until they can be returned to mainland.
 - If the second test comes back **negative**, the person will continue to stay in isolation until symptoms improve or they depart the island, whichever comes first.
- In the event someone is symptomatic and/or has tested positive for COVID-19, their roommate(s) and anyone else who has had close contact (e.g., at least 15 minutes within a shared airspace in a 24-hour period) within the infectious window (two days prior to and any days after symptom onset or, if asymptomatic, a positive test) will also be tested as soon as possible.
 - If the person who has been exposed tests **positive**, the person will be held in isolation until they can be returned to the mainland. The beginning of the isolation period will be dated from the date of their positive test (if they are asymptomatic) or from the date they displayed any symptoms.
 - If an exposed person's test comes back **negative**, they will be monitored for symptoms and have to wear a mask when indoors or around others for 10 days following the exposure. If symptoms develop, the person will follow the above testing protocols for symptomatic persons.
- If an individual is notified of a previous exposure after they have arrived on island, they will be tested immediately and again 5 days after exposure or after any symptoms develop.
 - If they test **positive** the person will isolate until they can be returned to mainland.
 - If they test **negative** they will continue to wear a mask when indoors and around others and monitor for symptoms for 10 days after the exposure event or the rest of their time on the island, whichever comes first. The room of occupancy will be disinfected, and they will have their own sleeping quarters.
- Anyone in isolation who is still on island on their fifth day after symptom onset or a positive test result, can re-test to potentially end their isolation.
 - If this test comes back **negative**, the person will complete that day in isolation and is free to return to regular activities on the following day but must continue to wear a mask indoors and when around others through their 10th day after symptom onset or a positive test.
 - Masking can be ended if the person leaving isolation completes a second negative COVID test at least 24 hours after their first negative COVID test that ended their isolation.
 - If this test comes back **positive**, the person will continue to isolate until they can return to the mainland, or they have completed a full 10-day isolation period from the date they initially showed symptoms or tested positive. Whichever comes first.
- Relevant campus authorities and island partners will be notified of individuals presenting symptoms while participating in an SRI overnight trip. As trip manifests are collected prior to the trip occurring, contact tracing will be easily facilitated.
- For the remainder of the trip, persons previously sharing the area(s) identified for isolation will sleep in a dome tent provided by the SRIRS (single occupancy only).

On Island Vehicle Use –NPS Vehicle Use Policy adhered to by SRIRS Staff/Approved drivers. All PPE is required in a UTV (long sleeves and pants, close toed shoes/boots, gloves, eye protection, helmet).