

State Emergency Operations Center

2023 Spring Floods

Incident Situation Report

Date: May 30, 2023, Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3



Atmautluak, May 28

Contact

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State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 3

Incident Overview

On May 13, 2023, Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy declared a state disaster emergency for the Alaska Gateway, Yukon Flats, Kuspuk, and Copper River Regional Education Attendance Areas (REAA) due to flooding.

On May 22, Governor Dunleavy added the Northwest Arctic Borough, the City of Galena, the Iditarod REAA, Lower Kuskokwim REAA, and Lower Yukon REAA to the declared disaster areas.

On May 24, State opened registrations for Individual Assistance. Applicants can register at <u>https://ready.alaska.gov/Recovery/IA</u>

Significant Operations Updates

With the ice jam flood threat gone, Riverwatch is demobilizing. However, with the snowmelt runoff, ongoing community inundation and active flood response, SEOC field operations will continue.

Flood warnings are in effect for the Yukon Delta, Yukon Flats and the surrounding uplands. Flood Advisories are in place for the Lower Yukon Valley.

Active flooding exists on the lower Yukon involving the communities of Emmonak, Alakanuk, Atmautluak, Numapitchuk, Numan Iqua, and other communities. High water is reported in Anvik, Grayling, Galena, Shageluk, Kotlik, Pilot Station, and others. In some locations, initial damage assessments must wait for water to recede. Weather in the incident, and incident support areas, are impacting operations.

Upper Yukon community water levels are stabilizing as the water push from Canada and local snowmelt passes. Given the amount of water coming downriver from Canada, rain and local snowmelt, high water may persist.

Alakanuk: Boil water notice in effect. Sewer is not working for about 50 homes. Repairs to both water and sewer systems are in progress. Two homes were flooded. Airport is open as are the store and power system.

Circle: Team Rubicon, together with volunteers from Fairbanks, continued working in the community to assist residents with home cleanup. SEOC deployed a response trailer, temporary restroom facilities, and communications support to assist. Department of Environmental Conservation will deploy a hazardous container location team tomorrow and contract removal company Thursday. SEOC Recovery Branch will deploy a Disaster Assistance Center to Circle on Tuesday June 6 for State Individual Assistance registration and Public Assistance information. Department of Health and Tanana Chiefs Conference is working to provide required community mental health/ survivor stress support services.

Crooked Creek: SEOC demobilized two Alaska Organized Militia (AKOM) servicemembers back to Bethel, with the remaining two continuing in the community for cleanup assistance. SEOC will deploy a Volunteer Agency Liaison and Individual Assistance expert to the community on

Wednesday to serve as Crooked Creek Task Force Leader with the mission to coordinate State Individual Assistance, volunteer services, and work towards transitioning the community from response to recovery. With only 5 persons sheltered and school restarting, Red Cross shelter team will demobilize Thursday and return shelter support operations to local responsibility. With school restarting next week, Crooked Creek responders and survivors will move from the school to SEOC deployed tents. Community feeding support continues with the normal community store without resources.

Emmonak: Main airport road washed out in three places but is passable by 4-wheeler. Full evaluation pending reduction in water levels. Approximately 20 homes are inaccessible, but no homes have been flooded. The women's shelter was damaged with about 6 people being moved to city apartments. The Tank farm, water plant, and power plant were unaffected. Community has about 3 weeks' worth of potable water saved.

Fort Yukon: 3 People sheltered at the school with about 10 people impacted with flooding in their homes. Community has no immediate needs but has long-term road flood and drainage concerns.

Glennallen: Community has transitioned to the recovery stage.

Kwethluk: One AKOM servicemember will shift from Crooked Creek to Kwethluk to support cleanup operations there. Nine homes were damaged, with two homes having been moved from their foundations. Shelter opened in school, with others sheltering with family in the community. Water is still high. SEOC is requesting AKOM Armory for use as AKOM responder lodging if available. The store is open, and food is getting in. A full damage assessment is in progress, but water is still high.

Nunam Iqua: Active flooding in progress. Awaiting further assessment.

Russian Mission: Water receding from the runway with assessment of runway condition scheduled for May 31. 8 or 9 Homes were damaged. Displaced people are mostly staying with local families. Community is feeding about 42 people, and MREs and bottled water have been distributed.

Stevens Village: Airport access road is still underwater and not currently usable.

SEOC Operations Brief

Daily at 0800 via Zoom. Contact SEOC for Zoom link.

Please email the 2023 Spring Floods conference at 2023.spring.floods@ready.alaska.gov

Lifeline Status



Food, Water, Sheltering	Food, Water, and Shelter		
		Circle: Team Rubicon, together with volunteers from Fairbanks, deployed to assist with muck out operations.	
		Crooked Creek: AKOM set up 3 tents and cots for shelter and a command post. With only 5 persons sheltered and the school restarting, the Red Cross shelter team will be demobilized.	
	Shelter	Emmonak : 20 Homes isolated but no homes have been damaged. The women's shelter was damaged with about 6 people being moved to city apartments for shelter.	
		Fort Yukon: Some sheltering still in place.	
		Kwethluk: 2 survivors sheltering with family in the community. Shelter opened at school.	

	Water	 Boil Water Notice in effect in Buckland, Grayling, Nunam Iqua, Mountain Village, and Pilot Station Circle: SEOC deployed a response trailer and temporary restroom facilities
Communications	Communications	
		Circle: SEOC deployed additional communication support.
	Infrastructure	Crooked Creek: Cellular voice service operational. Landline, cellular data, and internet are sporadic or non-functional.
(Power & Fuel)	Energy (Power and Fuel)	
		 Kalskag: Community is concerned about erosion near the tank farm. Russian Mission: Russian Mission Native Corp gas station tank farm impacted. Crooked Creek: Community fuel supply challenged by tank
	Fuel	farm flood impacts.

Transportation	Transportation	
		 Fort Yukon: Airport is open, but VOR remains off, NOTAM issued. Taxiway and ramp closed Galena: Airport has water on the West side and over the access road, but the runway is clear. Kalskag: Runway length reduced. NOTAM issued.
	Airfields/Airports	Russian Mission: Airport is closed. NOTAM issued.
	Roadways	 Emmonak: The main road to airport washed out in at least three places but is passable by 4-wheeler Galena: Water over roadway to airport Stevens Village: Airport access road is still under water and not useable

Weather Forecast



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/

Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center: River Breakup Map

https://www.weather.gov/aprfc/