



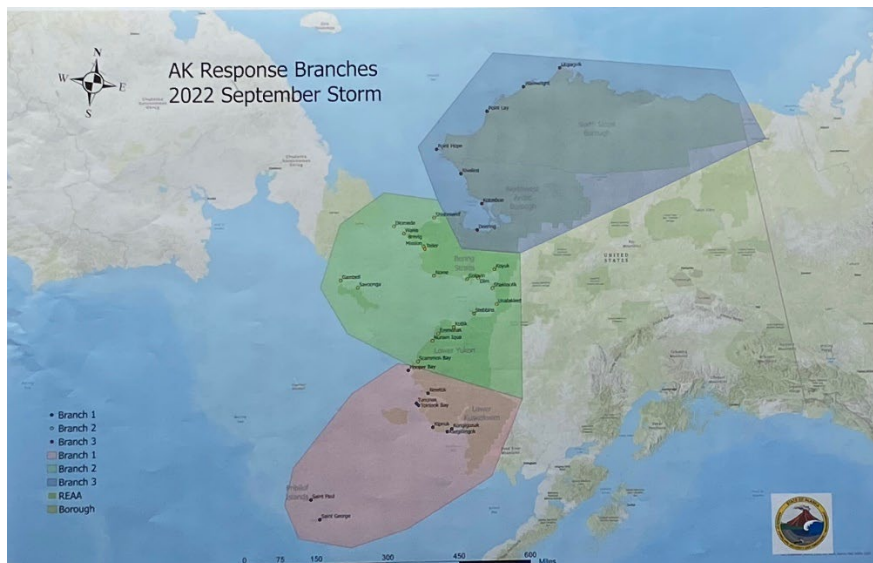
State Emergency Operations Center

## 2022 September Winter Storm

### Incident Situation Report

Date: September 27, 2022, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3



### Contact

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

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

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## 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. State 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 (Alaska Organized Militia – AKOM) are on orders for disaster response and are deploying by 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. SEOC has extended orders for some AKOM service members through October 7 in order to meet ongoing response needs in communities.

**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.

**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.

**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. SEOC notified DGGS of the landslide in Juneau last night.

**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 is continuing the repair work on the Nome-Council roadway. DOT&PF is providing contract support for emergency building material deployment in Golovin and is actively ready to provide additional support to SEOC operations.

**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 west side of the entrance sustained shoaling.

**Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)** has received community donated salmon and ANTHC native foods program manager is storing it prior to delivery to communities in need.

**Branch I:**

Branch I visited the following communities: Chefnak, Chevak, Hooper Bay, Kipnuk, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Newtok, Scammon Bay, and Tununak. Napaskiak sustained damage

to the garbage dump and planned to hire locally to assist with community cleanup. Napakiak sustained damage to the school heating system, offline since the storm, but new parts have arrived and full repairs are planned today.

### Alaska National Guard Task Force Bethel Project Summary

Location	Completed Projects	Man-Hrs	Lbs	Location	Completed Projects (Cont.)	Man-Hrs	Lbs
Bethel	River Clean-Up	40	800	Kotlik	Large boat removal	18	1500
Bethel	SUSV Orientation/Outreach	30	N/A	Kotlik	House leveling	23	0
Bethel	VFW Cemetery Clean Up	35	300	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19 Projects Complete</b>	<b>1650</b>	<b>23170lb</b>
Chevak	Town Clean-up/Survey	~100	1800				
Chevak	Downed Tree Removal	10	500				
Nightmute	Town Clean-up/Survey	~100	1000				
Newtok	Town Clean-Up/Survey	~100	900				
Newtok	Fuel spill blanket replacement	~10	10				
Newtok	Restored power to fuel pump	~2	0				
Tununak	Town Clean-up/Assessment	~100	1000				
Tununak	Rd stabilization (rock installed)	~20	1200				
Toksook Bay	Town clean up/Assessment/Prep	60	600				
Toksook Bay	Repaired roof/2x porch	80	0				
Hooper Bay	Town Clean-up (Total)	840	12000				
Kipnuk	Returned 2x boats to the water	5	1000				
Kipnuk	Town assessment/leader engagement	20	0				
Kotlik	Debris removal/General work	57	560				

Location	Pending Projects	Projected Man-Hrs
Alakanuk	Town clean-up/survey	~75
Nightmute	Town clean-up/Boat removal	50-55
Chevak	Town clean-up/Boat removal	40-45
Newtok	Well head repair/debris removal	25-30
Toksook Bay	Home repair (requires advanced woodworking knowledge, construction material)	~100
Pilot Station	Debris removal/Assessment	18
MTN Village	Debris removal/Assessment	18
St. Marys	Debris removal/Assessment	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8 Projects</b>	<b>~360 Hrs</b>

**Branch II:**

Branch II completed flights to Golovin, Elim, Unalakleet, Stebbins, Koyuk, and Kotlik last week. State DOH is providing the community of St. Michaels personal protective equipment and technical assistance for reinternment of human remains.

Alaska National Guard Task Force Nome Project Summary

<u>Location</u>	<u>Completed Project</u>	<u>Man-Hrs</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Pending Projects</u>	<u>Projected Man-Hrs</u>
Golovin	Debris clean up	200	52,000lbs	Teller	Assessment	10
Shaktolik	Debris clean up	180	54,000lbs	Koyuk	Foundation protection- 3300 sandbags	200
Golovin	Washateria-Dryer troubleshoot	4	NA	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2 Planned Projects</b>	<b>210 Hrs</b>
Golovin	Postoffice clean out	16	200lbs			
Golovin	18 home muckout debris removal	50	8000lbs			
Nome	Community cleanup	20	NA			
Golovin	Misc. repair & reattachment	120	NA			
Koyuk	Debris clean up	110	22,000lbs			
St. Micheal	Foundation protection- 100 sand bags	30	4000lbs			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10 Projects Complete</b>	<b>730 hrs</b>	<b>140,200 Lbs</b>			

**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.

**South Central / South East Division:**

Red Cross notified SEOC of a landslide in Juneau last night, with at least one destroyed home and evacuations in progress. Power disruptions were also reported in several areas. SEOC contacted City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) Emergency Manager last night who reported an emergency evacuation site was opened at a local fire station and residential evacuees were being provided shelter in local hotels. No State assistance was requested. SEOC also contacted State Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys last night about the slide and they had personnel in Juneau. Following up today, SEOC contacted CBJ officials who reported slide operations were ongoing, but no State assistance was needed at this time.

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



**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>Water</b></p>	<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> due to the storm for the following communities:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Elim and Koyuk</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shelter</b></p>	<p><b>Branch I:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chevak: Community is working with Alaska Municipal League to get heavy equipment to assist clean-up efforts.</li> <li>• Hooper Bay: AVCP and AVEC hired contractors to begin an assessment of buildings. 12-15 volunteers from Scammon Bay are enroute to assist.</li> </ul> <p><b>Branch II:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Golovin: 7 individuals sheltered</li> <li>• Emergency repair building materials left by barge from Nome today to Golovin.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Transportation</b></p>	
	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Roadways</b></p>	<p><b>Branch II:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nome: DOT working on Nome-Council Hwy; continued work on MP 1-2.2 on the Council Highway filling in washed-out shoulders and reclaiming rip rap to re-establish the sea wall. Predicting to be complete with the material hauling up to MP5 by the end of the week.</li> <li>• Koyuk: Loader operator arrived to assist with debris cleanup in coordination with the Alaska Organized Militia personnel doing community clean-up.</li> <li>• Teller: Three sites on the highway were damaged but remain open.</li> </ul>





**Hazmat**



**Facilities**

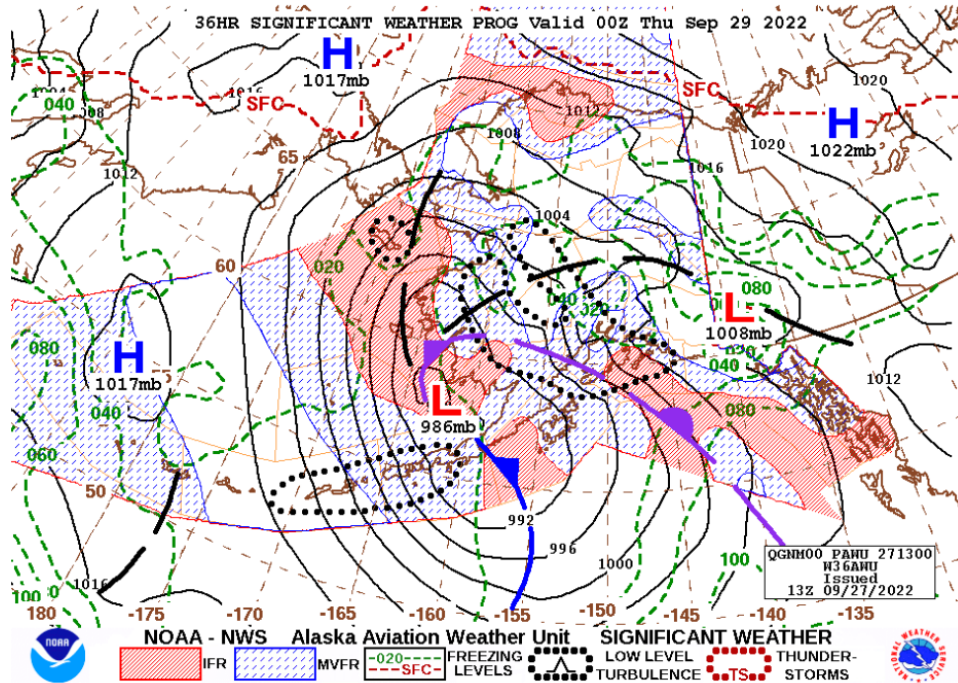
**Branch I:**

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

**Branch II:**

- Golovin: Building materials for approximately ten homes are enroute via barge (9/27).

**Flying Weather Report For 9/28 into 9/29**



- Marginal flying conditions (ceilings between 1000-3000ft) should prevail through much of the planning for the response branches.

- There could be some lower clouds and rain, below between 1000-2000ft, in the coastal areas of the Y-K Delta and in portions of Norton Sound, that could produce some IFR flying
- Winds will be offshore for the most part or from an easterly direction, that could be strong enough to produce isolated moderate turbulence from the Nulato Hills south to the Y-K Delta.



**September 29th to October 2nd Bering Sea Storm**  
**Issued: 4:00 PM September 27, 2022**

**HIGH LEVEL TALKING POINTS**

- Confidence is high that a strong storm will move into the western Bering Sea on Thursday, September 29th.
- The storm will move east and weaken once it enters the Bering Sea, however there is not high confidence in the exact track the storm will take Friday, September 30th through Sunday, October 2nd.
- It is unlikely that this will take a track similar to remnants of Typhoon Merbok once it enters the Bering Sea.
- High winds and waves will be most likely near the west and central Aleutians. Hurricane force wind gusts over the western Aleutians are likely.
- The threat of impactful coastal flooding remains low.

**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/>

## **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
DOH	Alaska State Department of Health
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