



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Multi-agency search & rescue efforts underway following powerful Western Alaska storm**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** – At the request of the Alaska State Troopers, the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center is actively coordinating and assisting with multi-agency search and rescue operations today following a powerful storm that impacted multiple Western Alaska coastal communities over the last 24 hours.

The Alaska Air National Guard, Alaska Army National Guard, and U.S. Coast Guard have launched rescue aircraft to the communities of Kipnuk and Kwigillingok to locate and rescue missing or displaced people. Both communities experienced strong winds and heavy flooding overnight, which caused significant damage, including at least eight homes being pushed from their foundations.

### **Assets currently assigned to the Search and Rescue mission include:**

- **Alaska Air National Guard – 176th Wing:**
  - HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter (210th Rescue Squadron)
  - HC-130J Combat King II aircraft (211th Rescue Squadron)
  - Guardian Angels – Pararescuemen and Combat Rescue Officers (212th Rescue Squadron)
- **Alaska Army National Guard – 207th Aviation Troop Command:**
  - UH-60L Black Hawk helicopter from Bethel
  - HH-60M Black Hawk helicopter out of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
- **United States Coast Guard – Air Station Kodiak:**
  - HC-130J Hercules aircraft
  - Two MH-60 Jayhawk helicopters

Anyone in need of immediate rescue should contact the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center at **907-551-7230**.

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