June 30, 2021

TO: All WSP Staff

FROM: Robert Jackson, Superintendent

SUBJECT: WSP IMU Limited Area Outbreak

On June 28, 2021, Washington State Penitentiary confirmed that one (1) staff member and one (1) incarcerated individual, in the Intensive Management Unit (IMU) North and South, had tested positive for COVID-19 in the last fourteen days.

On May 5, 2021, the Department announced an update to the COVID-19 protocols and shared the definition of a Limited Area Outbreak. Facilities that experience an outbreak, that is currently limited to one area, may be placed on a Limited Area Outbreak. Meaning only the impacted area would be on outbreak status, and the rest of the facility would remain unaffected.

In a consultation with Headquarters Clinical Leadership and Prisons Operations Leadership, the determination was made that IMU North and IMU South, the only affected areas, would be placed on a Limited Area Outbreak.

Due to increased temperatures, additional transfers of incarcerated individuals also occurred as a precautionary measure.

While IMU North and IMU South will remain quarantined, and unable to participate in visitation, the rest of the facility will continue normal operations.

It is imperative to make sure you continue to wear your appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as well as social distancing at all times. Please encourage and model the same behavior that we expect from our incarcerated population.

Similarly, it is vital that we continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, ensuring to follow the six (6) foot social distancing rule, washing your hands, and keeping areas of the institution sanitized. Staff must remain diligent in wearing your masks at all times, as your safety, as well as your family’s, are a priority.

Corrections is committed to everyone’s safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.

"Working Together for SAFER Communities"