



# ALASKA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SITUATION REPORT 23-336 • December 12, 2023



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SEOC 907.428.7100

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

(Significant changes from previous situation reports are red.)

## Significant Issues:

### **Wrangell Landside Disaster:**

This week a joint preliminary damage assessment (JPDA) team from State of Alaska and FEMA will be traveling to Wrangell and Prince of Wales Island to validate response costs and damage estimates for repairs from landslide events in Wrangell and across Prince of Wales Island. This information will be used to determine if a request for federal assistance is warranted from the State of Alaska.

State Individual Assistance Hotline and website is open for Wrangell and Prince of Wales Island residents. Individual Assistance Applications can be submitted at <https://www.ready.alaska.gov/Recovery/IA> or by phone 1(844) 445-7131. The deadline to apply for State Individual Assistance is January 27, 2024.

### **Selawik Frozen Water Lines:**

SEOC continues to work with the City of Selawik along with the Northwest Arctic Borough to assist with response actions focused on evaluating the conditions of the water and sewer lines in the community. The borough has assisted the City of Selawik by providing heaters to thaw frozen water and/or sewer lines. SEOC is evaluating the local declaration to ensure the communities needs are being addressed.

### **Native Village of Kwinhagak:**

SEOC was contacted by ANTHC yesterday regarding the power outage in Quinhagak that began on Friday December 8, the community responded by opening the school as a shelter for those without back up heat or generators. SEOC spoke with both the Tribal Administrator, and the City Administrator yesterday for a situation update and to identify any unmet needs. The SEOC was sent a signed declaration form from the native Village late last night and is currently evaluating the declaration to address the identified requests.

The largest concern of the community is frozen water and sewage lines. The local water plant operators are identifying households without back up heat to prioritize repairs and assistance when power is restored. The city has requested additional RMW assistance to repair and restore water and sewage when power is restored.

## **State of Alaska Department of Health (DOH)**

The DOH stands ready to assist with all aspects of public health and in the event of a public health emergency, supported by the SEOC and other state departments as required. For current information, see:

<https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Emergency/Pages/prepared/default.aspx>

## **NTAS Bulletin**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued an updated National Terrorism Advisory Bulletin on May 24, 2023. The current and expired bulletins can be viewed at the below link.

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

## **Travel Alerts and Conditions**

**Thompson Pass is currently closed from MP 12 to 65 due to avalanche hazards.**

For current driving conditions, dial 511 or visit: <https://511.alaska.gov/>

## **Barry Arm Landslide / Tsunami Risk**

For the latest information on the Barry Arm Landslide and Tsunami risk, click here:

<https://dggs.alaska.gov/hazards/barry-arm-landslide.html>

## **Earthquakes**

United States Geological Service (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**

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

**Trident** Alert Level: **Advisory** and Aviation Color Code: **Yellow**

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>

## **Spills of Oil and Hazardous Substances**

The Alaska Division of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Spill Prevention and Response page is located at:

<https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/>

## **Alaska Cyber Security Information**

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

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

### **Avalanche Hazards:**

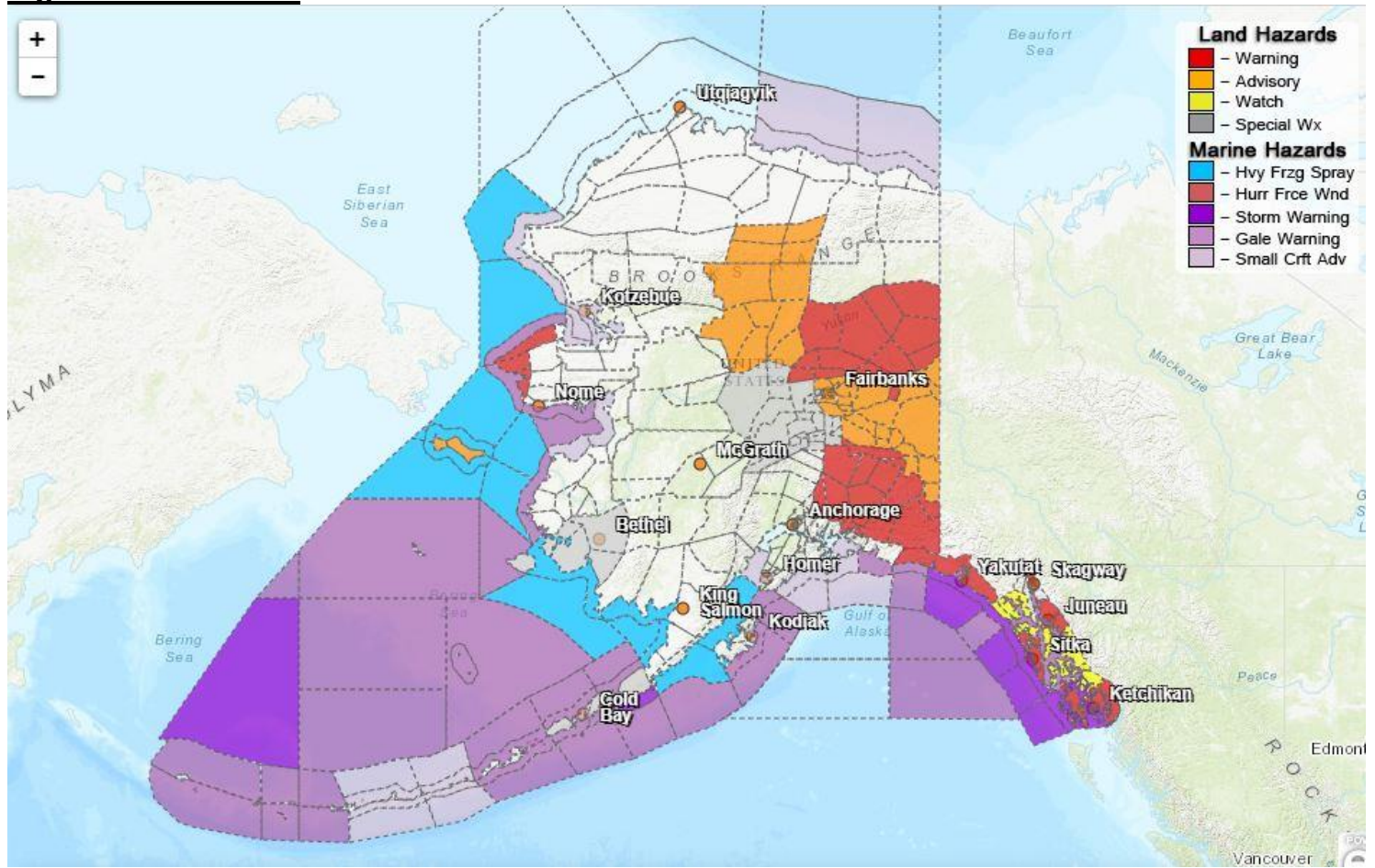
Avalanche danger for Valdez is high for all elevations.

Avalanche danger for Cordova is low below 1,000ft, moderate from 1,000ft to 2,000ft, and considerable above 2,000ft.

Avalanche danger for Turnagain Pass is moderate below 1,000ft and considerable above 1,000ft.

For more information and the most current avalanche conditions go to <https://alaskasnow.org>

### **Significant Weather:**



**Flood Watch:** Prince of Wales, Southern Inner Channels, Central Inner Channels and Eastern Gulf Coast. This includes the cities and boroughs of Gustavus, Hoonah, Tenakee Springs, Elfin Cove, Pelican, Sitka, Angoon, Juneau, Petersburg, Kake, Port Alexander, Craig, Klawock, Hydaburg, Coffman Cove, Thorne Bay, Wrangell, Ketchikan, and Metlakatla.

- Excessive runoff may result in flooding of rivers, creeks, streams, other low-lying areas, and flood-prone locations. Creeks and streams may rise out of their banks until Wednesday morning.
- Possible isolated landslides can occur from similar atmospheric conditions in areas of steep terrain.
- Those living in areas prone to flooding should be prepared to act should flooding develop. Stay tuned to further developments by listening to your local radio, television, or NOAA Weather Radio for further information.

**Winter Weather Advisory: Delta Junction, Upper Tanana Valley, Tanana Flats, Dalton Highway Summits, Chatanika River Valley, Fortymile Country; Upper Chena River Valley, Fairbanks Metro Area, Eielson AFB, Salcha, Eastern Alaska Range North of Trims Camp**

- Advisory Weather conditions continue until 3 PM Wednesday. 3 to 5 inches of snow expected around the Fairbanks area, and 6 to 10 inches over the Eastern and Northern Interior and down the Parks Highway near Denali.
- Gusty winds up 40 mph will reduce visibility over higher terrain north of Fairbanks and along the Elliott, Dalton Highway Summits, Steese and Delta Junction Dalton highway.
- Travel could be very difficult. Areas of blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility. The latest road conditions can be obtained by calling 511 or visit [511.alaska.gov](http://511.alaska.gov).

**Winter Weather Advisory: Central Brooks Range and South Slopes of the Brooks Range**

- Snow and blowing snow. Additional snow accumulations of up to one inch. Winds gusting as high as 55 mph until 3 PM Wednesday.
- Areas of blowing snow will significantly reduce visibility as low as one half mile at times.
- The dangerously cold wind chills as low as 55 below zero could cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 10 minutes.

**Winter Storm Warning: Eastern Alaska Range South of Trims Camp**

- Heavy snow. Additional snow accumulations of 5 to 11 inches until noon Wednesday.
- Travel could be very difficult. Areas of blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility.
- This will make travel very difficult or impossible. Heavy snow. Additional snow accumulations of 5 to 11 inches

**Blizzard Warning: Western Arctic Coast, Bering Strait Coast, Shishmaref, Diomedes, Kivalina, and Red Dog Dock**

- Blizzard conditions. Winds gusting as high as 50 mph until 6 PM Tuesday.
- Areas of blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility with white out conditions.
- The cold wind chills as low as 30 below zero could cause frostbite on exposed skin.

**Winter Weather Advisory: St. Lawrence Island**

- Snow and blowing snow. Additional snow accumulations of up to two inches until 3 PM Wednesday. Winds gusting as high as 60 mph. Visibility to one half mile at times.
- Strong winds and waves could also lead to heavy freezing spray which may create light ice accumulations on surfaces.
- Cold wind chills as low as 30 below zero could cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 30 minutes.

**High Wind Warning: Municipality of Skagway; City and Borough of Juneau and Sitka**

- Southeast winds 25 to 35 mph with gusts up to 60 mph possible until 3 AM Wednesday
- High winds could blow around unsecured objects, damage property and cause power outages. Travel could be difficult.
- People are urged to secure vessels and loose objects that could be blown around or damaged by the wind. Report any damage to the National Weather Service by visiting [weather.gov/Juneau/StormReports](http://weather.gov/Juneau/StormReports)

**High Wind Warning: Prince of Wales Island; Ketchikan Gateway Borough; Annette Island**

- Southeast winds 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 60 mph possible through 9 PM Tuesday.
- People are urged to secure vessels and loose objects that could be blown around or damaged by the wind. Report any damage to the National Weather Service by visiting [weather.gov/Juneau/StormReports](http://weather.gov/Juneau/StormReports)

### **Winter Storm Warning: Municipality of Skagway;**

- Heavy blowing snow expected. Total snow accumulations of up to 17 inches. Winds gusting as high as 60 mph until 9 PM Tuesday.
- Travel may be very difficult and is discouraged unless it is an emergency.
- If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food, and water with you in case of an emergency. For the latest road conditions, where available, call 511 or visit [511.alaska.gov](http://511.alaska.gov).

### **Winter Weather Advisory: Upper Koyukuk Valley and South Slopes of The Central Brooks Range**

- Snow accumulations of up to 4 inches. Winds gusting as high as 45 mph over higher terrain until 6 PM Tuesday.
- Areas of blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility. Dangerously cold wind chills as low as 50 below zero could cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 5 minutes.

### **Special Weather Statement: Alaska Peninsula, Copper River Basin, and Kuskokwim Delta**

- Gusty northerly winds will be the theme across the Alaska Peninsula over the next several days. Sustained winds with gusts up to 50 mph.
- Ocean effect snow showers with reduced visibility will frequent the peninsula and a stronger round of northerly winds arrive late Tuesday into Wednesday.

For more information and the most current weather, Watches / Warnings / Advisories go to:

<https://www.weather.gov/arh/>

**The Next Situation Report** will be **December 13, 2023**. 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](mailto:seoc@alaska.gov)