



State Emergency Operations Center

2023 Spring Floods

Incident Situation Report

Date: May 21, 2023, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3



Glennallen, newly installed culverts, May 19, 2023

Contact

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

seoc@alaska.gov

2023.spring.floods@ready.alaska.gov

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 3

Incident Overview

13 May 2023, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a disaster declaration for the Alaska Gateway, Yukon Flats, Kuspuk, and Copper River REAAs due to flooding.

Significant Operations Updates

YUKON:

The Riverwatch Middle Yukon Division demobilized last night to Fairbanks. The breakup front is south of Holy Cross, and monitoring will transition to the Riverwatch Lower Yukon Division. Civil Air Patrol reconnaissance flight of the Lower Yukon is in the air at the time of this report to provide photography on river and ice conditions.

The Response Branch continues to support communities with flood impacts across the Upper and Middle Yukon.

Circle:

At the request of the Circle Tribal Chief, SEOC reduced operational activity over the weekend to allow the community a rest period. SEOC personnel remain available to meet and assist the community as needed during the operational pause. SEOC issued a resource order yesterday to deploy a strike team of Alaska Organized Militia servicemembers out of Anchorage and Fairbanks Monday to assist the community with debris and cleanup. Anticipated arrival is Tuesday or Wednesday. SEOC is coordinating deployment of Team Rubicon volunteers to assist residents with cleanup of flood damaged homes.

To date, Red Cross reports 6 homes destroyed, 10 with major damage, 5 with minor damage, and 3 inaccessible. Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) reports community well head was cleared and appears undamaged. Alaska Division of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) will deploy a follow-up hazardous substance team early next week to provide additional spill response supplies, establish a local hazardous waste collection point, and complete additional assessments.

Tanana:

High water reported yesterday around Tanana. Middle Yukon assessed flooding as minor with some flood waters in low lying areas and in the nearby Kokrine Hills Bible Camp.

Northwest Arctic Borough Division:

Kobuk:

SEOC received reports yesterday evening of nuisance flooding in Kobuk. The Northwest Arctic Borough (NWAB) is aware and ready to engage in response report if needed.

Buckland:

SEOC contacted the community of Buckland and the NWAB after Middle Yukon visited Buckland and reported flooding. Ice jam released and water levels receded, with the Buckland River back within its banks. There were no reports of damage to homes and NWAB is supporting community flood response supporting the community with pumps and materials for emergency road repairs.

KUSKOKWIM:**Crooked Creek Division:**

Three Red Cross shelter support personnel arrived by SEOC charter air this afternoon, with two additional personnel scheduled to arrive later tonight. SEOC issued a resource order yesterday to deploy a strike team of Alaska Organized Militia servicemembers out of Bethel on Monday to assist the community with debris and cleanup. SEOC is coordinating deployment of Team Rubicon volunteers to assist residents with cleanup of flood damaged homes. SEOC Division Supervisor is in the community today, assisting with response operations. SEOC is developing plans to establish a responder camp in the community.

To date, Red Cross assessments for inundated residential structures are 10 with major damage, and 4 inaccessible. SEOC DIVSUP may try to assess the previously inaccessible today.

Currently the school in Crooked Creek is sheltering 10 survivors with additional displaced residents within the community being supported. SEOC is working to provide additional feeding support. Donlin Gold LLC is providing many shelter support resources, air freight from Bethel for response supplies, and replacement life jackets lost in the flood.

Kwethluk:

SEOC received a declaration of local disaster from Kwethluk today. SEOC was in regular contact with the community during flooding and subsequently. SEOC Kuskokwim Division Supervisor flew over the community prior to flooding providing condition briefing and made two in-person visits to the community to meet with community leaders, while remaining in regular contact. Initial reports are that two residential structures were inundated and that the airstrip is closed pending inspection. Water has receded.

GLENNALLEN DIVISION:

Glennallen Division continues to transition to recovery. Road impact and environmental impacts have been addressed in the response and flood water carrying culverts installed. SEOC response personnel plan to meet with the Glennallen Incident Commander tomorrow. Recovery Branch, Individual Assistance Group Supervisor and SEOC Public Information Officer plan to attend a Glennallen community meeting on Wednesday. A Recovery Branch Taskforce, with Individual Assistance and Public Assistance representatives, plans to be in the community on Thursday. Currently report are 2 homes with major damage, 5 minor, and 3 inaccessible. SEOC plans to support Alaska Heritage Emergency Network and Alaska Library Association response to Copper Valley Library Association.

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SEOC Operations Brief



Daily at 0800 via Zoom. Contact SEOC for Zoom link.






Please email the 2023 Spring Floods conference at





2023.spring.floods@ready.alaska.gov

Lifeline Status

 <p>Alaska Overall</p>	      
<p>Impacted Areas</p>	      

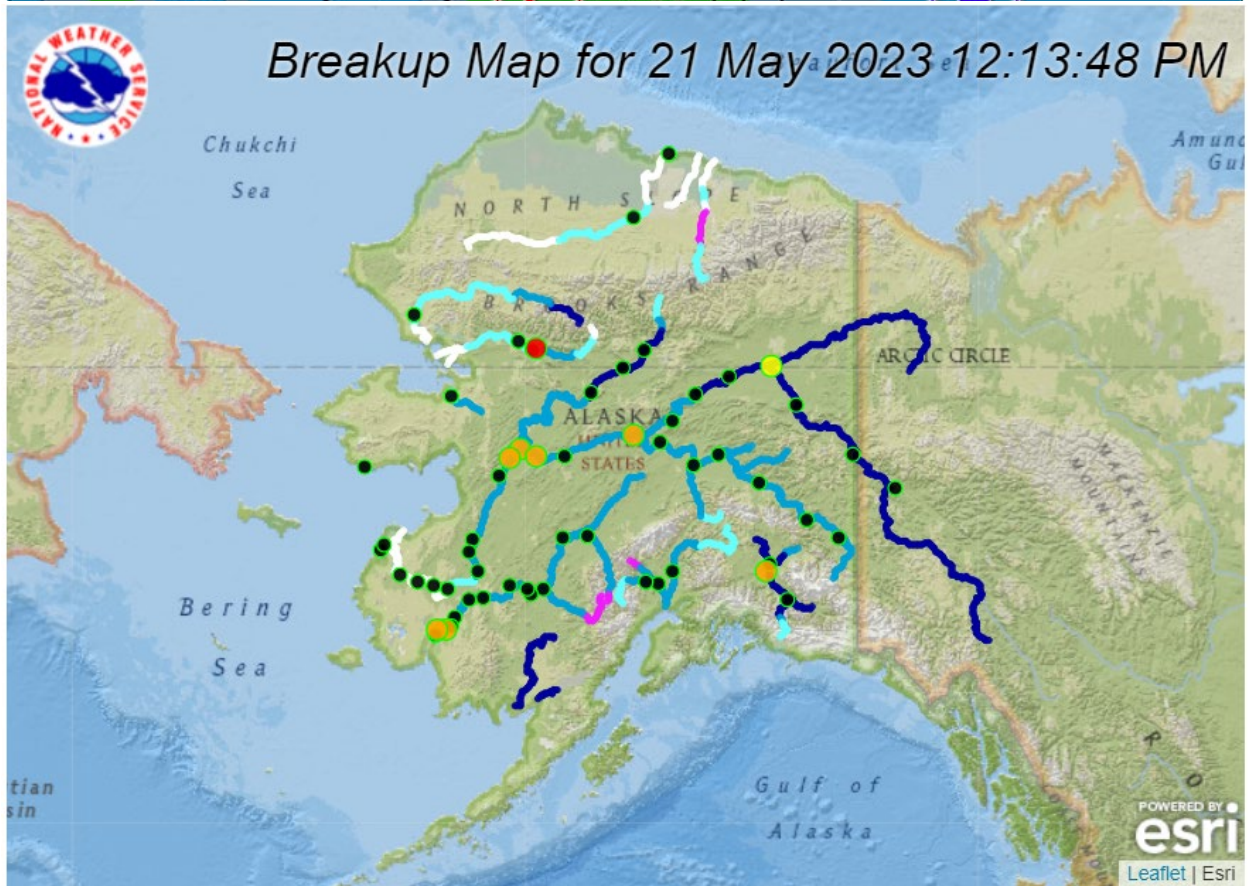
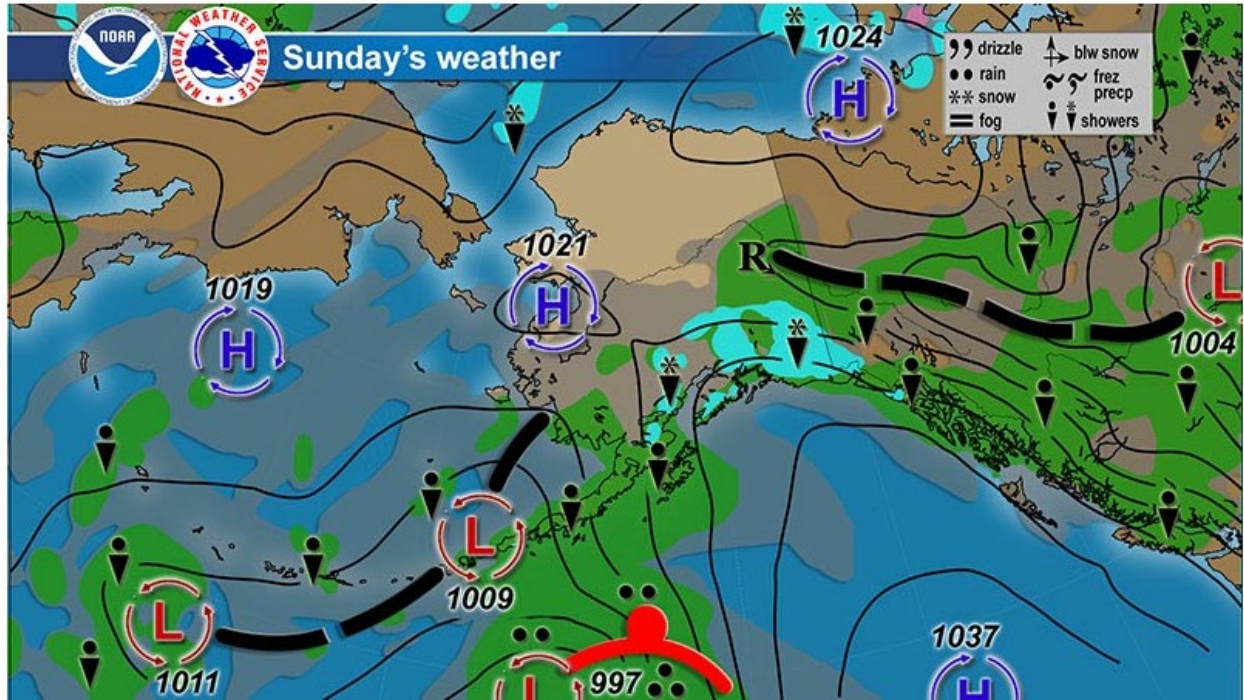
	<p>Food, Water, and Shelter</p>	
	 <p>Shelter</p>	<p>Circle: Red Cross reports 6 homes destroyed, 10 major, 5 minor, and 3 inaccessible. The tribe has provided five campers for sheltering displaced community members.</p> <p>Crooked Creek: Red Cross reports 10 major, 4 inaccessible with numbers subject to change. 8 people sheltered overnight, with additional displaced residents camping within the community. Red Cross shelter support personnel arriving in community today.</p> <p>Fort Yukon: TCC reports 9 buildings damaged, including the Tribal Hall, 5 homes, 2 tribal garages, and the pumphouse utility shed.</p> <p>Glennallen: Red Cross reports 2 homes with major damage, 5 minor. Clean-up supplies are available at the community command post at Old Paths Church.</p>

	 <p>Water</p>	<p>Circle: TCC reports community wellhead uncovered and appears undamaged. Water system repairs underway.</p> <p>Crooked Creek: Boil water notice in effect. Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC) collected water samples for testing.</p> <p>Glennallen: Individual well test collection bottles available in the community.</p>
	 <p>Food</p>	<p>Circle: Store received new food shipments and is open to the public.</p> <p>Crooked Creek: Alaska Volunteers Active in Disasters (AK VOAD) are working to address community's ongoing feeding needs.</p>
 <p>Energy, Power, Fuel</p>		
	 <p>Fuel</p>	<p>Circle: DEC will send second team this week to bring additional spill response supplies, establish a local hazardous substance collection point, and conduct further assessments.</p> <p>Crooked Creek: Tank farm is damaged. Tanks are dislodged and some inundated. Fuel pumps are non-operational due to damage/electrical problems.</p>
 <p>Communications</p>		

	 <p>Infrastructure</p>	<p>Circle: FirstNet SatCOLT available to responders only due to bandwidth. School district intends to deploy a StarLink receiver for supplemental connectivity. 911 services continue to be disrupted due to reliance on Wi-Fi calling. Other services continue non-operational.</p> <p>Crooked Creek: Cellular voice service operational. Landline, cellular data, and internet are sporadic or non-functional.</p>
	<p>Transportation</p>	
	 <p>Airfields/Airports</p>	<p>Buckland: Airport open.</p> <p>Circle: Airport open, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) plans a detailed assessment Wednesday.</p> <p>Crooked Creek: Runway is open with NOTAM for soft gravel.</p> <p>Deering: Airport and community not currently impacted by local high water.</p> <p>Fort Yukon: No flood damage to airport. Airport power remains off with a NOTAM issued.</p> <p>Kwethluk: Airport closed pending inspection.</p> <p>Red Devil: 2500 feet of runway open, remainder closed with NOTAM issued.</p>
	 <p>Roadways</p>	<p>Buckland: Emergency road repairs and dewatering underway with support from NWAB.</p> <p>Circle: Steese Highway open with soft spots in some areas due to inundation. DOT&PF plans to inspect Steese Highway and Circle Airport on Wednesday.</p>

		<p>Eagle: Crews worked on several rough locations spot blading and adding surfacing. Crews will now return to hauling material to widen the 1 lane section in washout areas.</p> <p>Kwethluk: Minor Road damage to main road near community store.</p> <p>Glennallen: Culverts installed, water continues to drop.</p> <p>McGrath: Cranberry Road closed with significant damage, is impassable to all vehicles.</p>
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Weather Forecast



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/>

Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center: River Breakup Map

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