



August 13, 2021

Suquamish clam fishery protocol during the COVID-19 pandemic

Protocol for clam harvesters

All harvesters who wish to participate in clam harvests must identify which group they belong to. Groups are posted on the Fisheries web page under *Clam Dig Groups*. Regulations and Shellfish Hotline Updates, also posted on the website, will announce which group is up for each clam dig.

Diggers who do not belong to any group will have to show up twice as a standby digger to be added to a group.

A maximum of 30 diggers will be allowed on the beach **when sufficient quota is available**, starting with the main group, then diggers from other groups in sequential order, then non-group diggers. When quota is not sufficient or the beach (clam band) is very small a maximum of 20 diggers will be allowed on the beach during harvest.

If the total number of diggers on the beach is lower than 30, spouses and children will be welcomed to help dig (while maintaining 6 foot distancing). Priority will be given to the group diggers' families. If the total number of diggers on the beach is 30, spouses and children present will need to wait outside of the clam band area until the harvest is finished.

Link to the website clam dig information:

<https://suquamish.nsn.us/home/departments/fisheries/tribal-fishing-hunting/>

Harvester requirements for harvest:

- All harvesters must wear a mask or scarf covering nose and mouth ~~if not fully vaccinated against Covid 19.~~
- Maintain a 6 foot minimum distance between each other and with monitors and buyers at all times
- Be willing to answer questions about general health and recent travel activities
- Be willing to have your temperature taken with a no-touch thermometer
- Anyone with a persistent cough or other illness symptoms will not be allowed on the beach
- Anyone with a fever equal or greater than 100°F will not be allowed on the beach



SUQUAMISH TRIBE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

Protocol for clam harvest monitors

Monitors must report any ill feelings or symptoms to supervisors immediately if they are scheduled to work. Monitors will have brightly painted 6 foot markers for harvesters to maintain a 6 foot distance at the scale and registration stations.

Monitor requirements for harvest:

- **Monitors must wear a mask or scarf covering nose and mouth.**
- Maintain a 6 foot minimum distance between each other and with harvesters and buyers at all times
- Use the no-touch thermometer to scan each harvester's temperature
- Maintain a 6 foot minimum distance at the scale while harvesters place clam bags on the platform
- Monitor #1 records weight, monitor #2 places bag tag in bag and okays bag to be taken away by harvester

Protocol for clam buyers

Buyers will be informed of protocol when discussing the scheduled clam harvest. The protocol and regulation will also be emailed to them before harvest.

Buyer requirements on the beach:

- Monitors must wear a mask or scarf covering nose and mouth if not fully vaccinated against Covid 19.
- Fully Vaccinated Definition: An individual who has received their full regiment of vaccine dosages (Two doses for Moderna and Pfizer vaccine, one dose for Johnson & Johnson) and must be two weeks post completion of their final vaccination.
- Maintain a 6 foot minimum distance with harvesters when feasible
- Buyers won't be allowed to pick up harvesters' bags from the beach until cash out