

Central Oregon Geoscience Society (COGS)

Covid-19 Safety Protocols for Field Activities

This policy governs the risk reduction measures being instituted by COGS for the resumption of Field Activities which include Field Trips and Geo-Explorations. The policy is intended to minimize risk and insure the safest experience for all participants and leaders. It is informed by CDC guidance but is primarily based on state and local guidance and restrictions. This policy was approved by the COGS Board of Directors on May 25, 2021 and is effective immediately. It covers the 2021 field season and expires December 31, 2021. It may be revised, rescinded or extended by vote of the Board.

- 1.) COGS will use the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) risk categories as a guide to when risk levels are acceptable for COGS sponsored field activities to occur. Deschutes County must be in the Moderate Risk category or lower. The risk level of the counties where the field activity is occurring should also be considered. <https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le3461.pdf>
- 2.) COGS will also use the OHA risk category to determine the maximum number of participants, including leaders, who may attend a field activity. For Moderate Risk category this is 10 and for Lower Risk it is 12. If the risk category system is suspended, maximum participant numbers will be 14.
- 3.) In order to provide the safest environment, all participants, including leaders, must be fully vaccinated with FDA approved Covid-19 vaccine. Full vaccination is defined as two weeks having elapsed since the last required shot. Participants certify that they meet this requirement by signing the COGS waiver. Prospective participants who do not meet this requirement need to defer their participation in COGS field activities until such time as they do meet this requirement or this policy is no longer in effect.
- 4.) All participants and leaders are required to comply with the following basic safety precautions:
 - A.) Perform a self-health assessment the day of the activity. Do not attend if not feeling well or exhibiting any of the symptoms of Covid-19 or if you have been directly exposed to a person in the last week who is a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19.
 - B.) All participants are encouraged to practice good hand hygiene and shaking hands is discouraged.
 - C.) Physical distancing of 6 feet should be maintained between participants who are not members of the same household or not part of the same social bubble.
 - D.) Face coverings are encouraged when congregating in parking areas or outcrops when physical distancing cannot be reliably maintained.
 - E.) Ride sharing is permitted but as is standard COGS policy it is completely voluntary. All carpooling will be arranged by the individuals involved and will not be overseen by COGS.
- 5.) These are minimum required measures and individual leaders may require additional measures.
- 6.) Participants and leaders certify they meet the vaccination requirements and agree to comply with safety protocols by signing the COGS waiver.