



State Emergency Operations Center

2022 Riverwatch

Incident Situation Report

Date: May 12, 2022 Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3

In partnership with:



Contact

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

seoc@alaska.gov

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

Disaster Declarations:

Seward- Local Declaration on May 07

Red Devil- Local Declaration on May

Sleetmute- Local Declaration on May 09

Significant Operations

Manley Division:

American Red Cross initial damage assessment of Manley Hot Springs determined that approximately 23 homes have been significantly affected by flood water, and two homes with minor flood damage.

A National Guard Task Force arrived today, May 12, in Manley Hot Springs and will begin flood debris clearance work.

Alaska Division of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is working with the community to identify fuel spills and provide technical assistance on flood water and residential water-well contamination concerns and residential.

SEOC deployed Division Supervisor continues to coordinate flood response operations with community leaders, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)s, and other response agencies.

Kuskokwim Division:

McGrath

The City reported multiple homes with basement flooding. Division of Forestry personnel, working in concert with McGrath Incident Command under SEOC resource orders, have deployed pumps for de-watering operations. Unified Command also ordered a contingency supply of potable water when the City water treatment plant was threatened.

The City is requesting residents not use home septic tank systems and limit use of potable water, given the high-water table and floodwater soil saturation. The City has opened public restroom facilities for community use, but these facilities are also use limited by floodwater concerns.

Iditarod Area School District reopened the McGrath School today with cautions in place for travel due to road damage.

The City is beginning contracted repairs to the landfill and sewer lagoon roads damaged by flooding. The main road in McGrath has been damaged, and the City is actively working to begin repairs to make the road accessible.

GCI is in the City, working on system repairs, and provided shelter supplies to residents during the flooding.

Upper Yukon Division:

Riverwatch aerial surveillance of the Upper Yukon continued today with visits to Circle and Fort Yukon and included interviews with local broadcast radio.

Circle

Flood warning remains in effect for Circle, as water levels continue to fluctuate in the community with a degrading ice jam and ongoing snowmelt. Water rose this morning, May 12, and receded a short time later.

Stevens Village

Water levels continue to fluctuate at Yukon River Bridge near Stevens Village, a flood watch is in effect.

Middle Yukon Division

Riverwatch aerial surveillance of the Middle Yukon commenced today with visits to Koyukuk and Galena to assess river conditions.

Galena

Late today, Middle Yukon Division reported water levels in town five feet lower than yesterday. Some community members are storing personal property inside the airport levee as a precaution. Airport continue normal operations.

Glennallen

DEC provided flood operation technical assistance to Glennallen waste water operator Ahtna Corporation today.

Koyukuk

Middle Yukon Division received a report this morning of an ice jam near Koyukuk and possible flooding. Division's Riverwatch flew the area, landed in the community, and briefed on river conditions. There were no significant ice jams observed and no ongoing flooding in the community.

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
-

Weekly Community Call-in Information:

SEOC Divisions and National Weather Service Riverwatch Reports

Yukon River Division

Monday, May 16 @ 1000 hrs
1-866-203-1705 (toll free)
Participant Code: 1145901

Kuskokwim River Division

Concludes 5/12/22
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 if you are interested in receiving the Zoom calendar invitatio

Lifeline Status

	Hazardous Materials	
	 HAZMAT, Pollutants, Contaminants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Manley Hot Springs Division: DEC arrived in Manley and began their initial assessments and provided advice and technical assistance to residents on spilled fuel and contamination concerns for residential wells.

	Food, Water, and Shelter	
	 Shelter  Water	<p>Kuskokwim Division- McGrath: With receding water levels, TCC is holding on evacuation operations.</p> <p>Kuskokwim Division- McGrath: Flooding impacted some City water treatment operations. Contingency portable water was supplied to the community.</p>



Transportation



Ground

Kuskokwim Division- McGrath: Some low-lying roads in the community were inundated and damaged.



Yukon River ice north of Circle

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/>