

Striving to be recognized as the best fishing lodge in Alaska and...
as always... Closest to the Fish!



ALASKA OPENS!

Alaska Daily News
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ALASKA GOV. DUNLEAVY TO LIFT MOST CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS ON ALASKA BUSINESSES ON FRIDAY

Alaska will fully reopen its economy on Friday at 8 a.m., Gov. Mike Dunleavy announced Tuesday evening. Bars, restaurants, gyms, retail stores and all other businesses will be able to open ahead of the Memorial Day weekend without any capacity restrictions imposed by the state.

"It will all be open, just like it was prior to the virus," Dunleavy said. The state is moving to phases 3 and 4 of its reopening plan simultaneously, he said. It wasn't immediately clear whether some communities would follow the state's decision. Dunleavy said it was possible that some would lag behind the state guidance.

The 14-day interstate travel quarantine remains in place and is set to expire June 2. Dunleavy said his staff is talking with airlines this week to find ways to allow travelers to enter the state in a safe way, and that quarantine mandate will be reevaluated daily.



Hello (Contact First Name)

TO FISH ... OR NOT TO FISH?

I know that even the most intrepid of you are anxious about your upcoming trip to the Highliner Lodge. This has been the most nerve-wracking couple of months I've ever had. No matter what your take is on this worldwide pandemic, and its present and future ramifications on our lives, I think we all can agree that we crave some certainty, something we can believe in, something solid that we can make decisions on and re-start our lives. The paradigm shift to whatever the "new normal" is, or will be, *has to* provide for us to be with those we love, to pursue our individual dreams, to hug our children and grandchildren, to greet strangers in the street or market, to get back to work, school, theaters and church... to drink with your buddies at Rosie's bar & Grill and to go fishing in Alaska!

The "new normal" *must* include these things, for they are what make life worth living!

I cannot predict the path to this "new normal" but know that we are past the WTF! stage. There is a move by millions of people to get beyond the shock and fear, accept things we cannot change and forge ahead towards what we all regard as living a good life.

I am providing you today with our plan to open the Highliner Lodge. I have my fears and doubts like many of you, but I am taking the best information I have been able to assemble for the past three months, consulting with my Highliner team and business associates and submitting my Highliner Lodge Covid-19 Mitigation Plan to the State of Alaska next Monday. This plan, I think, is reasonably considered and designed not to appease some government regulatory body, but to promote best practices to keep our crew, our guests and the community of Pelican as safe as reasonably possible.

Although I cannot guarantee anyone that there is zero risk in making a fishing trip to the Highliner Lodge, I want you to know that I take my responsibility to both design and execute this plan as seriously as I do my responsibility to keep you safe when you are out fishing with us in the Gulf of Alaska.

The Highliner Covid-19 Plan is a work in progress. As we are trying to hit a "moving target" these plans are likely to change before we actually open, and it will evolve in-season as we deal with changing circumstances in real time.

I am sending this from the Tucson Airport. I am flying to Juneau Alaska now! No lines, no crowds, no hassles, plenty of room between me and the rest of humanity. I am getting back to living. I choose to fish!

Steve Daniels

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Complaint Department



So ye don't like's our Covid - 19 regulations does ye?

Highliner Lodge Covid-19 Mitigation Plan

(subject to revision as conditions change)

In order to best protect the health and safety of our guests, our crew, and the residents of the City of Pelican Alaska, we are developing our Covid -19 Mitigation Plan.

Please understand the following particular circumstances that make it possible to completely isolate our guests and employees from any Alaska resident:

1. The Highliner Lodge is located 100 miles west of Juneau on Chichagof Island in the city of Pelican.
2. Pelican has a year round population of less than 50 people.
3. The Highliner Lodge has 12 employees.
4. The Highliner Lodge has approximately 250 all inclusive guests scheduled for June, July and August. All guests have reserved their trip many weeks, or months, in advance. We do not have any "walk-in" business or day charters.
5. Almost all of our guest's groups (3-6 individuals) will have exclusive use of a boat.
6. Our guests, being all-inclusive, have no history, or need, to interact with any other business or resident of Pelican. Essentially our guests will follow the same guidelines the city of Pelican has in place for those in quarantine.
7. The Highliner Lodge opens to our first guests on June 7.
8. Pelican has no grocery, or hardware, store where local residents could come into contact with our 12 employees.
9. Pelican has no taxis, cars or public transit. All movement throughout the town is done by walking on a 12 foot wide boardwalk.

Our Mitigation Plan:

1. The Highliner Lodge's employees will all be quarantined for 14 days prior to contact with any resident of Pelican, any guest, or any employee who arrived at an earlier date.
2. All Highliner Lodge employees will maintain complete isolation from residents of Pelican for the entire time of their employment. They will not set foot in any home, any business, or any public building, including but not limited too, the US Post Office, Community Hall, City Hall, liquor store, public shower and laundromat, public restrooms and the Alaska Seaplanes office.
3. No resident of Pelican, or any person who is not a Highliner guest or employee, will be allowed into any building, or boat, operated by the Highliner Lodge.
4. All Highliner Lodge employees will not spend any time socializing with any resident of Pelican for the entire duration of our season.
5. All Highliner Lodge guests will be contacted 7 days prior to starting their travel to both ascertain their health and instruct them on what precautions to take when traveling through the airport and on the plane. We will remind them of their obligation to help stop the spread of the virus to our employees and residents of Pelican. We will ask that any guests with any covid - 19 symptoms or reason to believe that have been in contact with an infected individual in the past 14 days, reschedule their trip until 2021.
6. All employees and guests will maintain strict social distancing as per Alaska public health mandates, which includes the use of masks.
7. Our incoming supplies, mail and guest baggage, etc. will be either

- handled exclusively in-house, or will be dropped off at our doorstep by city employees or Alaska Seaplane staff.
8. Our outgoing mail, baggage, fish boxes will be picked up by city employees or Alaska Seaplane staff.
 9. Our staff will use all recommended cleaning and sanitizing procedures to eliminate any possible spread of covid-19 virus including the daily use of Fogger/Sprayer/Atomizer machine using antiviral disinfectants in every room and every boat occupied by our guests and staff.
 10. When possible, we will stagger use of accommodations allowing a 24-72 hours between departing and arriving guests.
 11. We may stagger our guests' breakfasts and dinners at the lodge to maintain social distancing. Breakfasts may be "made to go" and eaten on the boats. Guests may have the option to have family-style dinners delivered to their suite. All guests will be required to sit at a table with only their own family members and/or fishing partners. There will be no mixed groups at any table. The lodge owner will not sit with any guests at any table at any time for the entire season. Our chef and servers will follow all state covid - 19 guidelines for restaurants.
 12. Our guests will maintain strict social distancing while being escorted from the lodge to their assigned boats in the harbor each morning at 6:30 am and back again at 5:00 pm. All Pelican residents will be notified of our schedule and will be encouraged to avoid the 600 foot long path between the lodge and the boats.
 13. We may employ red traffic cones (or equivalent) on boardwalk to ward off locals between 5am-7am (breakfast/loading time) and 5pm-8pm (unloading/dinner time)
 14. We will consider upgrading to split mixed fishing groups into two boats.
 15. When shipping fish boxes out, no seaplanes personnel will be allowed in the fish cutting room and no Highliner crew will go into the Seaplanes office.
 16. While on charter boats we may mark names on rods so that the same person uses the same rod each time each day. Use felt pen to write names on water bottles or will consider using disposable cups and large water dispenser. Rotate guests for salmon fishing. Only captains can operate down-riggers.
 17. The captains will sanitize their boat and equipment each day.
 18. We will refrain from group trophy shots being taken in front of the lodge at 6pm and keep the photo ops on the charter boats to avoid contact with local residents who may pass the lodge at that time of day.
 19. Highliner staff and guests will be required to report any symptoms of covid -19 that they are experiencing or that they suspect that another is exhibiting. That person, or persons, will be immediately isolated and either tested for covid - 19 and/or returned via Alaska Seaplanes and Alaska Airlines to their home.

It's not that difficult... I've been social distancing before it was cool!

Book Online Now!

Sermon on the Seamount



Is this a face that you can trust?

**...of all the liars among mankind, the fisherman is the most trustworthy.
~William Sherwood Fox**

***THIS IS WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE AND
UPBEAT...***



I forgot to mention last newsletter that the bag limit on silvers (cohos) is six per

day!



The North Pacific Fishing Council has recommended to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) that the halibut bag limits be dramatically increased do to the expected reduction in fishing effort this year! The IPHC is considering this and will make an announcement soon!!



Awards for a record breaking 12 halibut over 100 pounds caught in a single day at the Highliner Lodge last season!

We have several openings in July and August that are currently still available!

Call toll free (877) 386-0397 or email our operations manager Dylan at dylan@highlinerlodge.com for details or click the "BOOK NOW!" link

[BOOK NOW!](#)



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