



# YUROK TRIBE

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## YUROK TRIBE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER ORDER #201117D

*Yurok Tribe Plan for Reducing Risk of Covid-19 Spread | Physical Distancing  
November 17, 2020*

Aiy-ye-kwee’,

The Yurok Tribe is a sovereign nation and federally recognized tribe with over 6,333 enrolled members. The Yurok Tribe and the State of California are in a State of Emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The spread of COVID-19 is a substantial danger to the health of the public within the Yurok Reservation. COVID-19 can easily spread between persons who are in close contact with one another.

The age, demographics, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the Yurok Tribe places its members at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Recent U.S Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) studies have shown that Native Americans are among the racial and ethnic minority groups at higher risk for severe COVID-19 outcomes.<sup>1</sup>

This Order is based on scientific evidence and best practices as currently known to the Yurok Tribe, including information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the State of California, and the Del Norte and Humboldt County Health Officers. This Order is intended to protect vulnerable members of the public and Yurok Tribe from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19.

**Now, therefore, I, as Public Health Officer for the Yurok Tribe, order the following:**

1. All persons shall maintain at least a six-foot distance from another person, that is not a member of their households, at all times.
2. This Order does not apply when six-foot physical distancing from another person is not feasible, so long as the person is wearing facial coverings and conducting essential activities according to local health regulations for less than fifteen (15) minutes. For example, this order does not apply to individuals that must necessarily be within six feet of a cashier for a few minutes in order to make food purchases.

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<sup>1</sup> Hatcher SM, Agnew-Brune C, Anderson M, et al. COVID-19 Among American Indian and Alaska Native Persons — 23 States, January 31–July 3, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:1166–1169. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6934e1>.

### **Terms of Orders**

3. This Order shall go into effect November 18, 2020.
4. This Order shall remain in effect until repealed by the Yurok Tribe Public Health Officer or repealed by the Yurok Tribal Council.
5. This Order does not repeal any other Yurok Tribe order, law, or regulation.
6. This Order is issued pursuant to the Yurok constitution and Yurok Tribe Public Health Ordinance.
7. If any provision of this Order to the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the reminder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. The provisions of this Order are severable.

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Serene Hayden  
Public Health Officer  
Yurok Tribe