



State Emergency Operations Center

2023 Wrangell Landslide

Incident Situation Report

Date: November 24, 2023, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 2



Photo courtesy of Wrangell Field Division Supervisor Willis Walunga, DHS&EM

Contact

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State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 2

Incident Overview

On Monday, November 20th at 2051hrs the City and Borough of Wrangell experienced a major landslide at mile 11 of Zimovia Highway. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was notified of the landslide at 2130 hrs. on November 20th recalled staff, activated to Level-2 and is coordinating multiple requests for state-level resources in support of Wrangell's Incident Command.

On November 21st, 2023, Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy declared a state disaster emergency for the City of Wrangell.

Significant Operations Updates

Wrangell Field Division / Wrangell City Division:

A SEOC Division Supervisor (Field) is deployed to Wrangell providing operational coordination of state-level resources in support of the Wrangell City and Borough response. An additional SEOC Division Supervisor (City) deployed today to supplement the existing DivSup's efforts. The Recovery Branch anticipates activating the State Individual Assistance hotline on Tuesday, November 28th for survivor registration. Additional information will be released in the Monday Situation Report.

Governor Dunleavy and the Commissioners of the State Departments of Natural Resources, Transportation & Public Facilities, and Military & Veterans' Affairs traveled to Wrangell today to survey ongoing operations, support survivors, and meet with community leaders.

Yesterday at 1300hrs the Department of Public Safety in coordination with the Wrangell Incident Command changed their search and rescue strategy from an active search to a reactive search. With the assistance of DOT&PF, efforts began to methodically start emergency route clearance of the roadway; the Alaska State Troopers ready to restart an active, focused search in any area of the slide, if new evidence or information supports it. One adult and two juveniles remain missing.

An evacuation order remains in place for Zimovia Highway from Mile 11-13 which has impacted approximately 20-30 individuals. The Stikine Inn is offering accommodations to displaced residents. The Red Cross and Salvation Army are supporting mass care needs within the community. Residents were able to return briefly to their homes yesterday using water-shuttle service. The Red Cross is planning to deploy an additional 5 personnel today to begin preliminary damage assessments and provide mental health support.

Today the United States Forest Service is scheduled to make an additional delivery of fuel for residences south of the slide that have not evacuated. Information on fuel deliveries is distributed on the Wrangell Sentinel, and City of Wrangell, Facebook pages.

DOT&PF, in consultation with their on-scene geologist and the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGs) geologists, has begun roadway clearance work around the Mile 11 slide. Debris removal has started on the north side of the slide, working towards the middle. The initial objective is to open one-lane to enable power restoration. On Thursday, the community requested DOT&PF provide additional assistance clearing a smaller landslide near Pat's Creek Road. An additional slide in the same

area was located by the survey team. Both slides will receive further assessment today by DOT and DGGs personnel.

DGGs has contracted a helicopter to assist their geological survey group with evaluation of slide margins, head scarp, and the debris field. Today SEOC approved DGGs plans to implement helicopter-based LIDAR surveys to enhance landslide safety assessments. DGGs personnel have identified numerous historic slides, as well as rockfalls in creeks and culverts in the area. DGGs geologists report slopes in the area remain saturated, and there is continued landslide risk.

Emerging Incidents Division:

Coffman Cove: The community declared a local disaster today and requested State financial assistance for local storm and landslide damaged roads. Four homes remain cut off from normal access to town, with residents relying on ATVs.

Ward Cove: SEOC confirmed today that tree fall obstructions and power disruptions were resolved and no state assistance is required.

SEOC Operations Brief


















SEOC Operations Briefings will be conducted Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 0800hrs. Operations Briefings have moved to the Zoom platform.




The next Situation Report will be released on Monday, November 27th at 1600.




Please email the 2023 Wrangell Landslide conference at





landslide@ready.alaska.gov

Lifeline Status

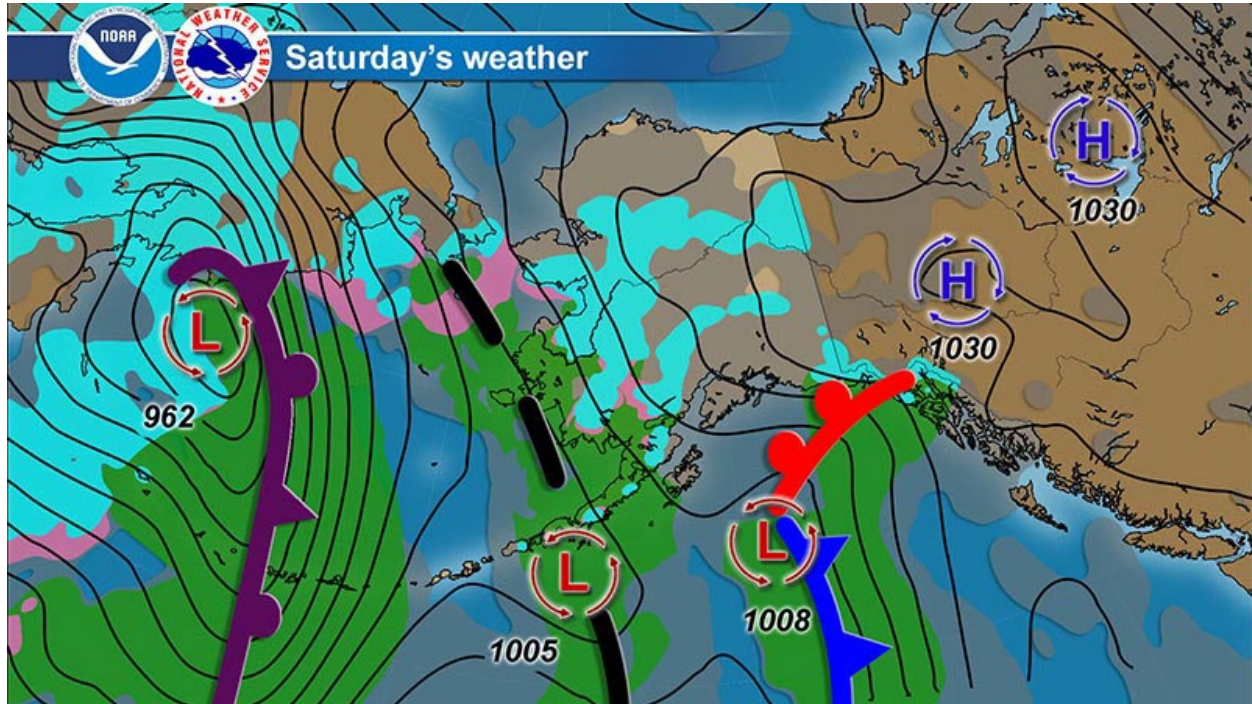
 <p>Alaska Overall</p>	       
<p>Impacted Areas</p>	       

	<p>Safety & Security</p>	
	 <p>Search & Rescue</p>	<p>Yesterday at 1300hrs the Department of Public Safety in coordination with the Wrangell Incident Command changed their search and rescue strategy from an active search to a reactive search. With the assistance of DOT&PF, efforts began to methodically start emergency route clearance of the roadway; the Alaska State Troopers ready to restart an active, focused search in any area of the slide, if new evidence or information supports it. One adult and two juveniles remain missing.</p>
	<p>Food, Hydration, and Shelter</p>	

	 <p>Shelter</p>	<p>An evacuation order remains in place for Zimovia Highway from Mile 11-13 which has impacted approximately 20-30 individuals. The Stikine Inn offered accommodations to displaced residents. The Red Cross and Salvation Army are supporting mass care needs within the community. The Red Cross is planning to deploy an additional 5 personnel today to begin preliminary damage assessments and provide mental health support.</p> <p>Residents were able to return to check on homes briefly yesterday morning using water-taxi services.</p> <p>A hunter who was cut off by the Pat's Creek Road landslide was picked up and brought back to town yesterday. No additional residences are believed to be affected.</p>
 <p>Energy, Power, Fuel</p>		
	 <p>Power</p>	<p>Cut off homes beyond the slide have no power due to downed transmission lines. The disruption has caused the spoilage of food in affected homes. Restoration work will begin once DOT&PF have created a one-lane access for crews.</p> <p>The United States Forest Service is scheduled to make an additional delivery of fuel today for residences south of the slide that have not evacuated. Information fuel deliveries is being made available on the Wrangell Sentinel, and City of Wrangell, Facebook pages.</p>

	<p>Communications</p>	
	 <p>Infrastructure</p>	<p>The Notice to Mariners regarding US Coast Guard Channel-16 VHF communications in the Southeast-region remains in effect. USCG requests mariners relay all unanswered requests for assistance to the USCG including both radio and phone.</p> <p>Central Council of Tlingit & Haida (CCTH) has deployed Starlink receivers on the southside of the slide area, which are providing connectivity to residents.</p>
	<p>Transportation</p>	
	 <p>Roadways</p>	<p>Wrangell: DOT&PF, in consultation with their on-scene geologist and the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) geologists, has begun roadway clearance work around the Mile 11 slide. Debris removal has started on the north side of the slide, working towards the middle. The initial objective is to open one-lane to enable power restoration.</p> <p>On Thursday, the community requested DOT&PF provide additional assistance clearing a smaller landslide near Pat’s Creek Road. An additional slide in the same area was located by the survey team. Both slides will receive further assessment today by DOT and DGGS personnel.</p> <p>Coffman Cove: Several local roads and culverts are damaged/washed out. Several houses are cut off from car access, but ATV access is still possible.</p>

Weather Forecast



	Fri 11/24 4 AM	Fri 11/24 7 AM	Fri 11/24 10 AM	Fri 11/24 1 PM	Fri 11/24 4 PM	Fri 11/24 7 PM	Fri 11/24 10 PM	Sat 11/25 1 AM	Sat 11/25 4 AM	Sat 11/25 7 AM	Sat 11/25 10 AM	Sat 11/25 1 PM	Sat 11/25 4 PM	Sat 11/25 7 PM	Sat 11/25 10 PM	Sun 11/26 1 AM	Sun 11/26 4 AM	Sun 11/26 7 AM	Sun 11/26 10 AM	Sun 11/26 1 PM	Sun 11/26 4 PM	Sun 11/26 7 PM	Sun 11/26 10 PM	Mon 11/27 1 AM	Mon 11/27 4 AM	Mon 11/27 7 AM	Mon 11/27 10 AM	Mon 11/27 1 PM	Mon 11/27 4 PM	
Temperature	42°F	42°F	44°F	44°F	43°F	43°F	43°F	43°F	44°F	43°F	45°F	46°F	45°F	44°F	44°F	42°F	43°F	43°F	44°F	45°F	44°F	44°F	44°F	44°F	44°F	43°F	43°F	44°F	45°F	44°F
Wind Speed	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	6 mph	6 mph	4 mph	3 mph	3 mph	3 mph	4 mph	4 mph	4 mph	4 mph	4 mph	4 mph	5 mph	5 mph	6 mph	8 mph	8 mph	9 mph	9 mph	9 mph	9 mph	8 mph	8 mph	8 mph	5 mph	5 mph	4 mph
Wind Direction	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	S
Wind Gust	11 mph	10 mph	10 mph	11 mph	11 mph	8 mph	5 mph	5 mph	5 mph	8 mph	8 mph	8 mph	8 mph	8 mph	8 mph	10 mph	10 mph	11 mph	13 mph	13 mph	13 mph	13 mph	13 mph	13 mph	12 mph	12 mph	12 mph	9 mph	9 mph	6 mph
Chance of Precipitation	100%	77%	77%	76%	76%	74%	67%	52%	37%	35%	32%	32%	43%	59%	59%	58%	82%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	85%	74%	74%	72%	72%	67%
Weather	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain
Rainfall	0.05 in	0.04 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.01 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.02 in	0.03 in	0.04 in	0.05 in	0.06 in	0.09 in	0.12 in	0.14 in	0.15 in	0.2 in	0.15 in	0.08 in	0.06 in	0.03 in	0.03 in	0.04 in	
Snow Accumulation	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	0.0 in	

Hazard Level	None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
Wind Speed	≤15 mph	15 to 19 mph	20 to 24 mph	25 to 29 mph	≥30 mph
Wind Gust	≤25 mph	25 to 34 mph	35 to 44 mph	45 to 59 mph	≥60 mph
Chance of Precipitation	≤20 %	20 to 39 %	40 to 59 %	60 to 79 %	≥80 %
Rainfall	≤0.1 in	0.1 to 0.29 in	0.3 to 0.79 in	0.8 to 1.09 in	≥1.1 in
Snow Accumulation	≤0.5 in	0.5 to 0.9 in	1.0 to 1.9 in	2.0 to 2.9 in	≥3.0 in



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/>

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