



ALASKA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SITUATION REPORT 23-347 • December 13, 2023



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SEOC 907.428.7100

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

(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 is evaluating the local declaration to ensure the communities needs are being addressed. Along with the Northwest Arctic Borough response actions focused on evaluating the conditions of the water and sewer lines in the community.

Native Village of Kwinhagak:

SEOC continues to monitor the power outage situation that caused frozen water and sewer lines in the community last weekend. A multiagency response from state, tribal, volunteer and utility operator agencies work to restore full power in the community. The local utility operator has begun assessing frozen service lines and potential for needed repairs once the water system is thawed. Additional operators from the Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative plan to travel to the community to assist with further repairs and adding additional temperature sensors to the water and sewer lines.

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. Klondike Highway to remain closed for today.

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:

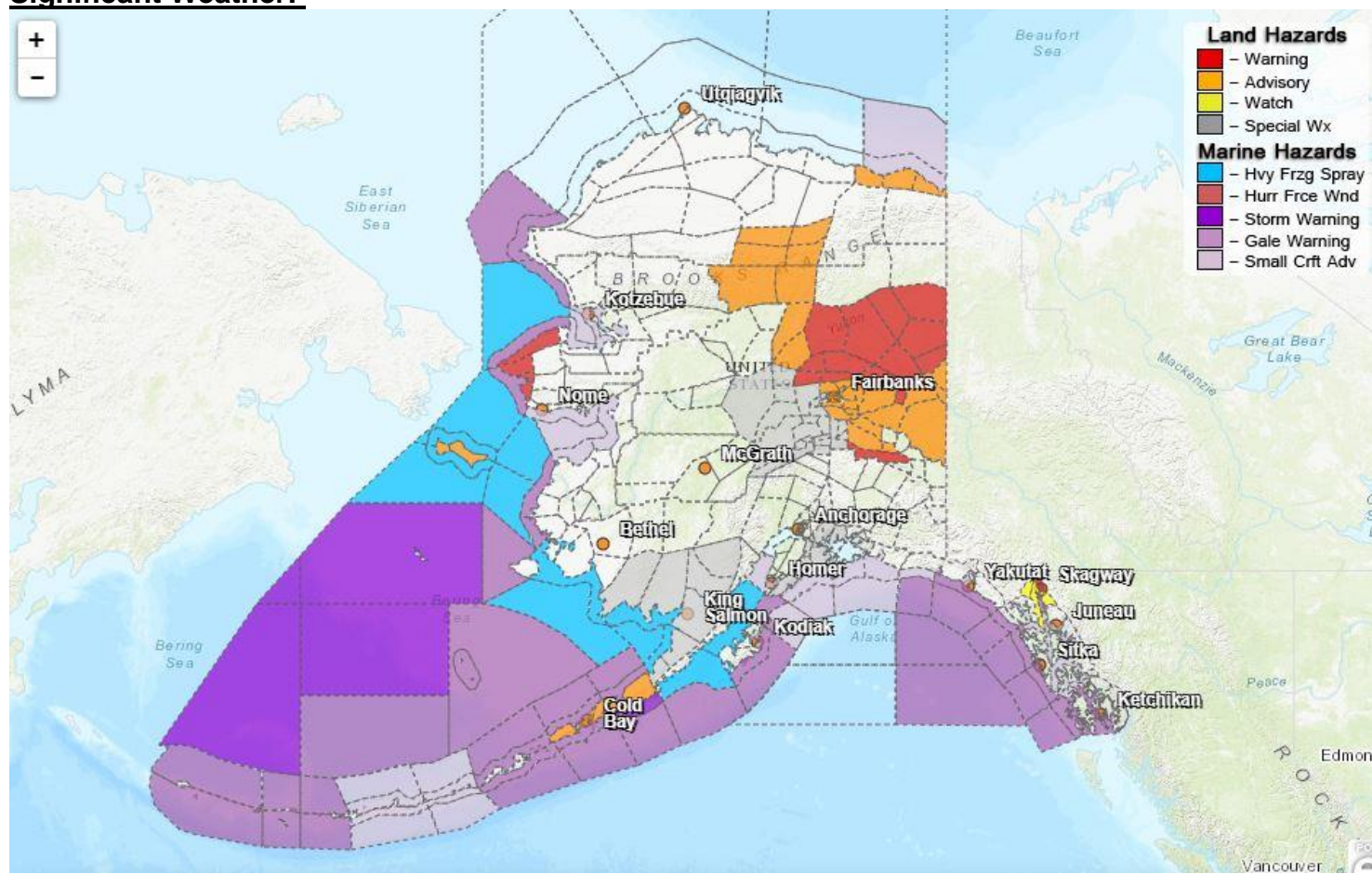
Avalanche danger for Valdez is listed as **considerable at elevations below 1,500 ft and high for elevations above 1,500ft.**

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 2,500ft and considerable above 2,500ft.**

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

Significant Weather:



Special Weather Statement: Anchorage, Eagle River, Indian and Eklutna

- Moderate to heavy snow showers are likely over Anchorage this morning and then again, this evening. Additional snow accumulations of 2 to 6 inches are possible today.
- Snowfall rates in heavier snow showers could reach one to two inches per hour at times, leading to significantly reduced visibilities.

Special Weather Statement: Goldstream Valley and Nenana Hills; Nenana; Central Interior; Northern Denali Borough; Southern Denali Borough

- Up To Two Additional Inches of Snow Through Wednesday Afternoon.
- Areas of blowing snow are also likely along the Parks Highway from the Denali Park entrance south to Cantwell.

Winter Weather Advisory: Eastern Beaufort Sea Coast

- Blowing snow expected. Winds gusting as high as 40 mph. Visibility as low as one half mile at times starting 9 PM this evening until noon Thursday.

Winter Weather Advisory: Central Brooks Range

- Snow, blowing snow, and very cold wind chills. Until 9 PM this evening.
- Winds gusting as high as 45 mph. Dangerously cold wind chills as low as 55 below zero.

Blizzard Warning: Bering Strait Coast, Shishmaref, St. Lawrence Island

- Blizzard conditions. Winds gusting as high as 55 mph until 3 PM Tuesday.
- Strong winds and waves could also lead to heavy freezing spray which may create light ice accumulations on surfaces making travel extremely difficult.

Winter Storm Warning: Yukon Flats and White Mountains and Terrain South of the Yukon River

- The heaviest snow will be through Wednesday morning. Snow will taper off Wednesday afternoon. The highest snowfall of up to 3 inches along the Steese Highway from Eagle Summit to Circle.

Winter Weather Advisory: Fortymile Country; Upper Chena River Valley, Tanana Flats, Delta Junction, Dalton Highway Summits, Fairbanks Metro Area, Chatanika River Valley, Eielson AFB and Salcha and Two Rivers

- Additional snow accumulations of up to 4 inches until 3 PM this afternoon.

Winter Weather Advisory: Dalton Highway Summits, South Slopes of The Central Brooks Range

- Snow and blowing snow until 3 PM today. Additional snow accumulations of up to two inches. Winds gusting as high as 40 mph. Visibility as low as one half mile at times.
- Dangerously cold wind chills as low as 45 below zero are expected.

Winter Storm Warning: Eastern Alaska Range North & South of Trims Camp

- Heavy snow. Additional snow accumulations of up to two inches. Travel could be very difficult.

Special Weather Statement: East Turnagain Arm; Western Prince William Sound

- Moderate to heavy snow showers are likely across the Seward Highway Corridor from Girdwood and Whittier south to Seward Wednesday morning through Thursday morning.
- snow accumulations of 6 inches or more are possible for Whittier, Portage Valley, and Turnagain Pass through Thursday morning. 1 to 3 inches of snow are possible from Summit Lake to Seward.
- Gusty winds Thursday morning could also result in localized areas of blowing snow, especially near Whittier and Seward.

Winter Weather Advisory: Alaska Peninsula

- Blowing snow. Additional snow accumulations of 3 to 5 inches. Northerly winds gusting as high as 60 mph until 5 PM Wednesday.
- Areas of blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility to one half mile or less at times. Very strong winds could damage property and cause power outages.

Winter Storm Watch: Municipality of Skagway and Haines, including the Haines and Klondike Highways

- Heavy snow expected. Total snow accumulations of up to 7 inches for Haines and Skagway. Up to 24 inches along the Haines Highway and Klondike Highway late Wednesday night through Thursday evening.
- A changeover to rain near sea level is anticipated by late Thursday morning or early Thursday afternoon.
- Travel may be very difficult and is discouraged. The greatest snow totals will be along the Highways.

Special Weather Statement: Bristol Bay

- From Pilot Point southwest to Port Heiden, northerly winds gusting to 45 mph combined with persistent snow showers will reduce visibility to one quarter mile at times.
- Visibility improvements expected by late Wednesday morning. However, intermittent reductions in visibility down to one half mile will remain possible through Wednesday evening due to blowing snow.

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 14, 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