



# COLOR COUNTRY DISTRICT

## FIRE MANAGEMENT

### BLM-Utah-Color Country District COVID-19 Mitigation and Response Plan

The intent of this document is to provide guidance to reduce the risk and rate of spread of COVID-19 as well as other infectious diseases. The workplaces in which we operate can vary from office environments to the field. Every setting has its own unique challenges in the mitigation of, and response to, the impact of infectious diseases. This guidance may be amended and/or adjusted based on specific circumstances and conditions of the specific work environment. All employees should follow basic best practices measures as well as working with their supervisor and line officers to ensure that duties are being carried out in the safest, most effective way possible while protecting themselves, coworkers and the public. When employees find themselves in a new work environment, (e.g. other station/office, incident ICP, base camp, etc...), they are encouraged to make themselves familiar with, and abide by, that work environment's COVID-19 site specific plan.

In addition to any DOI, BLM and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance, the following best management practices will be implemented.

1. Worksite cleaning/disinfecting: Once in the morning and once in the afternoon, if needed.

#### Workplace/equipment/cleaning procedures

- ✓ Develop routine daily cleaning procedures for vehicles and other equipment. Refer to Station SOP for further details.
- ✓ Module supervisors will ensure daily cleaning procedures are followed.
- ✓ Ventilate vehicles during and after use.
- ✓ For vehicles/equipment utilized by multiple personnel, clean "high touch" surfaces of the vehicle/equipment before and after use.
- ✓ When possible, assign equipment to one individual for their exclusive use, (e.g. headsets, handheld radios, telephones, etc...).
- ✓ Clean all "high-touch" surfaces every day.
- ✓ Use disposable paper towels and approved cleaning solutions, or wipes for cleaning that meets the CDC recommendations.
- ✓ Wash hands thoroughly after cleaning equipment, surfaces, etc.



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### Practice personal hygiene

- ✓ Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, with soap, after coughing or sneezing, when hands are visibly dirty, or after touching common surfaces, (doorknobs, desktops, common phones, etc...).
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer when getting in and out of vehicles and after fueling.
- ✓ Do not touch eyes, nose, mouth with gloved or unwashed hands.

### Practice social distancing

- ✓ Avoid physical contact with co-workers and the public; maintain 6' spacing whenever able.
  - ✓ Avoid handshakes or other unnecessary interpersonal touching.
  - ✓ Assign vehicles to firefighters and avoid cross-over of employees and belongings.
  - ✓ Discourage shared use of phones, radios, or other work tools and equipment.
  - ✓ Limit access to facilities for all non-fire personnel and non-essential personnel.
2. When able, stagger start times for agencies, 30 minutes will be sufficient. This would be on a pay period rotation. There would be no change to the time that dispatch would normally read weather and staffing report.
  3. Begin 7-day staffing when seasonal workforce begins.
  4. All employees must communicate if they have been exposed to an individual who has tested positive and/or is symptomatic to their supervisor.

### Daily Employee Screening and Symptom Monitoring

- ✓ Follow the guidelines in the Fire Management Board Memorandums
  - FMB Memorandum No. 20-006, Establishment of Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening Interim Standard Operating Procedures
  - FMB Memorandum No. 20-006a, Interim Screening Protocol and Tool
- ✓ General symptoms include fever (>100.4), cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, and may also include headache, fatigue, sore throat, aches, muscle pain, chills, new loss of taste and/or smell.



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- ✓ Monitor firefighter temperature and watch for other symptoms. Provide infrared thermometers to supervisors.
  - ✓ Isolate and test employees if showing symptoms.
    - Online CIVID-19 assessment questionnaire is available at: <https://www.testutah.com/>
    - The online assessment will direct the employee to a drive-in testing location for those that currently have symptoms, have interacted with someone who has tested positive, or have recently visited places where COVID-19 is more widespread.
  - ✓ Have person tested and, if negative, allow all personnel that had a close contact return to duty.
  - ✓ Require all employees to self-monitor and follow FMB Memorandum No. 20-006 and FMB Memorandum No. 20-006a guidelines.
  - ✓ If an employee feels ill, isolate and return to residence.
  - ✓ Notify immediate supervisor of the situation.
5. Modules will avoid large group gatherings indoors by distancing through field work, outdoor training, etc...

### Module operations

- ✓ Consider video/virtual/radio meetings and briefings using available technology for groups of 10 or more.
- ✓ Be prepared to be self-sufficient for several days including potential remote/spike camp location.
- ✓ Minimize group physical training (PT) activities unless they adhere to social distancing. PT should be exercised outdoors when possible: run, hike and/or body weight calisthenics. Minimizing the sharing of fitness equipment and sanitize immediately after use.
- ✓ When possible, maintain crew modules as an individual unit (“Module as One”). Crews will avoid backfilling from other crews in order to prevent potential contamination of all resources within a station.
- ✓ Maintain separation from other resources in briefing areas, sleeping areas, food service, supply, staging and other areas of typical congregation.



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### **Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening Tool**

#### **DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS?**

Today or in the past 24 hours, have you had any of the following symptoms?

- Fever, felt feverish, or had chills? Repeated shaking with chills?
- Cough? Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
- Muscle pain? Headache? Sore throat?
- New loss of taste and/or smell?

In the past 14 days, have you had contact with a person known to be infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19)?

*\*Take temperature with touchless thermometer if available\**



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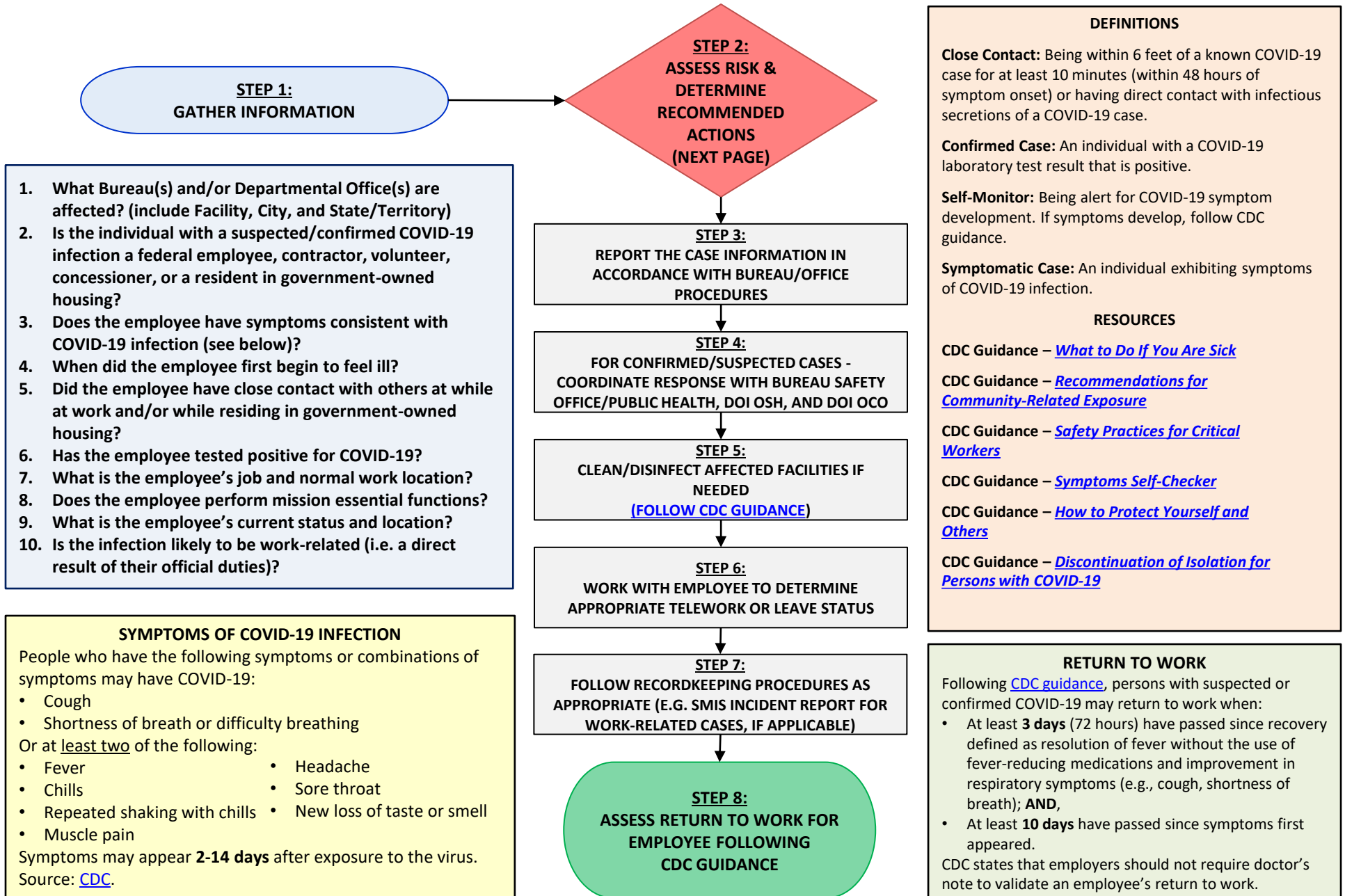
### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCREENING**

- If resource is positive for any symptoms prior to mobilization **DO NOT MOBILIZE.**
- At Entries – Consider the adequate number of personnel needed for screening. Although medical personnel are ideal, screeners do not have to be medically trained.
  - If resource is positive for any symptoms including fever (over 100.4) at entry **DO NOT ANNOUNCE-** ask to step aside.
  - Escort sick individual to isolation area.
  - Isolation support personnel should begin documentation. Have sick individual contact Supervisor for further direction.
  - Notify public health officials.
  - Have individual transported as appropriate.
  - Protect and secure any collected Personal Identifiable Information or Personal Health Information.



## DOI COVID-19 Risk Assessment & Decision Matrix for Managers

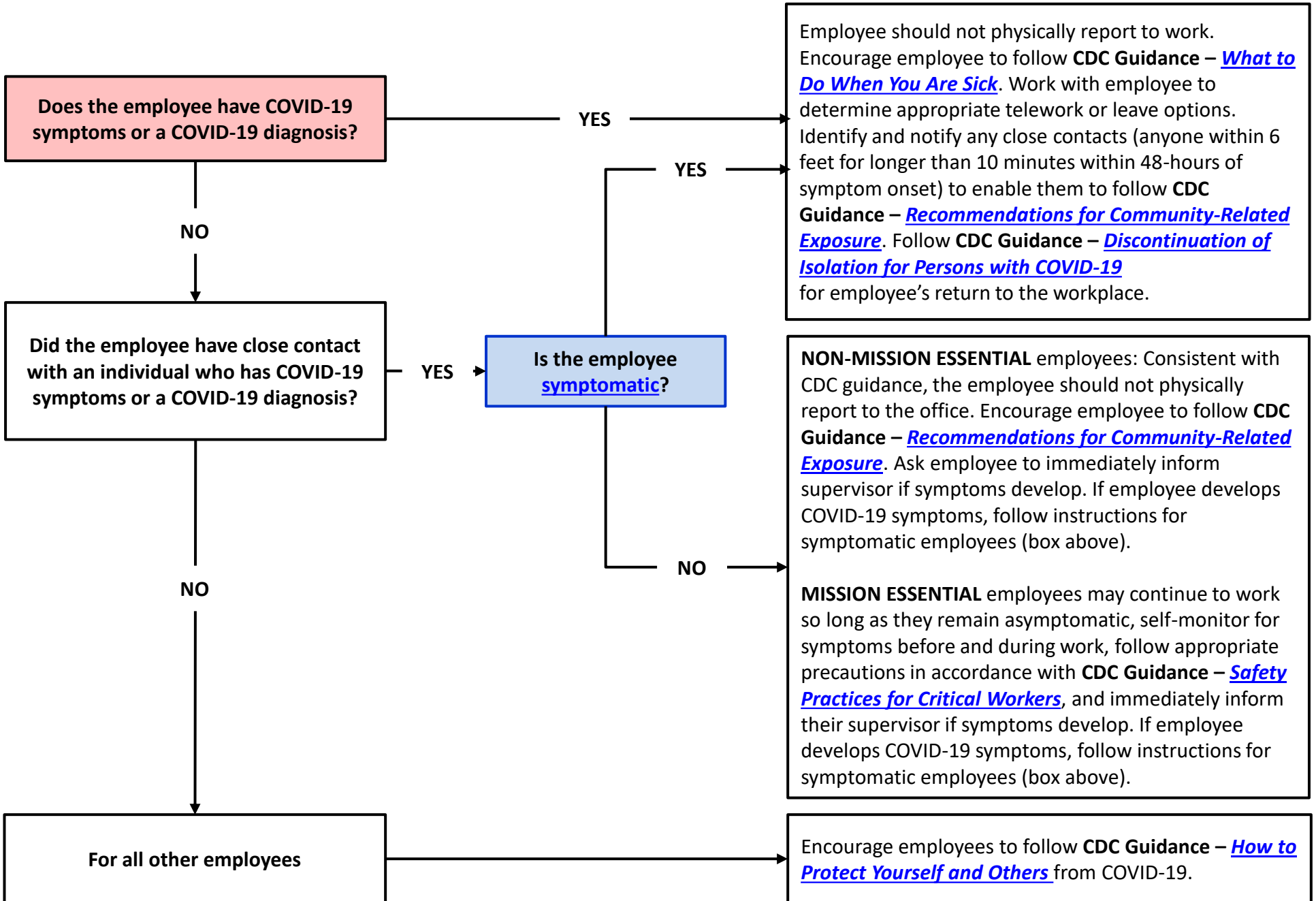
**Instructions:** This tool was developed to assist agency managers with assessing risk and determining appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Follow the steps below in order and utilize the flowchart on the following page to determine recommended management actions.



## DOI COVID-19 Risk Assessment & Decision Matrix for Managers



### MANAGEMENT ACTIONS







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### References:

- [1] Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>
- [2] Symptoms of Coronavirus  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- [3] Pandemic Preparedness in the Workplace and the Americans with Disabilities Act  
[https://www.eeoc.gov/facts/pandemic\\_flu.html](https://www.eeoc.gov/facts/pandemic_flu.html)
- [4] 29 CFR § 1630.14 - Medical examinations and inquiries specifically permitted.  
<https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/29/1630.14>
- [5] Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings (Interim Guidance)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>
- [6] Coronavirus Disease 2019(COVID-19). Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
- [7] CDC published answers to FAQ's particular to wildland fire here:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/wildland-firefighters-faq.html>
- [9] CDC COVID-19 Guidance to Communities, Schools, Workplaces and Events  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>