

MINIMUM COVID-19 PROJECT APPROVAL AND EXPOSURE CONTROL GUIDELINES FOR UCSB RESEARCH BOATING ACTIVITY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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This document describes the project approval process and exposure control guidelines for UCSB boating and associated vehicle operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following are considered minimum requirements for local UCSB scientific boating operations (i.e. within California).

Modifications of these guidelines may be required by the UCSB Small Boat Operations Committee (SBOC) based upon specific characteristics of the research vessel, planned operations, environmental conditions, current community public health situation, or further guidance from the CDC, UCSB or the State of CA.

BOAT PROJECT – APPROVAL PROCESS

- Copy of the Building Committee or OSRC approval letter must be submitted to UCSB's SBOC (via the Boating Safety Officer) along with a copy of the COVID specific Boating Safety Plan.
- Boating Safety Plan must be approved by the SBOC (or designated sub-committee), as well as any pertinent associated committees (ex. Diving Control Board, or designated sub-committee), support services (ex. EH&S, EEMB Marine Ops, MSI, etc.), or the Launchmaster.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Approved activities should make every effort to mitigate transmission as outlined by the current CDC and UCSB recommendations and the guidelines noted below:

- **Boat Operations Involving any Unvaccinated Personnel:**
 - Receive approval from the UCSB Daily COVID-19 Screening Survey for each day of the boating operation.
 - Boat personnel must be kept to a minimum and must be approved by the PI and department or institute.
 - Before each field day, the PI or designate will review with the team: the plan, mask requirements, necessary PPE, the current CDC recommendations and any general concern for safety associated with the field operation.
 - Maximum boat occupancy will be determined by the launchmaster based on vessel size and operational requirements.
 - During all aspects of the operation, adequate interpersonal distancing of 6ft or greater must be maintained which will result in a decrease in max occupancy for UCSB vessels.
 - Boating related vehicle occupancy will be limited to one individual per vehicle.
 - **All personnel must wear high quality masks, such as N95, KN95 or double masks made up of a three-layered surgical mask with straps behind the head covered by a well-fitting cloth mask.**
 - The Principal Investigator of the project is to ensure all team members have the appropriate masks and PPE (when required) with appropriate training and that they are being used correctly.
 - Proper sanitizing procedures must be followed for any frequently touched surface: VHF radio, GPS, Hand Rails, Sampling Equipment, etc.
 - Additional protective measures may be required if deemed necessary by the SBOC.

- **Boat Operations Involving ALL Fully Vaccinated (as defined by the CDC) Personnel:**
 - Receive approval from the UCSB Daily COVID-19 Screening Survey for each day of the boating operation.
 - Before each field day, the PI or designate will review with the team: the plan, mask requirements, necessary PPE, the current CDC recommendations and any general concern for safety associated with the field operation.
 - Maximum boat occupancy will be determined by the launchmaster based on vessel size and operational requirements.
 - Ventilation on the vessel and associated vehicles should be maximized, when possible.
 - Until the campus modifies the mask guidance for UCSB related activities, **all personnel must wear high quality masks, such as N95, KN95 or double masks made up of a three-layered surgical mask with straps behind the head covered by a well-fitting cloth mask.**
 - The Principal Investigator of the project is to ensure all team members have the appropriate masks and PPE (when required) with appropriate training and that they are being used correctly.
 - Proper sanitizing procedures must be followed for any frequently touched surface: VHF radio, GPS, Hand Rails, Sampling Equipment, etc.

COVID Specific Boating Safety Plan

A COVID specific safety plan will be developed to address virus transmission concerns. This safety plan will be specific to the nature of the proposed work but should address at a minimum:

- PI and Department or Institution Approved Captain and Crew
- Launching/Retrieval Location and Procedures
- Physical Distancing Protocols (when required)
- Masks
- MOB and Rescue Procedures
- Boat/Equipment Disinfection Protocols (*see UCSB Boating Guidelines for Boat and Boat Specific Equipment Cleaning/Disinfection)