



South Central Public Health District  
1020 Washington Street North  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
208-737-5900  
[www.phd5.idaho.gov](http://www.phd5.idaho.gov)



**NEWS RELEASE--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: March 23, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **First case of novel coronavirus reported in Cassia County**

CASSIA COUNTY – South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) have confirmed one case of novel coronavirus in Cassia County.

The individual is a female over the age of 70. Investigation shows she likely was exposed to the virus by travelers from areas with community spread. The travelers visited the individual's home. She has been hospitalized.

South Central Public Health District's most recently updated guidelines can be found on our website at [phd5.idaho.gov/coronavirus](http://phd5.idaho.gov/coronavirus). To slow the spread of the virus, Governor Brad Little urges the public to implement, through March 31, the following initiative:

- Working or engaging in schooling from home whenever possible.
- Avoiding social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
- Avoiding eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts where social distancing is not achievable; instead use drive-thru, pickup or delivery options.
- Avoiding discretionary travel, shopping trips, and social visits.
- Canceling visits to nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

South Central Public Health District is running two COVID-19 informational hotlines, one in English at (208) 737-1138, and one in Spanish, at (208) 737-5965. These hotlines are currently running from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Please refer to <https://phd5.idaho.gov/coronavirus> for the latest local numbers and <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/> for Idaho-specific information. IDHW released information detailing how those numbers are counted here: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/AboutUs/Newsroom/tabid/130/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/2093/How-COVID19-cases-are-counted.aspx>.