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D 2020 006

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Amending Executive Order D 2020 004 Ordering Closure of Downhill Ski Areas Due to the Presence of COVID-19 in the State of Colorado, in Light of the Disaster Declaration Set Forth in Executive Order D 2020 003

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.* (Act), I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order amending Executive Order D 2020 004 requiring the closure of downhill ski areas due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in mountain communities with limited care capacity.

I. Background and Purpose

On March 5, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) public health laboratory confirmed the first presumptive positive COVID-19 test result from Colorado. Since then, CDPHE confirmed more than one hundred eighty-three (183) additional presumptive positive cases and concluded that we are now seeing community spread of the virus. I declared a disaster emergency on March 11, 2020, and issued Executive Order D 2020 003.

COVID-19 is a highly contagious viral disease that has spread throughout many of our communities. Public health officials have concluded that disease control measures aimed at specific individuals or groups are no longer sufficient to contain the further spread of the virus.

Summit, Eagle, Pitkin, and Gunnison counties, where many of Colorado's premier ski areas are located, have been particularly hard-hit by the emerging COVID-19 outbreak in the State. As of March 17, 2020, Summit County has three (3) cases, Eagle thirty-four (34) cases, Pitkin eleven (11) cases, and Gunnison eleven (11) cases. On March 15, 2020, CDPHE advised visitors and residents of Eagle, Summit, Pitkin, and Gunnison counties to minimize social contact to reduce spread of the virus. Medical centers in these areas have limited ability to meet the needs of individuals with COVID-19. Further strain on their resources creates a risk that medical personnel in the area will be unable to provide needed care to residents and visitors to our mountain communities.

Due to the continued spread of the virus in our mountain communities and the need to conserve health care resources as much as possible, I am amending Executive Order D 2020 004, and directing downhill ski operators to suspend operations of ski areas for two

(2) additional weeks to slow the spread of COVID-19. I will continue to monitor the course of the COVID-19 outbreak in the State and may amend Executive Order D 2020 004, as amended by this Executive Order, accordingly.

II. Amendment

Paragraph II.A. of Executive Order D 2020 004 is amended to read as follows:

I direct all ski area operators, as defined in C.R.S. § 33-44-103(7), to suspend operations at ski areas, as defined in C.R.S. § 33-44-103(6), from March 23-April 6, 2020.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire thirty (30) days from March 18, 2020, unless extended further by Executive Order. In all other respects, Executive Order D 2020 004 shall remain in full force and effect as originally promulgated.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this eighteenth Day of March, 2020.

Jared Polis
Governor