



November 24, 2020

Jeff Rector, Commissioner
Si Woodruff, Commissioner
Gary Moyer, Commissioner
Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners
via email

Alice Harvey, Director
Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health and Environment

RE: Protect Our Neighbors Status and Enforcement of Executive Orders

Dear Commissioners and Director Harvey:

On November 10, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) notified Rio Blanco County Public Health Agency that the county's incidence rate had exceeded its current COVID-19 Dial Level threshold for Protect Our Neighbors. At that time, the county's COVID-19 metrics were as follows:

- Two-week cumulative incidence rate: 190.26/100,000 people
- Percent positivity: 4.98%
- 2-week COVID-19 case count (new cases): 12

As of today, the county's incidence rates are as follows:

- Two-week cumulative incidence rate: 1078.17/100,000 people
- Percent positivity: 17.82%
- 2-week COVID-19 case count (new cases): 68

CDPHE is moving Rio Blanco County to COVID-19 Dial Level Yellow at this time. CDPHE will carefully monitor COVID-19 metrics and if case counts continue to rise, may need to move the county to another level.

The change from Protect Our Neighbors to Level Yellow is effective Monday, November 30, 2020 at 5pm and the county should work to inform residents, businesses and other stakeholders to ensure the transition is completed by then. This process will require the county to implement restrictions across all sectors as described in Section II.D of [Public Health Order 20-36](#), as amended.

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Should the county restore metrics for a less restrictive level at any time during the more restrictive phase, the county would need to maintain those metrics for two weeks and complete the request process described [here](#).

I appreciate the unique challenges facing Rio Blanco County and commend you for your diligence. Preventing the spread of this persistent virus takes the cooperation of everyone consistently practicing good disease prevention strategies and your partnership is critical to this effort. Thank you.

Lastly, if the Department can be a resource for you in any capacity, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Hunsaker Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH
Executive Director
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment