



**ALASKA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY &
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**



SITUATION REPORT 22-018 • JANUARY 18, 2022

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<p><u>SEOC Preparedness Level</u> Level 2 – Heightened Awareness</p>	<p>http://ready.alaska.gov</p>	<p><u>National Terrorism Advisory System:</u> Read the updated NTAS Bulletin here</p>
<p><u>Maritime Security (MARSEC)</u> Level: 1-Minimum Appropriate Security Measures</p>	<p>WHO Novel Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19): 2019 Novel Coronavirus</p>	<p><u>Alaska Military Installation Force Protection Level:</u> FPCON Bravo</p>

(Significant changes from previous situation reports are in red.)

Significant Issues:

SEOC at Level 2 – Heightened Awareness – Statewide Severe Weather Impacts

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) is activated in a hybrid virtual/in-person Incident Command structure to manage the current state declared disaster responses and other incidents arising statewide. Incident Command will publish an incident specific situation report later today.

Tsunami Advisory and Shock Waves – Tonga Island Volcanic Eruption

At 0225 hrs. AST on January 15, 2022 SEOC was notified by the National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) of a volcanic eruption in the Tonga Islands that was being analyzed for tsunami risk to Alaska. SEOC initiated a limited recall of Operations Staff to SEOC to monitor the tsunami risk to Alaska. At 0356 hrs. NTWC issued a Tsunami Advisory for the entire coast of Alaska, as well as Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, and California. SEOC executed the Tsunami Advisory checklist and contacted all Alaska communities in the Tsunami Advisory area.

At 0500 SEOC began receiving numerous reports, from multiple law enforcement agencies and the public, of loud “thuds”, structural shaking, or “explosive blast waves” occurring in Southcentral Alaska. Based upon this, SEOC initiated a full Operations Staff recall. SEOC also received reports of “blast waves” from Yukon Territories, Canada. At 0620 hrs. the National Weather Service advised SEOC that the reported “explosive blasts” were sonic reverberations from the Tonga Island volcanic eruption pressure wave over 6,000 miles away.

The Tsunami Advisory for Alaska was canceled at 1534 hrs. The highest reported peak tsunami waves in Alaska were in King Cove at over 2.6 feet, with tsunami waves showing on tidal gauges from Sitka to Attu. SEOC has received no reports of damage or injuries in Alaska from this incident.

Southeast – Heavy Snow, Avalanches

In accordance with Governor Dunleavy's January 11, 2022 declaration of a state disaster for Public Assistance in the City and Borough of Yakutat, City and Borough of Juneau, Haines Borough, and Municipality of Skagway Borough, SEOC continues to support Southeast communities in their response to severe winter weather. In Yakutat, under the community's Incident Command, the Alaska National Guard continues to conduct emergency snow removal operations on schools, the head start building, fuel and water tanks, emergency access routes, and other critical infrastructure. The Guard is also assisting with some critical infrastructure emergency repairs and flood mitigation. SEOC also remains in regular contact with other Southeast communities as they recover from the severe winter storms and heavy snowfall, transitioning to rain.

Mat-Su and Copper River Wind Storm

Pursuant to Governor Dunleavy's declaration of disaster on January 3, 2022, state Individual Assistance registration is ongoing for residential and rental property owners with damages in the declared area. Private insurance response for disaster recovery is ongoing. Final operational planning is underway to open State Disaster Assistance Centers in the area this week.

Interior Winter Storm

Pursuant to Governor Dunleavy's declaration of disaster on January 3, 2022 that included the Fairbanks North Star and Denali Boroughs, and Delta Junction areas, state Individual Assistance registration and collection of damage information is ongoing. Final operational planning is underway to open State Disaster Assistance Centers in the area this week.

Covid-19 Surge

With the rapid escalation of COVID cases in the state, SEOC continues to support the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) COVID response. As an agency representative to DHSS, SEOC is actively monitoring hospital staffing shortages and community outbreaks. SEOC continues to support DHSS with Alaska National Guard and Federal Emergency Management Agency resources.

Threat Level Changes:

None

State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS)

DHSS is now leading the State of Alaska COVID-19 Recovery through Department Operations, supported by SEOC and other state departments as required.

For current COVID-19 information, see:

<https://covid19.alaska.gov/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

NTAS BULLETIN

To read current or expired advisories, click the link below:

<https://www.dhs.gov/national-terrorism-advisory-system>

Travel Alerts and Conditions

For current driving conditions dial 511 or link to <http://511.alaska.gov/>

Barry Arm Landslide / Tsunami Risk

For the latest information on the Barry Arm Landslide and Tsunami risk, click here:
[DGGs Barry Arm Landslide and Tsunami Hazard](#)

Recent Earthquakes

USGS Earthquake Information: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/>

National Tsunami Warning Center: <http://tsunami.gov/>

Alaska Volcanoes

Great Sitkin Alert Level: **Watch** and Aviation Color Code: **Orange**

Pavlof Alert Level: **Watch** and Aviation Color Code: **Orange**

Semisopchnoi Alert Level: **Watch** and Aviation Color Code: **Orange**

For Alaska Volcano updates, go to: <https://www.avo.alaska.edu/>

Air Quality Index (AQI) Advisories

For the most up to date Air Quality Index Advisories:

<http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/Air/airtoolsweb/Home/Index>

A Stage 2 Alert is in effect for North Pole until 10 AM today. Fairbanks has no alert.

Spills of Oil and Hazardous Substances

The ADEC Spill Prevention and Response page is located at:

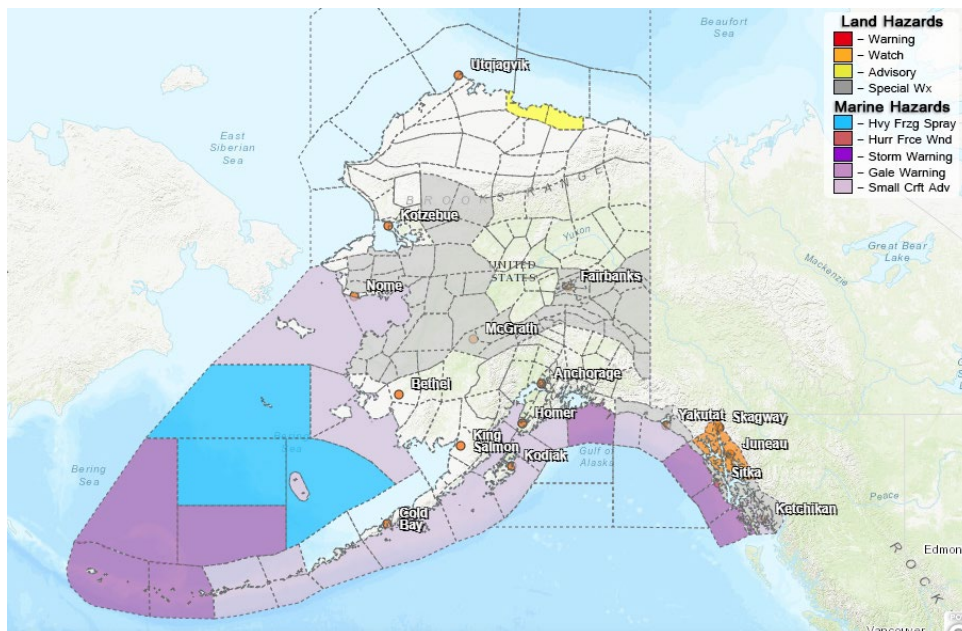
<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/>

Alaska Cyber Security Information

State Employees may sign up for cyber security notifications and alerts at

<https://oit.alaska.gov/security>

Significant Weather:



A Winter Storm Watch is in effect from Wednesday morning through late Wednesday night for Taiya Inlet and Klondike Highway, Haines Borough and Lynn Canal, Glacier Bay, Eastern Chichagof Island and Juneau Borough, and Northern Admiralty Island. Total snow accumulations of 4 to 8 inches are possible.

A Wind Chill Advisory is in effect until 6 PM this evening for the Central Beaufort Sea Coast.

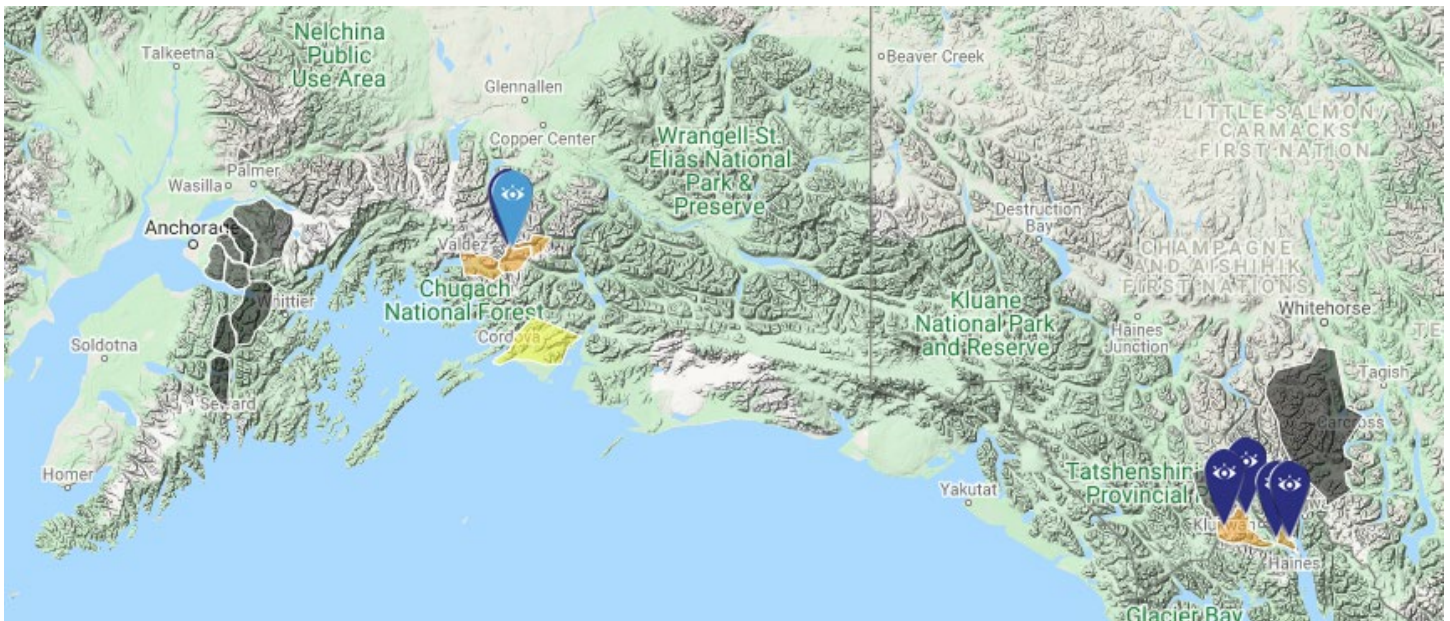
A Special Weather Statement has been issued for a Chinook warming pattern this weekend through early next week for the southern Interior. Temperatures in the area are expected to rise into the 30s, and possibly even warmer near the Alaska Range.

A Special Weather Statement has been issued for a stormy “pineapple express” storm pattern late this week into early next week for the Lower Yukon Valley and the Middle Kuskokwim Valley. Current forecasts indicate most areas will receive heavy snow, however some areas may receive rain and freezing rain.

Special Weather Statements have been issued for heavy rain possible with rising snow levels late this week for most of the Southeast panhandle. Rainfall amounts of 4 to 7 inches are possible from Thursday evening through Sunday, heaviest Friday and Saturday. Yakutat will likely see the highest rainfall amounts and Sitka on the lower end.

For more information and the most current weather, Watches / Warnings / Advisories go to: <http://www.weather.gov/arh>.

Avalanche Forecast:



There are areas near Haines, Chilkat Lake, Valdez, and the Richardson Highway with considerable risk. **There are areas near Cordova with moderate risk.**

Check the Avalanche Forecast Center closest to your area for the most up to date information on avalanche potential. <https://alaskasnow.org> or <https://www.weather.gov/afc/avalancheweather>

The Next Situation Report: will be **19** January 2022. A significant change in the situation or the threat level will prompt an interim report.

This report is posted on the internet at <https://ready.alaska.gov/sitrep>. To register for email distribution, go to <http://list.state.ak.us/mailman/listinfo/dhsem.situation.report>. Direct questions regarding this report to the SEOC at 907-428-7100 or seoc@alaska.gov