WHATCOM COUNTY Health Department



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Crew on Two Additional American Seafoods Vessels Test Positive for COVID-19

BELLINGHAM, **WA** – Today, Whatcom County Health Department learned that 25 crew members on two American Seafoods vessels docked in Bellingham have tested positive for COVID-19. The crew members, who will be isolated for the standard period, will be housed at the isolation and quarantine (IQ) facility on Byron Avenue in Bellingham, which was established through Whatcom Unified Command (WUC).

Last Thursday a fishing vessel from <u>American Seafoods</u> docked in Bellingham. An ill crew member was transported to <u>PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center</u>, tested positive for COVID-19, and was admitted to the hospital.

According to American Seafoods' earlier statement, the company has a plan for COVID-19 that includes testing of crew before their vessels depart, responding to symptoms, and arranging for isolation and quarantine for their crew members who disembark in King County. That plan remains in effect.

This is a dynamic and evolving situation. The Whatcom County Health Department and Whatcom Unified Command are partnering with American Seafoods and the Washington State Department of Health to mitigate and prevent further spread of the disease. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

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