

CDFW Staff Covid-19 Update #10

Thursday, May 14, 2020

This email is being sent to CDFW All.

This update covers the following topics:

- **State Budget**
- **Moving to Stage 2**
- **CalEmployee Connect**
- **Leave Balance Cashout Cancelled**
- **Californians For All Service Initiative**
- **Health and Wellness Tips**
- **More Information**

Background

CDFW has established an internal task force that will monitor and message out to staff information from various sources and develop recommended actions to protect CDFW staff and mission-critical functions. These periodic CDFW All Staff COVID-19 Updates are intended to provide you with summarized information that is helpful to you as a state employee. The safety and well-being of staff is the Department's priority and we appreciate everyone's patience and willingness to adapt during this rapidly evolving situation.

State Budget

The Governor released the May revision of the State's budget today, available online at <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/>. The revision reflects spending reductions and other strategies as a result of the devastating economic impacts of the pandemic. We are working to understand the fiscal and operational implications for the Department and will be communicating more on this soon.

Moving to Stage 2

In keeping with Governor's Office and Natural Resources Agency direction and guidance, the Department has developed a general plan to re-open services and functions based on the State moving from various Stages noted in the State's Resiliency Roadmap. This plan anticipates doing so while largely maintaining teleworking, and implementing appropriate physical distancing, the use of personal protective equipment, and other protective measures to safely resume all services across the Department. The Department is working on more detailed guidance to support the general plan and will be communicating more on that soon. Please see the general plan summary [here](#).

CalEmployee Connect

CDFW staff can now register for Cal Employee Connect, a self-service portal which allows state employees to view, print, and electronically save their own W-2, leave balances, direct-deposit earnings statements, and more. To register for the secure portal, just get one of your recent paystubs and visit <https://connect.sco.ca.gov/>. See also [HRB Memo 20-017 Register Now for Cal Employee Connect](#)

Leave Balance Cash Out Cancelled

The 2020 Leave Buy-Back program for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 has been cancelled for CDFW staff (Bargaining Units 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 14) in accordance with Budget Letter BL20-11. We understand that this program benefits many individuals; unfortunately, this decision was deemed necessary by the State of California as an immediate action to help reduce expenditures and identify operating savings. See also [HRB Memo 20-014: 2020 VACATION/ANNUAL LEAVE CASH OUT PROGRAM](#)

Californians For All Service Initiative

With COVID-19 creating a critical need for community support and volunteers across the state, Governor Gavin Newsom recently announced California Volunteers' #CaliforniansForAll service initiative to connect Californians with safe volunteer opportunities and encourage those unable to physically volunteer to think creatively about ways to make a difference in their communities. Californians are encouraged to join #CaliforniansForAll by signing up at californiansforall.ca.gov.

Health and Wellness Tips

While we are all managing through the disruption to both work and personal lives caused by the pandemic, we encourage you to take time every day to participate in something relaxing and restorative.

Laughter is the Best Medicine

This Kaiser Permanente webinar is on Tuesday, May 19 at 10:00-11:00 and 1:00-2:00. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/ybevbybe> and [reglink5.19.laughter2](https://reglink5.19.laughter2.com)

Keeping Your Lungs Healthy

This Health Net webinar will provide tips on how to keep your lungs healthy and is on Wednesday, May 20 at 12:00-12:45. Register at:

https://centene.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QAw2UMzgSleth2Gf9C8Axa

Free Meditation

Join Susan Stainman for a series of weekly 30-minute meditation classes where you will learn mindfulness tools to help manage stress, improve resiliency, and create new mental habits to help you through this moment and beyond.

You are invited to a Zoom Class on the following dates:

- Friday, May 15 at 3:00 PM
- Friday, May 22 at 3:00 PM
- Friday, May 29 at 3:00 PM

[REGISTER](#) in advance for this class.

More Information

- Information on the status of the COVID-19 crisis in California, as well as actions the state is taking in response can be found at <https://covid19.ca.gov/>. Local public health agencies also have information on COVID-19.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding COVID-19, please discuss with your supervisor. You may also direct HR-related questions to Covid-19LeaveSupport@wildlife.ca.gov or non-HR questions to COVID-19@wildlife.ca.gov.

- Past CDFW COVID-19 Updates and other information can be viewed on the intranet at <https://dfgintranet/portal/tabid/2921/Default.aspx> (you must either be logged into the intranet or connected to the VPN for the link to function).