Rules of Engagement for Field Work during the COVID-19 Crisis

In accordance with the State of Colorado’s COVID-19’s public health orders, the following general rules must be followed at all times.

1. You must abide by social distancing rules throughout your field work, including travel to and from the site.

2. If you are working with others from Mines, each of them will need to submit their own individual research request.

3. You must include among your field supplies hand sanitizer or other means of regularly and thoroughly washing your hands.

4. You must wear a fabric mask except when you are alone or >6 ft away from anyone else. You must use gloves or a similar solution when more than one person uses the same piece of equipment, or disinfect the equipment between users.

5. If you have any symptoms of COVID 19 (cough, fever, fatigue, difficulty of breathing), do not go into the field or use any space on campus until you have been cleared by medical professionals. It appears that some people with COVID 19 have other symptoms so if you feel sick at all, please do not use the space until you feel better and are convinced that you do not have the virus. Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment directs you stay in isolation until you’ve been fever free for 72 hours, your symptoms have improved (cough has improved) and at least 7 days have passed since the onset of your symptoms. It is important that we protect each other from any illness right now, so stay home and rest.

6. For field research that requires travel beyond the Denver/Boulder metropolitan area and surrounding counties (in state, out of state, or international), Colorado state guidance requires a 14-day self-quarantine afterwards. If this applies, you must agree to this public health measure.

7. If you are accessing campus research facilities to prepare for or complete field sample collection, you must:
   a. Use the sign in/sign out sheets that are provided. We need to know who has been in the areas and when in case there are any cases of COVID 19 given that, if there are cases, we need to inform others who used the space that they should self-quarantine. If we discover that you have not been signing in, you will be banned from future use of the space until further notice.
   b. You must have permission of the person in charge of the space you want to use – no exceptions.
   c. If the space is restricted to use only with a buddy in the space or in a nearby space, you are required to ensure that a buddy is present. Again, no exceptions. If this is a requirement and you are found without a buddy you will be banned until further notice.
   d. While you are working in the space, you are required to maintain a distance of six feet from other users, and be cautious about touching surfaces that have been previously touched. Again, no exceptions and violation will result in your dismissal from the space until further notice.
   e. You must have proper PPE to use the space depending on the specific space’s rules. If you are found using the space without proper PPE, you will be banned until further notice.
   f. You are expected to leave the space in better condition than you find it. If we discover unsafe or poor practices, you will be banned from the space until further notice. You need to be a “good citizen” of the area.
   g. Upon leaving, please spray or wipe down any work surfaces that you touch with antiseptic wipes if available. EHS can fill spray bottles with 70% IPA for users that want to clean their work surfaces.
   h. Do not remove supplies from the area for your personal use.
   i. Your safety and the safety of the other users of the space is our number one priority. If you intend to access the space, it is incumbent on you to follow all these rules and any other space specific rules especially under the current circumstances.