

Green Geophysics recognize the risks posed by COVID-19. The issue is not just the health and safety of our young, healthy field crew and our MT Array facility personnel at Oregon State University but transmission into the larger community. Given ~50% of those infected with COVID-19 are asymptomatic, and those that do become symptomatic can be asymptomatic for nearly three weeks in some instances, our crew have a significant potential to be vectors of transmission to the general population. Therefore, we are taking a both a defensive and proactive approach. In all matters, GG field crews will be thoughtful, patient and careful in working during the COVID-19 pandemic, and will follow all local guidelines.

In a normal environment 'home' is safe and the working environment is filled with potential danger. Normal Green Geophysics operations turn this model upside down. During daily field operations the crew is safe from contacting or transmitting the virus as they are isolated in remote areas installing or extracting MT instrumentation or otherwise camping. During this time the truck and the field site are essentially the crew's home, the crew their family, and as such they can function in a normal home/family situation. The threat to GG personnel in either contacting or transmitting COVID-19 is when they are in populated areas for food, lodging, gas and occasional field supplies.

When in populated areas the following procedures will be followed by GG personnel:

1. Wearing a face mask at all times and gloves as needed,
2. Practicing social distancing, as determined by local or national guidelines
3. Covering nose and mouth with a flexed elbow when coughing or sneezing,
4. Practicing good personal hygiene by washing hands with soap for 20 secs or using hand sanitizer, as appropriate.
5. Not touching their faces unless their hands are clean.
6. Wipe down all work surfaces and frequently handled items using alcohol wipes or alcohol-based cleaning solution before each workday starts and after it ends. If any surface or equipment is handled by personnel not members of your crew, wipe it down immediately.

Proactive steps

1. The first step taken to limit the potential for infection and transmission of our field staff was to push back the start date of our field operations to May 2020.
2. GG will be tracking possible hot spots and will defer installation of any sites in a hot spot area. Johns Hopkins University is supporting one of the best websites <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/us-map>
3. Monitoring for symptoms
  - a. Increased body temperature is often an early symptom of COVID-19. The crew will be measuring and recording their temperatures on a daily basis. They are issued with KINSA recording thermometers. Temperatures will be taken at roughly the same time each day.
  - b. Observe oneself and each other for any COVID-19 symptoms\* including fever, tiredness, loss of sense of smell and/or taste, and dry cough.
4. Crew will be buying and preparing their food as much as possible.
5. Clean high touch areas like countertops where the crew cooks and door handles in lodgings.
6. Avoid air travel as much as possible.

7. GG is prepared to quarantine the field crew in a local hotel or Airbnb if symptomatic or has had exposure to a COVID-19 positively-diagnosed individual.

Given the national importance of completing the MT Array to secure critical infrastructure against risk from space weather and electromagnetic pulse, the MT Array has been given "Tier 4" status by Oregon State, allowing the NGF lab to remain open under special operation restrictions, and enabling the MT Array field operations to proceed. This permission can only be maintained if NGF lab staff, and Green Geophysics personnel strictly adhere to all COVID-19 procedures. Failure to do so can lead to the total shut down of the MT Array operation, as well as risk both to crew members and to the general public from wide area transmission of the SARS-nCOV2 virus that causes COVID-19. Remember, it is possible to be infected with this corona virus and be totally asymptomatic. Don't be a vector for transmission of the virus. If you encounter many in the general public not adhering to requirements or recommendations to wear masks, maintain social distance, etc. do not follow their example. Rather you can consider yourself in those situations to be in a high-risk environment, where maintaining your own vigilance is even more important.

\*COVID-19 affects different people in different ways. Infected people have had a wide range of symptoms reported – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Or at least two of the following:
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Repeated shaking with chills
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - New loss of taste or smell

This list is not all inclusive. Emergency warning signs for COVID-19 that require immediate medical attention are:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

GG personnel will be supplied with face masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, alcohol-based surface sanitizing fluid, and thermometers.

If you have or suspect you have symptoms of COVID-19, or if you have been in contact with someone who is infected with COVID-19, distance yourself from other people and immediately contact Lu Pellerin for guidance at 510-326-7269 or [pellerin@greengeophysics.com](mailto:pellerin@greengeophysics.com).