



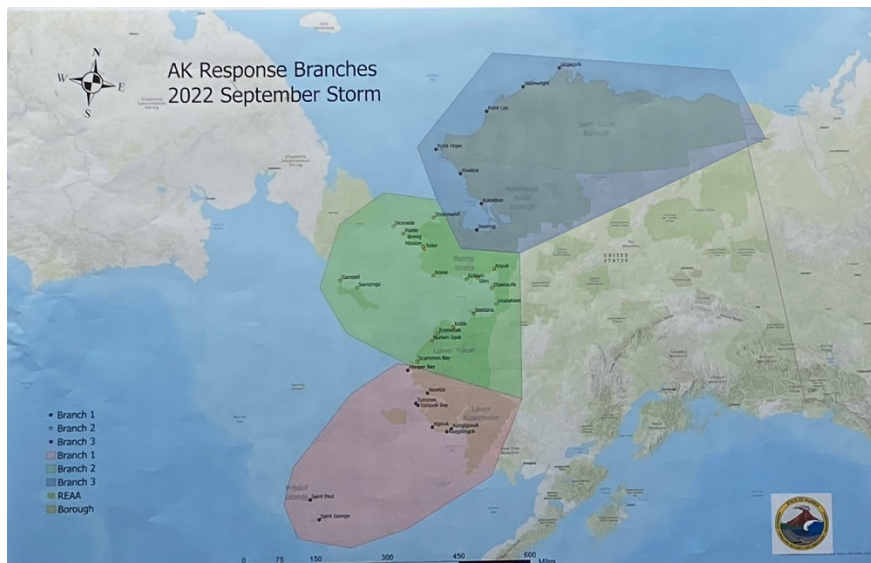
State Emergency Operations Center

## 2022 September Winter Storm

### Incident Situation Report

Date: September 26, 2022, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3



### Contact

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

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

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

## State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 3

### Incident Overview

#### Timeline of Significant Events:

17 September 2022, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a disaster declaration for the 2022 September storm currently impacting the west coast of Alaska.

21 September 2022, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration from President Biden.

23 September 2022, the request for a Federal Disaster Declaration was approved and Alaska Severe Storm, Flooding, and Landslides (DR-4672-AK) was approved.

### Significant Operations

SEOC is actively engaged with multiple state, federal, non-profit, volunteer, faith-based, private-sector, regional tribal, and native corporations in support of local community incident commands responding to the Typhoon Merbok storm impacts.

Following the Federal Disaster Declaration, additional FEMA resources have been officially added to the response efforts.

Individual and Public Assistance **online** applications for FEMA and the state have opened online, and are available to individuals and businesses in the affected region. Telephonic registrations will open on Wednesday (9/28). Additional information can be found on [ready.alaska.gov/storm](https://ready.alaska.gov/storm).

#### Overall Response Operations:

*Operational details for each Branch are listed below under the colored Lifelines*

Over 120 personnel from the National Guard, Alaska State Defense Force, and Alaska Naval Militia Alaska are on orders for disaster response and are deploying by military aircraft to hub communities and then to local communities to assist with materials for immediate emergency temporary residential repair and storm debris cleanup, including clearing public areas and assisting private residences. Currently, 80 members are deployed to Bethel, and 30 to Nome, with additional personnel providing support. Guard teams have deployed to Hooper Bay, Newtok, Tununak, Golovin, and Shaktoolik, with additional teams heading to Chevak and Nightmute. The Alaska National Guard is deploying personnel to Koyuk with 5,000 sandbags to rebuild a damaged embankment in the community. Personnel from the Alaska National Guard

and other forces have so far removed more than 65 tons of debris from affected communities, and worked over 2,000 man-hours.

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)** is working on reports of local contaminant spills and water/wastewater issues in Branch I and II. DEC is evaluating community water systems in the storm impact area and is publishing boil water notices as appropriate. DEC has deployed a representative to the Anchorage-based USCG Incident Command Post to coordinate assessment and clean-up efforts. DEC intends to have two Spill Prevention and Recovery (SPAR) employees visit Golovin on Monday and Tuesday with a Norton Sound Health Corp (NSHC) employee to assess residences impacted by fuel.

**United States Coast Guard (USCG)** completed preliminary environmental impact surveys, in conjunction with DEC. USCG assessed 32 communities for pollution concerns and noted significant concerns only persist in Chevak. USCG reports that storm impacts have not impacted west coast communities from receiving bulk fuel deliveries with over-the-shore “soft hose” delivery available when a coastal fuel header is inoperable. The USCG stood down their Incident Management Team today (9/26) and transitioned to a routine operational footing.

**Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGS)** is in the storm impact area collecting high-water marks to record and calibrate the storm’s historical impact. The National Weather Service is utilizing DGGS findings to adjust forecasting for impacted communities due to the seawall and sea barrier damages.

**Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF)** has reopened all airports in the storm impact area and is actively working to repair roads and state facilities. Crews continue to assess roads across the impacted area and have started drone surveys in several communities. Crews are also assisting local jurisdictions with repairs as possible. Maintenance & Operations began work to repair the Nome-Council roadway, including final drone surveys today (9/26) which examined the barrier island breach past the Safety Sound bridge.

**United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)** continues to complete surveys in the affected areas. USACE teams are scheduled to deploy to Shishmaref, Unalakleet, and Kivalina this week for additional site surveys. USACE contractors have previously surveyed the Nome port and determined the port is safe to operate normally, though the causeway bridge sustained shoaling.

**Branch I:**

Branch I director has returned to Anchorage and is operating from the SEOC. Branch I team visited the following communities: Chefnak, Chevak, Hooper Bay, Kipnuk, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Newtok, Scammon Bay, and Tununak. Branch I reported Napaskiak had sustained damage to the garbage dump and was planning to hire 8 people to assist with cleanup. Napakiak reported sustaining damage to the school heating

system, which has been offline since the storm, though new parts have arrived and repairs are planned to be completed by Tuesday morning.

**Branch II:**

Branch II director has returned to Anchorage and is operating from the SEOC. Branch II team completed flights to Golovin, Elim, Unalakleet, Stebbins, Koyuk, and Kotlik last week.

**Branch III:**

The SEOC has been in contact with the Northwest Arctic Borough's incident management team as well as the communities of Kivalina, Deering, and Wainwright. There are no reports of damage at this time and the SEOC continues to standby to support the region as needed.

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**Weekly Community Call-in Information:**

*SEOC Divisions and National Weather Service Reports*



**SEOC Operations Brief**



Dial in with your phone: 1-800-315-6338, access code 71000#

**Please email the 2022 September West Coast Storm conference at  
[storm@ready.alaska.gov](mailto:storm@ready.alaska.gov)**

## Lifeline Status

 <p><b>Alaska Overall</b></p>	      
<p><b>Impacted Area</b></p>	      

	<p><b>Food, Water, and Shelter</b></p>	
	 <p><b>Food</b></p>	<p><b>Branch I:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hooper Bay: Lutheran Social Services is scheduled to provide 3 pallets of food and other goods on 9/27.</li> <li>• Chevak: Lutheran Social Services working to provide an additional 14 pallets divided between Chevak and Hooper Bay</li> </ul>

	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Water</b></p>	<p><b>Branch I:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Napakiak: Branch I visited on Friday (9/23) and reported 10 homes had sustained septic damage, with 4 homes already undergoing repairs at the time.</li> <li>• DEC has issued <a href="#">Boil Water Notices</a> for the following communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chevak, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Nunam Iqua, Platinum, Saint George, Scammon Bay</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Branch II:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unalakleet: BIA is projecting to deliver 15 pallets of water every 2 weeks to the community starting Friday (9/30).</li> <li>• Savoonga: BIA is working to deliver 6 pallets of water to the community on Tuesday (9/27).</li> <li>• DEC has issued <a href="#">Boil Water Notices</a> for the following communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Buckland, Elim, Diomede, Gambell, Golovin, Koyuk, Teller, Unalakleet</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shelter</b></p>	<p><i>A number of individuals have been reported displaced due to damages across Branch 1 and 2. These populations may not be represented in shelter numbers.</i></p> <p><b>Branch I:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chevak: Community is working with AML to get heavy equipment to assist clean-up efforts.</li> <li>• Hooper Bay: 20 Sheltered, AVCP and AVEC hired contractors to begin assessment of buildings. 12-15 volunteers from Scammon Bay are enroute to assist with assessments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Branch II:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Golovin: 7 individuals</li> </ul>



## Transportation



## Roadways

### Branch I:

- Napaskiak: Branch I visited on Friday (9/23) and reported extensive damage to boardwalks in the community. Repairs have begun.

### Branch II:

- Elim: Emergency Procurement waiver has been signed. Contract for Road repair work in development and contractor is mobilizing.
- Nome: DOT working on Nome-Council Hwy; surveys and staking completed. A 1500' section of the road will be temporarily rerouted for winter.
- Shishmaref: DOT airport crew and city completed temporary access road to landfill.



## Hazmat



## Facilities

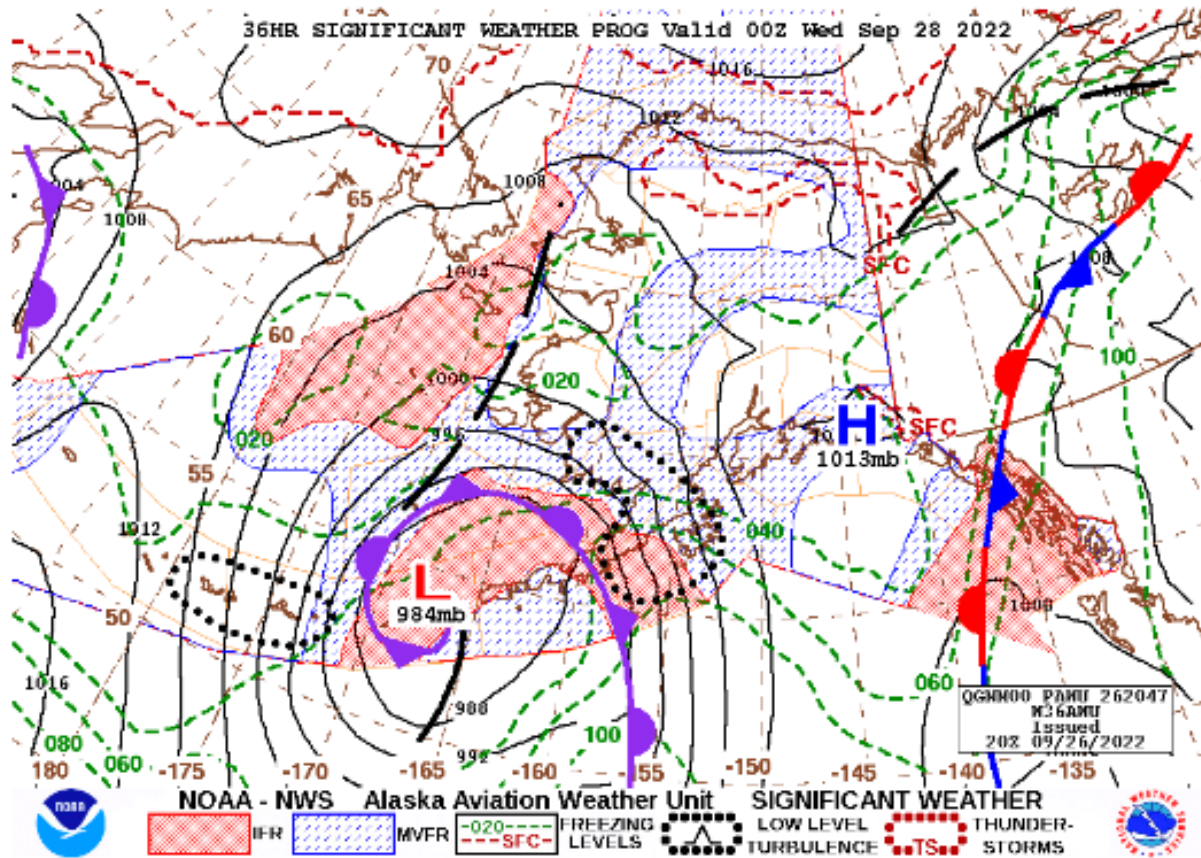
### Branch I:

- Chevak: USCG is continuing to monitor clean-up efforts of a 1,000-gallon oil waste spill. As of yesterday (9/25) cleanup efforts are 25% complete. Two members of the USCG remain on in Bethel monitoring contractor's work on the cleanup.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newtok: Community is working to connect with UIC and Bristol Engineering to begin stabilization on the fuel farm tanks that have deformed.</li></ul> <p><b>Branch II:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Golovin: Two DEC Spill Prevention &amp; Response (SPAR) employees visiting along with Norton Sound Health Corp. (NSHC) to assess residences impacted by fuel issues. Mayor reports homes smell like fuel inside. DEC will also assess the school with a schedule to reopen Tuesday, (9/27).</li></ul>
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**Flying Weather Report For Tomorrow, Tuesday, September 27 into Wednesday, September 28, 2022:**



- Flying weather for Tuesday: General VFR conditions are forecast on Tuesday for much of the region surrounding Norton Sound, lower Yukon Delta and across the Southwest Interior to Bethel. A large area of IFR conditions is expected to remain over the Bering Sea just west of Nome and well off the lower Yukon Delta coast on Tuesday.
- Flying weather Tuesday night into Wednesday: A low-pressure system is expected to track into Kuskokwim Bay on Wednesday which will cause rain and breezier conditions with MVFR conditions to spread northward from Bethel on Tuesday night to across Norton Sound on Wednesday while IFR conditions develop across the lower Yukon Delta.



**Alaska Region**  
Regional Operations Center

907-266-5199  
ar.roc@noaa.gov  
weather.gov/alaska

**Potential September 30th to October 2nd Bering Sea Storm**  
**Issued: 2:00 PM September 26, 2022**

**HIGH LEVEL TALKING POINTS**

- There is a 40% to 50% of a strong, impactful storm in the western Bering Sea near Alaska Friday, September 30, 2022 through Sunday, October 2, 2022.
- There is no indication that this will take a track similar to remnants of Typhoon Merbok.
- Current indications are for a track that takes the storm northward from the Pacific to the Western Aleutians near Shemya then east to southeast as it moves across the Bering Sea staying west to southwest of the Pribilof Islands.
- The storm is expected to be at its strongest around Shemya before beginning to slowly weaken as it traverses the Bering Sea.
- High winds and waves will be most likely near the west and central Aleutians.
- There is no threat of coastal flooding north of Nunivak Island. The threat of coastal flooding south of Nunivak Island and Bristol Bay is low (10%).



## **Helpful Links**

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) Storm Dashboard

<https://ready.alaska.gov/storm>

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 DEC Boil Water Notice website

<https://gis.data.alaska.gov/maps/a624ff8d70fd47a3b03ab3d38ccf66a3/explore?location=54.825885%2C-147.414500%2C3.83>

## **Abbreviations List**

AML	Alaska Municipal League
AVCP	Association of Village Council Presidents
AVEC	Alaska Village Electric Co-Op
BCSF	Bethel Community Services Foundation
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BWN	Boil Water Notice
CVRF	Coastal Villages Region Fund
DEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DGGS	Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys
DOT	Department of Transportation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
JTF	Joint Task Force
MVFR	Marginal Visual Flight Rules
NSHC	Norton Sound Health Corporation
NWS	National Weather Service
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SPAR	Spill Prevention and Recovery
UIC	Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VFR	Visual Flight Rules
VOAD	Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster
YKHC	Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation