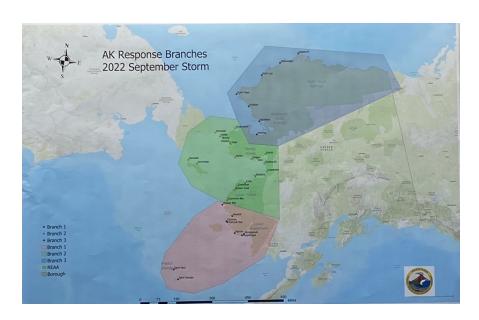


State Emergency Operations Center

2022 September Winter Storm Incident Situation Report

Date: September 28, 2022, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3



Contact

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) 907-428-7100

seoc@alaska.gov
storm@ready.alaska.gov

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.
- 21 September 2022, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration from President Biden.
- 23 September 2022, the request for a Federal Disaster Declaration was approved and Alaska Severe Storm, Flooding, and Landslides (DR-4672-AK) was approved.

Significant Operations

SEOC is actively engaged with multiple state, federal, non-profit, volunteer, faith-based, private-sector, regional tribal, and native corporations in support of local community incident commands responding to the Typhoon Merbok storm impacts.

Following the Federal Disaster Declaration, additional FEMA resources have been officially added to the response efforts.

Individual and Public Assistance applications for FEMA and the state have opened and are available to individuals and businesses in the affected region. Online and telephonic registrations are now open. Telephonic registration can be reached at 1-844-445-7137 and online registration can be found at ready.alaska.gov/storm.

Overall Response Operations:

Operational details for each Branch are listed below under the colored Lifelines

Over 120 personnel from the National Guard, Alaska State Defense Force, and Alaska Naval Militia Alaska are on orders for disaster response and are deploying by military aircraft to hub communities and then to local communities to assist with materials for immediate emergency temporary residential repair and storm debris cleanup, including clearing public areas and assisting private residences. Currently, 80 members are deployed to Bethel, and 30 to Nome, with additional personnel providing support. Guard teams have deployed to Hooper Bay, Newtok, Tununak, Golovin, Chevak and Shaktoolik, teams currently deployed in Quinhagak, Koyuk, Teller, and Nightmute. A summary of Alaska Organized Militia response actions is attached at the end of this report.

<u>Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)</u> is working on reports of local contaminant spills and water/wastewater issues in Branch I and II. DEC is evaluating community water systems in the storm impact area and is publishing boil water notices as appropriate.

<u>United States Coast Guard (USCG)</u> completed preliminary environmental impact surveys, in conjunction with DEC. USCG assessed 32 communities for pollution concerns and noted significant concerns only persist in Chevak. The USCG has demobilized its Incident Management Team and SEOC liaison, and is resuming normal operations stance. The USCG continues to support incident response via the Air Operations Branch in coordination with FEMA.

<u>Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGS)</u> is in the storm impact area collecting high-water marks to record and calibrate the storm's historical impact. The National Weather Service is utilizing DGGS findings to adjust forecasting for impacted communities due to the seawall and sea barrier damages.

<u>Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF)</u> has reopened all airports in the storm impact area and is actively working to repair roads and state facilities. Crews continue to assess roads across the impacted area and have started drone surveys in several communities. Crews are also assisting local jurisdictions with repairs as possible. Maintenance & Operations is continuing the repair work on the Nome-Council roadway.

<u>United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)</u> continues to complete surveys in the affected areas. USACE teams are scheduled to deploy to Shishmaref, Unalakleet, and Kivalina this week for additional site surveys. USACE contractors have previously surveyed the Nome port and determined the port is safe to operate normally, though the west side of the entrance sustained shoaling.

Branch I:

SEOC will redeploy Branch I Director to Bethel tomorrow (9/29) to coordinate State, FEMA, and SBA Individual Assistance applications in communities, the Alaska National Guard ongoing response missions, and local community Mass Care support.

Native Corporations, regional tribal organizations, volunteer groups, and contracted commercial entities are organizing emergency shelter building materials and installation personnel to deploy to impacted communities.

Branch II:

SEOC will redeploy Branch II Director to Nome tomorrow (9/29) to coordinate State, FEMA, and SBA Individual Assistance applications in communities, the Alaska National Guard ongoing response missions, and local community Mass Care support.

Native Corporations, regional tribal organizations, volunteer groups, and contracted commercial entities are organizing emergency shelter building materials and installation personnel to deploy to impacted communities.

Branch III:

The SEOC has been in contact with the Northwest Arctic Borough's incident management team as well as the communities of Kivalina, Deering, and Wainwright. There are no reports of damage at this time and the SEOC continues to standby to support the region as needed.

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

















Food, Water, and Shelter

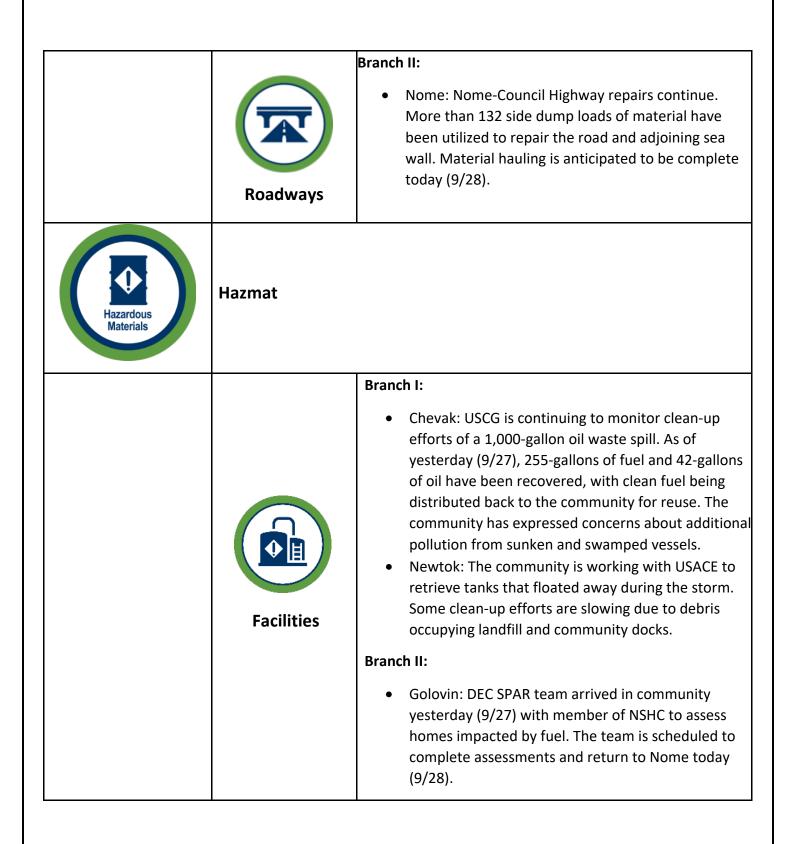


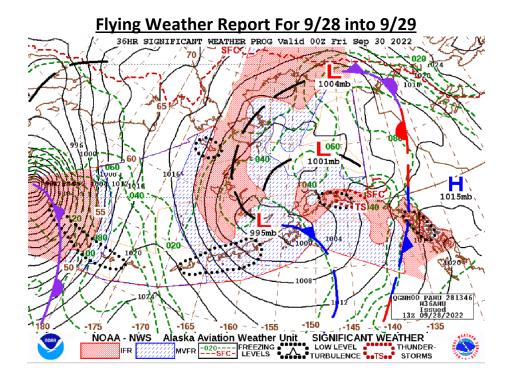
Water

Branch II:

- Unalakleet: BIA is projecting to deliver 15 pallets of water every 2 weeks to the community starting Friday (9/30).
- Nunam Iqua: Community reports that their water system is unable to pump due to salt contamination. The reservoir has dropped, and the community has requested additional potable water assistance.
- DEC has issued <u>Boil Water Notices</u> due to the storm for the following communities:
 - o Elim and Koyuk

Branch I: Red Cross is working to move 13 pallets of insulation into Branch I. • Chevak: Community is working with Alaska Municipal League to get heavy equipment to assist clean-up efforts. • Hooper Bay: Community reports 23 sheltered at community run shelter overnight. **Branch II:** Shelter • Golovin: Building materials for approximately ten homes are enroute via Kawerak barge (9/27). • Golovin: 7 individuals sheltered **Health & Medical** Branch I: • Tununak: Due to increasing COVID-19 cases in the community, a temporary restriction on travelers has been implemented. All travelers are subject to a 14day quarantine period. **Public Health Transportation**



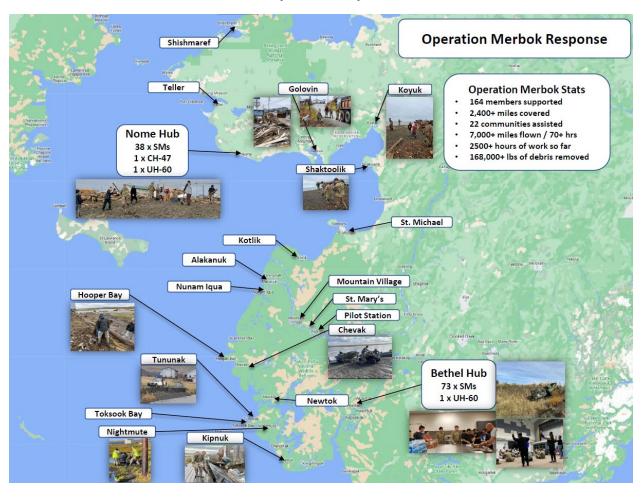


- Instrument flying conditions (ceilings below 1000 ft) is likely from the Y-K Delta up through the Seward Peninsula.
- There is the potential for marginal flying (ceilings between 1000-3000ft) or better in and around the Western Norton Sound area and through the Nulato Hill.
- Winds will be strong over the Y-K Delta and offshore locations, out in the northern Bering Sea, that could lead to some bumpy condition

UPDATE: HIGH LEVEL TALKING POINTS for The Storm Coming into the Bering Sea

- Confidence is high that a strong storm will move into the western Bering Sea on Thursday, September 29th.
- Confidence is also high that the storm will move across western and central Bering Sea Friday, September 30th, and slowly weaken.
- Confidence is increasing that the storm will then move towards Alaska Peninsula and Bristol Bay Saturday, October 1st and Sunday, October 2nd, and weaken as it does so.
- It is unlikely that this will take a track similar to remnants of Typhoon Merbok once it enters the Bering Sea.
- High winds and waves will be most likely near the west and central Aleutians. Hurricane
 force wind gusts over the western Aleutians are likely. Hurricane force sustained winds
 are expected near Attu and Shemya early Friday morning.
- Elevated tides, especially south of Nunivak Island are likely, however, the threat of impactful coastal flooding remains low.

Alaska National Guard Merbok Response Map 09/28/2022



Helpful Links

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) Storm Dashboard

https://ready.alaska.gov/storm

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM)

http://ready.alaska.gov/

National Weather Service: Alaska Forecast Center

https://www.weather.gov/alaska/

Abbreviations List

AML	Alaska Municipal League
AVCP	Association of Village Council Presidents
AVEC	Alaska Village Electric Co-Op
BCSF	Bethel Community Services Foundation
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BWN	Boil Water Notice
CVRF	Coastal Villages Region Fund
DEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DGGS	Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys
DOT	Department of Transportation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
JTF	Joint Task Force
MVFR	Marginal Visual Flight Rules
NSHC	Norton Sound Health Corporation
NWS	National Weather Service
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SPAR	Spill Prevention and Recovery
UIC	Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation
USACE	United Stated Army Corps of Engineers
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VFR	Visual Flight Rules
VOAD	Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster
YKHC	Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation