

BRC COVID-19 Protocol:

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 BRC, the following protocols pertain to all elements of the Center and are based on the current recommendations from health care experts. They will be updated as new knowledge is gained:

1. Staff and volunteers may elect not to enter the facilities of BRC if they, or a resident in their household, fall within the high-risk categories of viral disease; chronic illness; AND/OR high-risk age classification (which is currently over 65).
2. Staff and volunteers should not enter the facilities of BRC if they, or a resident in their household, are:
 - *Experiencing ANY signs of illness (COVID related or otherwise);*
 - *Have been exposed to COVID-19 within the past 14 days and do not have a negative test result;*
 - *AND/OR tested positive for COVID-19 and are not yet cleared non-contagious + asymptomatic.*
 - BRC is subject to perform temperature and/or symptom checks before you enter the facilities of BRC.
 - All absences should be reported to BRC as far in advance as possible; however, if you are unable to contact us, please leave a message do not report to your shift.
3. Staff and volunteers should not enter the facilities of BRC if they, or a resident in their household, have not practiced proper self-quarantining per the current Stay Home Order. Violation of the current order and/or the following will result in a 14-day minimum quarantine away from BRC with possible need for a negative COVID test before returning.
 - Travel out of state and/or socialize with persons from out-of-state or who have re-entered California within the past 14 days (holiday or otherwise).
 - Travel out of country and/or socialize with persons from out-of-country or who have returned from international travel within the past 30 days. → International travel warrants a 30-day quarantine.
4. When arriving at the BRC, please ring the doorbell and wait to be let in. Upon entering, standby for a temperature check before signing-in and starting your shift.
 - Please do not go “around back” and let yourself in. You must have your temperature taken before starting your shift.
 - No-contact thermometer will either be stationed at the front or brought to the front by staff.
5. Per the Health Order No C19-07, all staff and volunteers must wear a facial covering while at BRC and in potential contact with others.
 - You will be turned away from entering the facilities of BRC if you arrive without a facial covering. We have only a very limited number of disposable masks onsite for medical and veterinary staff.
 - Masks should be donned if you are:
 - *Indoors;*
 - *Within the BRC compound (resident and rehab);*
 - *Approaching within 30 feet of another person while outside the compound.*
 - Masks should only be removed if you are isolated and safely 6ft. away from potential passersby. Removal of masks are warranted if you are:
 - *Eating;*
 - *Drinking;*
 - *Examining a bird in which mask removal is required for proper examination;*
 - *Fielding an official call in which the caller reports difficulty hearing you with your mask on.*
6. While working together at BRC, stay at least 6 feet away from each other, unless absolutely necessary (i.e., patient/resident exams, treatments, vet consultations, etc.).
 - Please observe the blue, 6ft distance markings denoted in higher traffic areas.

7. When 6-foot distancing is not be possible during bird examinations, treatments, training, etc., increased personal hygiene and PPE are required to reduce risk of transmission:
 - All parties directly involved should wash or sanitize their hands before and after.
 - All parties, except the examiner, should wear both a facial covering and a face shield.
 - This includes the restrainer and any potential assistants or bystanders.
 - BRC has a small selection of extra, easily sanitized face shields. If you will be helping or observing, please ask staff for a clean face shield.
 - The examiner should wear a facial covering at all times, unless temporary removal absolutely necessary.
8. When using raptor gloves, dish/cleaning gloves, etc. please use latex-free gloves as a first layer. If you have your own set of gloves, please only use your own when possible.
9. Every cough or sneeze MUST be completely covered—mouth and nose—by your crooked elbow or, preferably, a disposable tissue, if your mask is not on at the time.
 - If needed, we encourage you to speak up to others of these necessities. This is no time to be shy.
10. No communal hand-drying towels. Either use a paper towel, place re-usable towels into the laundry after single use only, or keep a reusable towel with you for personal use only.
11. At the end of every shift, staff and volunteers will:
 - Disinfect all counters, surfaces, and frequently handled items, including but not limited to handles, doorknobs, buttons (i.e. microwave), phones, key sets, locks, etc.
 - REHAB (BBS) = Change all baby trays (except worms), including the tray, formula, and feeding tools.
12. REHAB = Each volunteer will be assigned a baby bird room(s) per shift and should not stray from their room or cross into other baby bird rooms. Clear communication needs to occur on who will feed/check adult and self-feeding bird rooms to limit the number of people interacting with each room.
13. REHAB (Phone Team) = All phone team should strive to keep their mask on as much as possible. If mask removal is required for clear communication with caller, please follow mask guidelines above, ensuring you are isolated away from others.
 - Phone team should keep one phone with them at all times and limit sharing. The phone, phone base, and any commonly touched surfaces should be disinfected at the end of each shift.
 - The second phone may be utilized for “communal” use but must sanitized after every single use.
14. Handwashing/antibacterial gel must occur as designated by CDC and normal BRC requirements.
 - *Disposable gloves are available; requirements are the same with or without gloves! Always wash with soap and water and/or alcohol-based sanitizer to help avoid germ transfer between bird enclosures.*
 - **Soap & Water, General Protocol:**
 - Upon arrival and departure to BRC, staff and volunteers must wash hands with soap and water at the sink in the Volunteer Room (washing for 15-20 seconds = singing Happy Birthday twice).
 - Once inside, wash with soap & water if:
 - You contact blood, feces, urine, or saliva
 - You cleaned caging and/or equipment
 - You’re moving from one room to another during feedings/patient rounds
 - You’re going to prepare and/or distribute food or medication
 - Before and after taking a break in the Volunteer Room

- Before and after wearing raptor or cleaning gloved
- After you've used the bathroom
- OR - if ever in doubt, err on the side of caution and wash!

- **Anti-Bacterial Gel, General Protocol**
 - Anti-Bacterial Gel may be used when soap & water are not available.
 - Gel must be completely dry in order to be effective.
 - Once inside, wash with Anti-Bacterial Gel:
 - Before and after any contact with a bird or its housing
 - Before pulling clean items from the washer or dryer

15. No community service or other outside volunteers shall be utilized at this time. Additionally, all public events and training are cancelled or postponed until the Shelter in Place is officially lifted.

- *Admittance of any outside personnel for any reason should be approved by the Executive Director.*

16. When traveling to the BRC, have the Access Packet in your vehicle (i.e., updated Personal Vehicle Use Policy and a copy of our MOU) in case of questioning why you are traveling.

Your patience and professionalism are greatly appreciated during this time. If there are any concerns or suggestions, they should be expressed to the Executive Director, who will handle them with confidentiality.