



State Emergency Operations Center

2023 Wrangell Landslide

Incident Situation Report

Date: November 22, 2023, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 2



Upslope View of Zimovia Highway Landslide

Photo courtesy of AK DOT&PF

Contact

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

seoc@alaska.gov

landslide@ready.alaska.gov

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 2

Incident Overview

On Monday, November 20th at 2051hrs the City and Borough of Wrangell experienced a major landslide at mile 11 of Zimovia Highway. The slide was initially estimated to be 200' wide, and 10-12' high and impacted at least two homes. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was notified of the landslide at 2130 hrs. on November 20th, recalled staff, activated to Level-2 and is coordinating multiple requests for state-level resources in support of Wrangell's Incident Command.

On November 21st, 2023, Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy declared a state disaster emergency for the City of Wrangell.

Significant Operations Updates

Wrangell Division:

A SEOC Division Supervisor is deployed to Wrangell providing operational coordination of state-level resources in support of the Wrangell City and Borough response. Current operational focus is on Search and Rescue (SAR) along with implementation state disaster programs.

The Department of Public Safety has two troopers on-scene coordinating SAR support. The United States Coast Guard has completed its maritime SAR mission and demobilized. SAR K9s and a DOT&PF drone operator also arrived yesterday with a LIDAR and thermal equipped UAV. 1 adult female survivor was located and taken to an area medical facility for treatment, where she was listed in good condition. SAR teams have also confirmed 3 fatalities.

The Wrangell City and Borough arranged for grief counseling at Elementary School beginning at 1400hrs today. The counseling is open to anyone in the community.

An evacuation order remains in place for Zimovia Highway from Mile 11-13 which has impacted approximately 20-30 individuals. The Stikine Inn is offering accommodations to displaced residents. The Red Cross and Salvation Army are supporting mass care needs within the community.

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) deployed a geologist to advise on slope stability/safety for SAR efforts, and an Unmanned Aircraft System and operator to support imaging. This work is ongoing. DOT&PF completed a revised size estimate of the slide to be over 1500' long, 500' wide at Zimovia Highway, and 10-12' tall.

2 additional geologists with the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys arrived in Wrangell today to assist with stability evaluation and to document the landslide.

Alatna Division:

Alatna: The Alatna Division completed its mission, and the division has demobilized. Any additional requests for support will be handled by the SEOC Operations Section through normal channels.

Other Southeast Division:

Coffman Cove: The community advised that several locally owned roads were damaged due to storms, and four homes were cut off from car access with residents relying on ATV access. Community is completing a local disaster declaration.

Hydaburg: The community contacted the SEOC on Tuesday, November 21st to report some road damage in the community caused by small-scale landslides.

Ward Cove: The community contacted the SEOC on Tuesday, November 21st to report some road damage in the community caused by small-scale landslides.

SEOC Operations Brief

SEOC Operations Briefings will be conducted Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 0800hrs. The conference line number is 1-800-315-6338, access code 71000#.

The next Situation Report will be released on Friday, November 24th at 1600.

Please email the 2023 Wrangell Landslide conference at

landslide@ready.alaska.gov

Lifeline Status



Alaska Overall



Impacted Areas



Safety & Security








Search & Rescue



The Department of Public Safety has two troopers on-scene coordinating SAR support. The United States Coast Guard has completed its maritime SAR mission and demobilized. SAR K9s and a DOT&PF drone operator also arrived yesterday with a LIDAR and thermal equipped UAV.

An adult female survivor was located yesterday morning and taken to an area medical facility for treatment, where she was listed in good condition. SAR teams have confirmed three fatalities.

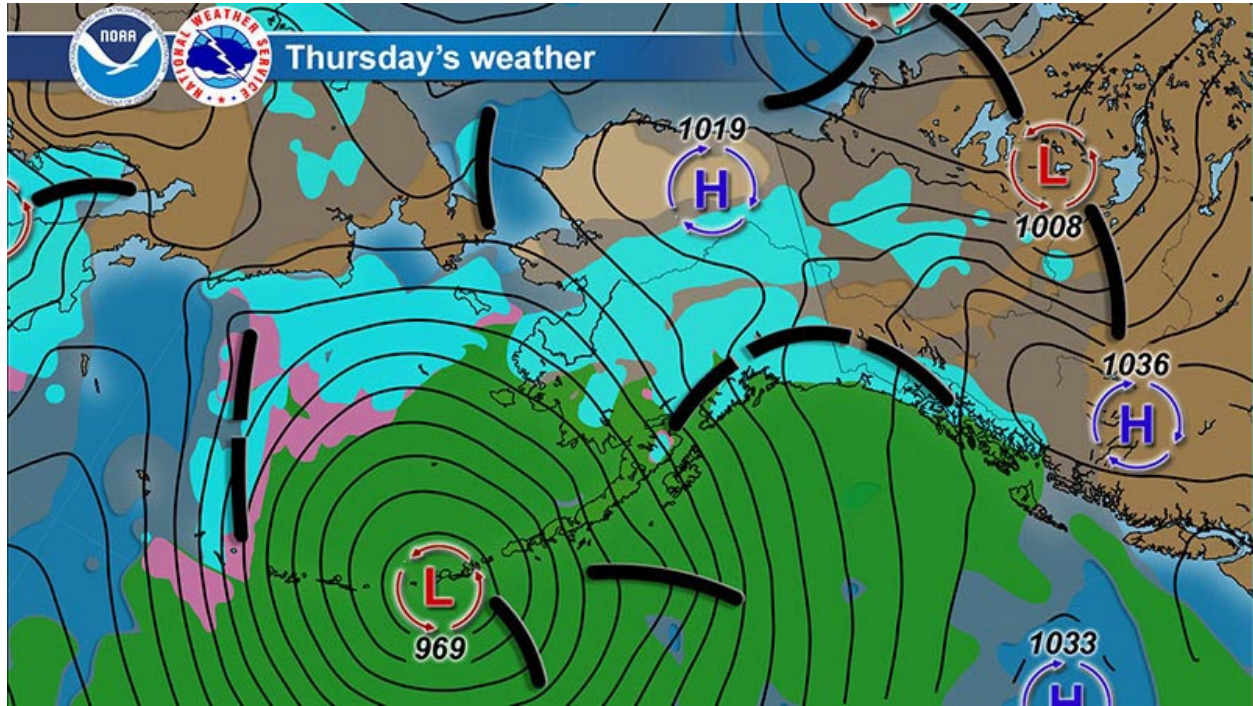


Food, Hydration, and Shelter

	 <p>Shelter</p>	<p>City of Wrangell reports at least 75 homes are cut off by the slide. At least 3 homes are reported to be destroyed as the result of the slide, including one believed to be vacant. An evacuation order is in place for Mile 11-13 of Zimovia Highway.</p> <p>The Stikine Inn has offered accommodation to evacuated residents, and had 25 stay overnight beginning 11/20. The Red Cross and Salvation Army are supporting mass care needs.</p>
	<p>Energy, Power, Fuel</p>	
	 <p>Power</p>	<p>Wrangell: Cut off homes beyond the slide have no power due to transmission lines being compromised. Restoration work has no current ETA.</p> <p>Alatna: SEOC is monitoring a power outage impacting Alatna, in the Yukon-Koyukuk region and unrelated to the landslide.</p>
	<p>Communications</p>	
		<p>USCG Rescue 21 VHF system in the southeast region remains degraded due to tower damage. District 17 Notice to Mariners remains in effect, and all vessels, harbormasters, and other radio-equipped personnel are encouraged to monitor Channel 16 when possible and pass on distress calls to the USCG via phone.</p>

	Infrastructure	Wrangell: Personnel with the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida deployed a Starlink receiver near the slide zone today to improve communications for rescue personnel.
	Transportation	
	 Roadways	<p>Wrangell: Zimovia Highway remains closed to non-residential traffic from Mile 6-9. DOT&PF is prepared to begin route clearance once SAR operations are concluded.</p> <p>Coffman Cove: Several local roads and culverts are damaged/washed out. Several houses are cut off from car access, but ATV access is still possible.</p>

Weather Forecast



National Weather Service Juneau, AK
 Weather Matrix for Wrangell Landslide
 Valid: 11/22/2023 09 AM - 11/25/2023 06 PM AKST
 Call 1-907-790-6800 for additional weather support



	Wed 11/22 9 AM	Wed 11/22 12 PM	Wed 11/22 3 PM	Wed 11/22 6 PM	Wed 11/22 9 PM	Thu 11/23 12 AM	Thu 11/23 3 AM	Thu 11/23 6 AM	Thu 11/23 9 AM	Thu 11/23 12 PM	Thu 11/23 3 PM	Thu 11/23 6 PM	Thu 11/23 9 PM	Fri 11/24 12 AM	Fri 11/24 3 AM	Fri 11/24 6 AM	Fri 11/24 9 AM	Fri 11/24 12 PM	Fri 11/24 3 PM	Fri 11/24 6 PM	Fri 11/24 9 PM	Sat 11/25 12 AM	Sat 11/25 3 AM	Sat 11/25 6 AM	Sat 11/25 9 AM	Sat 11/25 12 PM	Sat 11/25 3 PM	Sat 11/25 6 PM	
Temperature	41°F	42°F	42°F	41°F	42°F	42°F	43°F	42°F	42°F	43°F	43°F	42°F	43°F	42°F	42°F	43°F	44°F	44°F	43°F	43°F	43°F	43°F	42°F	42°F	42°F	43°F	42°F	42°F	
Wind Speed	8 mph	10 mph	11 mph	10 mph	9 mph	8 mph	8 mph	6 mph	6 mph	6 mph	6 mph	6 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	
Wind Direction	S	S	S	S	S	SE	S	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	SE	SE	
Wind Gust	11 mph	13 mph	16 mph	13 mph	12 mph	12 mph	11 mph	11 mph	11 mph	11 mph	11 mph	11 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	9 mph	9 mph
Chance of Precipitation	49%	49%	49%	55%	75%	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	85%	83%	78%	77%	77%	75%	76%	75%	67%	60%	60%	60%	48%	48%	48%	48%	
Weather	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	
Rainfall	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.03 in	0.04 in	0.07 in	0.06 in	0.07 in	0.08 in	0.08 in	0.08 in	0.06 in	0.06 in	0.05 in	0.05 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.03 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	
Snow Accumulation	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	

Issued: Wednesday November 22, 2023 07:55 AM AKST

Hazard Level	None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
Wind Speed	≤15 mph	15 to 19 mph	20 to 24 mph	25 to 29 mph	≥30 mph
Wind Gust	≤25 mph	25 to 34 mph	35 to 44 mph	45 to 59 mph	≥60 mph
Chance of Precipitation	≤20 %	20 to 39 %	40 to 59 %	60 to 79 %	≥80 %
Rainfall	≤0.1 in	0.1 to 0.29 in	0.3 to 0.79 in	0.8 to 1.09 in	≥1.1 in
Snow Accumulation	≤0.5 in	0.5 to 0.9 in	1.0 to 1.9 in	2.0 to 2.9 in	≥3.0 in

Note - Grey color indicates no thresholds assigned
 - Values in each 3-hour time block represent the worst case scenario, except for temperature, sky cover, and relative humidity where average values are displayed

Helpful Links

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM)

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

National Weather Service: Alaska Forecast Center

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

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