

State Emergency Operations Center

2022 September Winter Storm Incident Situation Report

Date: September 19, 2022 Time: 1600 hrs.
SEOC Preparedness Level 3



Contact

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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.

Significant Operations

Since Wednesday September 14, with a refined forecast of a very serious storm for Alaska's west coast, the remnant of Typoon Merbock, SEOC has been engaged with multiple state, federal, private-sector, tribal, and non-profit organizations to prepare for and respond to the storm's impacts in coordination with local community incident commands.

Starting Thursday, September 15, SEOC conducted multi-agency briefing calls with communities in each geographic branch in conjunction with the National Weather Service. Local communities in the storm's path made extensive pre-storm preparations to reduce storm damages.

SEOC established three geographic storm response Branches, a Search and Rescue Branch, and a Mass Care Group to respond to immediate life-safety and life-sustaining needs in local communities and was activated as the storm moved up the Alaska's west coast from Friday through the weekend for immediate response operations with all SEOC agency partners.

As the storm passed today, Monday September 19, SEOC, along with multiple agency partners from around the state and nation, began deploying personnel and resources to meet immediate local community needs in coordination and support of local community incident commands and local community leadership requests. Resources included power restoration, food, water, emergency supplies, shelter support, and damage assessment. SEOC also attempted contact with all communities within the storm impact area to determine their damages and needs and to prioritize resource deployment. Assessment, reporting, and

deployment will continue throughout this week and beyond as the disaster transitions from response to recovery.

SEOC is deploying a Branch Director to both Bethel and Nome to coordinate response operations. The Branches will have dedicated aircraft and be able to deploy to local communities in need in their geographic Branch with accompanying Red Cross disaster relief personnel, while organizing other response resources in support of local community incident command.

SEOC is deploying Alaska Organized Militia (AKOM) personnel from the Alaska National Guard and Alaska State Defense Force to Bethel, Nome, and Hooper Bay to operate under the geographic Branch Directors. AKOM personnel will travel to local communities as needed in support of local incident commands with the mission to provide manpower for operations including debris removal, dewatering, distribution of emergency supplies, shelter support, and emergency interim residential repairs.

The United States Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) continues to assess tank farms and reported fuel spills along Alaska's western coastline, but aerial surveys completed to date do not show any major spills with large area environmental impact.

DEC, along with regional tribal partners, is conducting assessments of local water and sewer systems and has issued precautionary boil water notices for communities as required.

SEOC will continue to provide updates for each geographic response Branch at the link provided below.

Weekly Community Call-in Information:

SEOC Divisions and National Weather Service Reports

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

Lifeline Status



Alaska Overall















Impacted Area

Branch I (South)

Aleutians, Probilofs, Kuskokwim















Impacted Area

Branch II (Central)

Yukon, Norton Sound, Seward Peninsula















Impacted Area

Branch III (North)

North Slope Borough, Kotzebue

















Food, Water, and Shelter



Shelter

Branch I:

- Hooper Bay: 3 families sheltered
- Multiple communities reporting shelters open with no reported numbers

Branch II:

 Multiple communities reporting shelters open with no reported numbers

Branch III:

• Currently, no shelters reported in operation.



Water

Branch I:

Hooper Bay has requested water

Branch II:

• Elim, Golovin, Stebbins, Unalakleet all reporting significant water concerns

Branch III:

• No reported water concerns.



Food

Branch I:

- Chevak: All subsistence food stores damaged
- Hooper Bay: Calista requested food
- Newtok "Tom's" store flooded

Branch II:

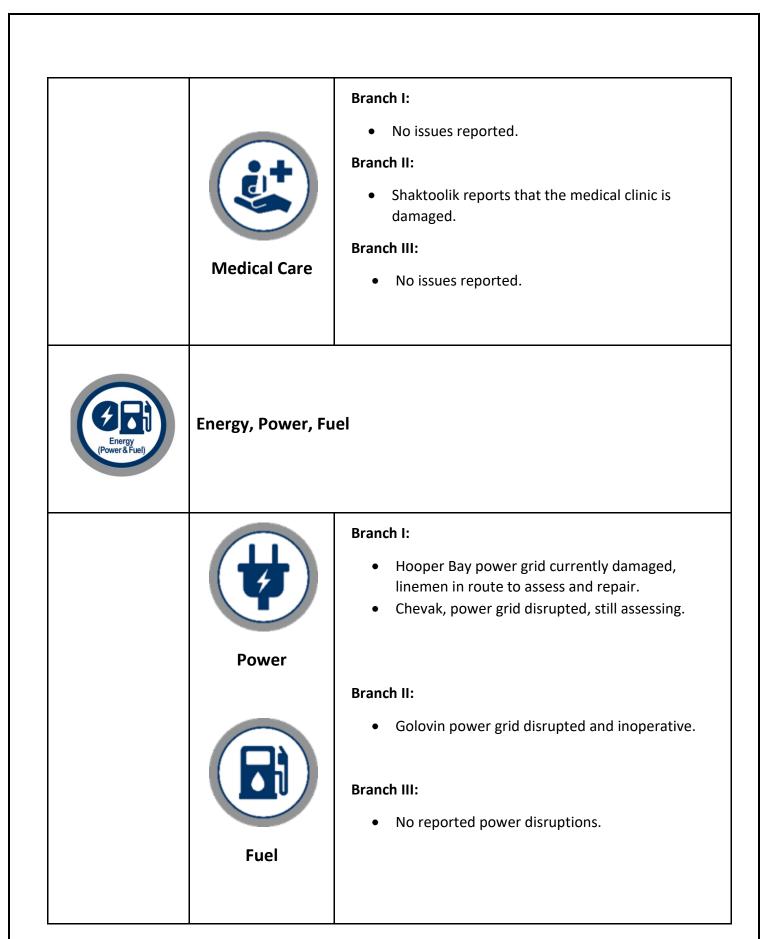
• Golovin: All stores flooded.

Branch III:

• No reported food concerns.



Health and Medical





Communications

(A)

Communications Infrastructure

Branch I:

- Hooper Bay communication system on battery back-up.
- Chevak FM radio tower "down".

Branch II:

• No reported impacts.

Branch III:

• No reported impacts.



Transportation



Airfields/Airports

Branch I:

- Hooper Bay power grid currently damaged, airfield lighting inoperative.
- Golovin power grid currently damaged, airfield lighting inoperative.

Branch II:

• Shaktoolik airfield lighting inoperative.

Branch III:

No reported impacts.



Roadways

Branch I:

- Hooper Bay bridge to evac site damaged.
- Scammon Bay reports that docks are damaged and boat harbor has eroded.

Branch II:

• No reported impacts.

Branch III:

• No reported impacts



Hazmat



Facilities

Branch I:

- Chevak has fuel spills with strong odor of fuel in the community
- Scammon Bay concerned about damaged fuel storage tanks.
- Newtok concerned about damaged fuel storage tanks and spillage.

Branch II:

• No reported issues.

Branch III:

No reported issues.

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/