



State Emergency Operations Center

## **2022 Riverwatch**

### **Incident Situation Report**

Date: May 05,2022 Time: 1600 hrs

SEOC Preparedness Level 2

In partnership with:



#### **Contact**

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) 907-428-7100

[seoc@alaska.gov](mailto:seoc@alaska.gov)

[riverwatch@ready.alaska.gov](mailto:riverwatch@ready.alaska.gov)

## State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 2

### Incident Overview

#### **Timeline of Significant Events:**

**APR 27 2022:** The SEOC Kuskokwim Division Supervisor deployed to Bethel. Additional Riverwatch personnel traveled to Bethel 28 April daily River Watch flights began to observe river conditions, providing advance notice of ice-jams.

**May 3 2022:** Alaska State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) moved to Preparedness Level 2 – Heightened Awareness, for ongoing Riverwatch Spring break-up operations. Yukon Division deployment revised to May 9 due to cold weather. National Weather Service (NWS) issues flood watch for Crooked Creek following observation of ice jam on upper river. Flood watch is expected to remain in effect until ice breakup can be observed.

#### **Significant Operations:**

##### **Kuskokwim Division:**

Kuskokwim Division continues daily aerial observations of the river, visiting at-risk local communities and providing community leaders opportunities to accompany Riverwatch flights in the area.

With Crooked Creek under a Flood Watch due to an ice jam below the community, Riverwatch is making regular visits to this community to report on conditions and support flood emergency planning.

In-flight broadcasts on VHF radio are continuing, providing real-time updates on river and ice conditions to communities and homesteads.

NWS and Kuskokwim Division are conducting regular interviews with Bethel KYUK radio. SEOC Public Information Officer conducted an interview with KICY in Nome and continues to regular provide operational updates on social media.

Kuskokwim Division is supporting a documentary film crew from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration observing Riverwatch operations.

##### **Upper Yukon Division:**

Civil Air Patrol is scheduled to fly the Upper Yukon River from Circle to Eagle starting Thursday May 5 to provide aerial photography for NWS evaluation. Riverwatch is also coordinating with the National Park Service in Eagle fly the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve area this weekend.

Upper Yukon Division is now scheduled to deploy Monday, May 9. Middle Yukon Division is scheduled to deploy May 12.

**Delta Junction:**

On May 4 the Rural Deltana Volunteer Fire Department Chief reported snowmelt flooding to two residences. The Fire Chief was in contact with the Alaska Division of Transportation and Public Facilities for ice clearing and SEOC authorized Civil Air Patrol support for community sandbagging operations.

**Moose Creek Dam/ Chena River:**

United State Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is actively monitoring the Chena River and Moose Creek Dam. USACE will potentially deploy additional staff to Fairbanks in order to provide 24/7 Chena River flow volume monitoring. If necessary, USACE will operate the Moose Creek Dam/Flood Control Project to mitigate any flood threat to downtown Fairbanks and areas downriver. The Chena, Little Chena, Salcha, Chatanika, Tanana, Good Paster and Nenana rivers are all forecasted to rise over the next several days. NWS advises residents along these rivers to prepare for rising water levels and possible inundation of low-lying areas. Based on current river flows and snow melt runoff, there is a potential for dam operations on the evening of Friday May 6.

## River Observations

River and lake ice observations can be provided to the Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center (APRFC) via:

- radio from aircraft to AFSS with observations for inclusion in a PIREP
- phone at 1-800-847-173, Email report and/or photos to [nws.ar.aprfc@noass.gov](mailto:nws.ar.aprfc@noass.gov)

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## Weekly Community Call-in Information:

*SEOC Divisions and National Weather Service Riverwatch Reports*

### **Yukon River Division**

Monday May 2 @ 1000 hrs  
1-866-203-1705 (toll free)  
Participant Code: 1145901

### **Kuskokwim River Division**

Daily @ 1600 hrs  
1-866-203-1705 (toll free)  
Participant Code: 1145901

## **SEOC Operations Brief**

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 829 8173 0839 Passcode: 186584

Dial in with your phone: +1 253 215 8782 US

Please email the Riverwatch conference at [riverwatch@ready.alaska.gov](mailto:riverwatch@ready.alaska.gov) if you are interested in receiving the Zoom calendar invitation.

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## Lifeline Status



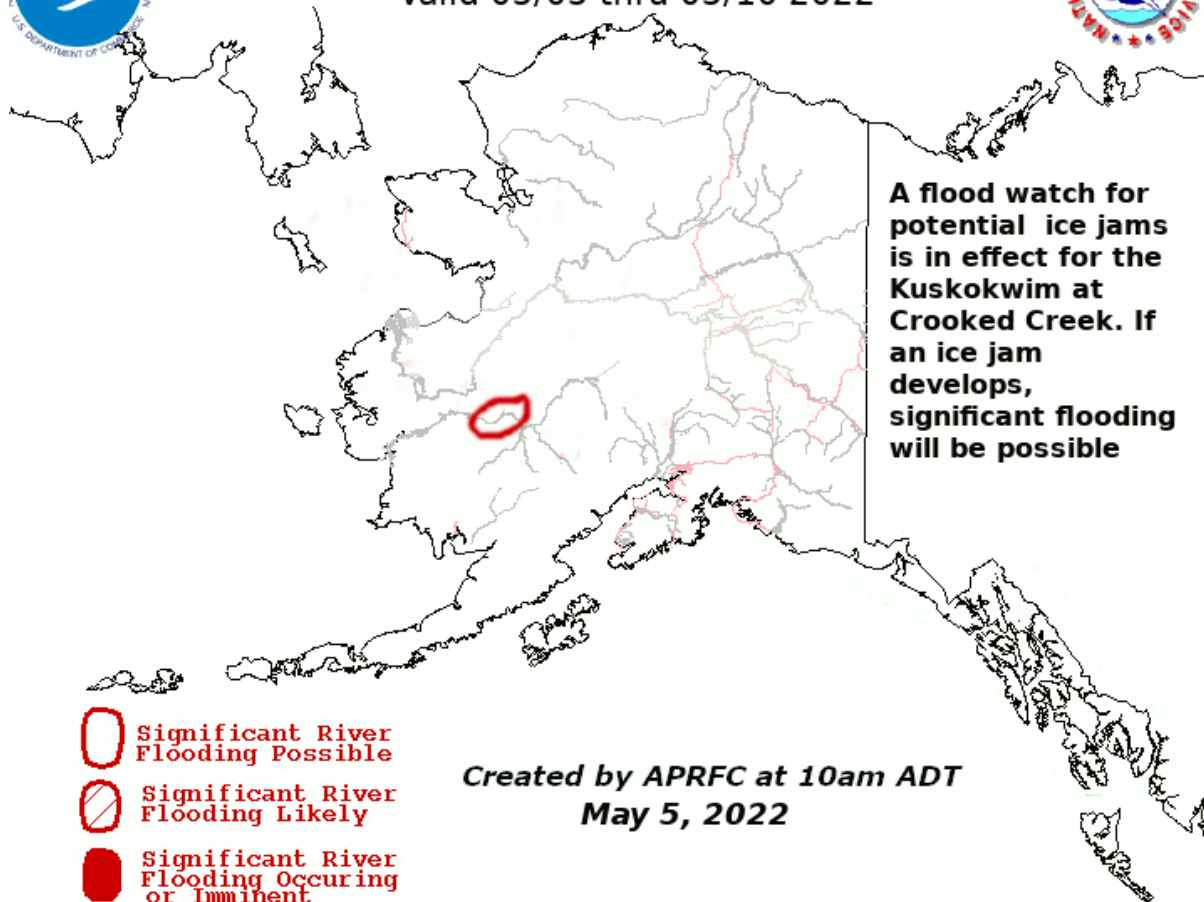
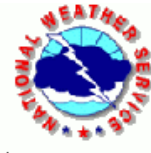
**No significant reports across the Lifelines currently.**

## Weather Forecast (Statewide)






### 5 Day Flood Potential Outlook

Valid 05/05 thru 05/10 2022



**A flood watch for potential ice jams is in effect for the Kuskokwim at Crooked Creek. If an ice jam develops, significant flooding will be possible**

-  Significant River Flooding Possible
-  Significant River Flooding Likely
-  Significant River Flooding Occuring or Imminent

*Created by APRFC at 10am ADT  
May 5, 2022*

**Note: Flash Flooding or Minor River Flooding will not be included in this outlook**

### Helpful Links

<http://ready.alaska.gov/>

National Weather Service: Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center

<https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/>