



State Emergency Operations Center

## 2022 Riverwatch

### Incident Situation Report

Date: May 25, 2022 Time: 1600 hrs

SEOC Preparedness Level 3

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 3

### 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:** 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.

**May 7 2022:** SEOC moved to Preparedness Level 3 – *Active Response Operations* with Manley Hot Springs and Kuskokwim River communities reporting community flood impacts.

Governor Dunleavy issued a state disaster declaration for the Yukon Koyukuk Regional Education Attendance Area for flood impacts in Manley Hot Springs.

SEOC coordinates with Kenai Peninsula Borough Emergency Manager on response to the Seward City Lowell Point Landslide.

#### Disaster Declarations:

Governor Dunleavy has issued three Disaster Declarations for Spring Flooding, the Lowell Point Landslide, and Galena Fire Hall roof collapse.

#### Significant Operations

##### Manley Hot Springs Division:

SEOC plans to deploy a Disaster Assistance Center to Manley Hot Springs on June 1 in order to allow flood survivors to meet in-person with Recovery Branch personnel for State Individual Assistance registration and individual case work.

##### Seward Division:

The Kenai Peninsula Borough and the City of Seward intend to open Lowell Point Road for two lane traffic beginning Friday, May 27, at 12 noon. The road will remain open 24 hours a day until Tuesday, May 31st at 8:00 am. Beginning Tuesday, May 31st at 8:00 am, the road will be closed between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm until Thursday, June 2nd, for additional debris clearing.

Lowell Point Road and Bear Mountain are still considered unstable for the foreseeable future. Heavy rains, snow, or earthquakes may cause additional landslides.

SEOC continues to have a deployed Division Supervisor and Public Information Officer in Seward to coordinate response operations with the City and Borough. SEOC is deploying personnel from the Alaska Organized Militia to assist the City with traffic control in the operational area of the landslide.

**Glennallen Division:**

Water continues to slowly recede at both Trooper Creek and Moose Creek. Glennallen proper is beginning to dry up as both creeks are now primarily flowing within their channel or drainage structures.

A multidisciplinary emergency management team deployed yesterday and meet with community leaders in Glennallen, Gulkana Native Village, and Copperville providing emergency planning assistance, National Weather Service contacts, information on disaster recovery programs, and surveying flood damage. The team met with community representatives including Gulkana Village Council, Glennallen Improvement Corporation, Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission, GlennRich Fire Department, and the Community Chamber of Commerce.

In Glennallen, the team conducted an initial damage survey reporting damage to the GlennRich Fire Station, communications infrastructure, Bureau of Land Management structures, State Legislative Information Office, an electrical service building, sewer infrastructure, businesses, and roads.

In Copperville, the team observed flows on the Cooper River and viewed seven residential properties along Cordova Avenue with active riverbank erosion. Some residents moved property to higher ground and disconnected utilities as a precaution.

In Gulkana, the team assessed flood impacts to community water treatment operations and local roads.

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities reports the following on roadways included in the Glennallen Division:

Northway Road – Water remains at the same elevation as the last report, with only one lane being impacted. Roadway remains open with traffic control present and notice alerting the public sent through 511.

Nebesna Road – No major changes from last report. Roadway remains closed due to large amount of water over roadway between Mile Post 29-30. Repairs will begin when water recedes.

Lake Louise Road – An additional 60” culvert was installed and roadway is now open, but is restricted to one lane. The installed culverts are reducing impounded water. Roadway is open, but will be restricted to one lane over the Memorial holiday weekend

**Kuskokwim Division**

McGrath

Two American Red Cross (ARC) personnel arrived in McGrath to register individuals for emergency assistance and deliver clean up supplies. They visited 10 residents yesterday and are continuing in the community today (5/25/2022) with additional disaster case work.

Sleetmute

ARC, using virtual assistance meetings, identified 3 residences with flood damage yesterday (5/24/2022) and is continuing virtual disaster support registration today.

**Recovery Division:**

State Individual Assistance (IA) is now open all flood areas declared for IA. As of May 24, 2022 SEOC, has received 14 IA applications.

SEOC plans to deploy an in-person Disaster Assistance Center to Manley Hot Springs on June 1.

Information specific to the application process can be found on the [DHS&EM Individual Assistance](#) webpage, or by calling the Disaster Assistance Hotline at (907) 428-7072 or (907) 428-7075. Deadline for registration is July 12, 2022.

## 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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## 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 Lifeline Issues Across the State**



**Picture of flooding on Northway Rd.**

### **Helpful Links**

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM)

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

National Weather Service: Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center

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