

## **2020 Community Salmon Investigation (CSI) Safety Protocol**

### **Miller-Walker Stewardship Program**

*Proposed schedule: October-December*

CSI is a community drive monitoring program that provides important data on salmon abundance and stormwater induced mortality in coho salmon. Community volunteers (teams of two) survey local creeks during the fall migration period. The following modifications will be implemented to address COVID related concerns and ensure consistency with COVID guidelines. King County is adhering to phased guidance in Washington State's Safe Start Plan and King County COVID-19 workplace procedures. Safety protocols may be updated based on changing state or county guidance.

#### COVID-19 Safety Protocols

##### *Participant Self-Screening*

- Do not conduct surveys if during the last two weeks you have experienced coughing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of smell or taste, or if anyone in your household is suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19. Notify survey partner(s) and Basin Steward that you are unavailable.
- Check temperature on day of scheduled survey: if you have a temperature of 100.4F or greater, notify survey partner(s) and Basin Steward that you are unavailable.

##### *Survey Protocol Changes*

- Please bring a face mask and hand sanitizer. Disposable masks and hand sanitizer are available in the supply buckets if you forget them;
- Wear face masks and practice regular hand sanitizing, including before and after survey;
- Limit survey participants to 2-3 people;
- Individual survey kits distributed to avoid need to exchange/share equipment;
- Maintain physical distancing (> 6 ft.) from individuals from different households during surveys;
- Kindly remind interested community members and/or neighbors of the importance of maintaining physical distancing during any interactions;
- Do not perform necropsies on chum salmon – they are resistant to urban runoff mortality syndrome. Simply remove the tail from all observed/measured chum carcasses;
- If you borrow supplies from the Supply Bucket, please spray them with provided hand sanitizer before returning them;
- Do not collect snouts from hatchery fish.

#### General Safety Protocols

- Never survey alone, Suspend survey if unsafe conditions are observed;
- Do not survey during periods of high water, low stream visibility, or windy conditions;
- Dress appropriately for forecasted weather conditions – do not survey without waders;
- Be aware of possible environmental hazards, including deep water, dead trees/branches, uneven terrain, steep slopes, slippery surfaces, etc.; and
- Use a walking stick (or old ski pole) for increased stability.