

Changemakers,

Thank you for your perseverance and passion in this challenging time. We see you marching in the streets to defend Black lives, talking with and supporting each other, [redefining what it means for the Sierra Club to stand in solidarity](#), and doing all that you can to make our organization, movement and country a better place.

We are making the decision to **extend our [current COVID-19 operational response](#) through Monday, August 31st**. This means all national, chapter and shared offices will remain closed, with rare exceptions for urgent business continuity needs. Travel, in-person meetings, public events and outings will remain on hold through at least August 31st as well.

This is a difficult decision, but we believe it is the right one for our organization and for each other. We have and will continue to prioritize the safety of our staff, volunteers, members and the general public. There is no current vaccine for COVID-19, no effective treatment, 20,000 new positive tests or more are often registered daily in the U.S., and as of this date, there are more states with increasing numbers of positive tests than states in which positive cases are falling.

Looking ahead, we should all prepare for the very real possibility we continue modified and remote operations well beyond this summer. This is not a choice we want to make but, again, we're mindful of our social responsibility to do what we can to protect people's health.

Over the next two and a half months, we'll continue to develop options for a return to our offices, as well as our outings, public activities and engagement. When we do return to our offices, in September or at a later date, we will likely not all return at once. With guidance from Safety and ongoing engagement with stakeholders, including chapter and national staff as well as volunteers, we will develop plans to minimize risk, while addressing special needs and local challenges as they arise.

In the meantime, for those of us marching and protesting, we support you and your efforts, and encourage you to keep pandemic-safety in mind.

We will also be extending the [regular all-staff meeting](#) this Tuesday, June 9th to 90 minutes to allow for staff to ask questions about this guidance.

We will continue to keep communication open, and I encourage you all to visit our [COVID-19 hub on Campfire](#), where we will continually update resources for our work and everyone's safety during this unprecedented time.

In Solidarity,

Ramon & Mike

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