

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEOC Update: 2025 October West Coast Storm – Situation Update

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF RICHARDSON, Alaska — The State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) activation level is 3—Major Incident Ongoing for the 2025 October West Coast Storm. The SEOC, Alaska National Guard, Alaska State Troopers, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Natural Resources (DEC), FEMA, Salvation Army Alaska Division, American Red Cross of Alaska, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), Association of Village Council Presidents, Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC), Maniilaq Association, Civil Air Patrol, the National Weather Service, and multiple other state, volunteer, and faith-based agencies are engaged in a full inter-agency disaster response.

Governor Dunleavy held a press conference in Anchorage yesterday. Available here.

One deceased adult female has been recovered in Kwigillingok. Her name will be released once the Alaska State Troopers have notified her next of kin. Two people remain unaccounted for in the Kwigillingok community. The U.S. Coast Guard and the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center have suspended the search for the remaining two missing individuals after searching 67.2 square nautical miles by boat and aircraft. The Alaska State Troopers will begin a transition to a recovery-response effort, and the local community will continue with the recovery efforts. The Alaska State Troopers will investigate new information regarding the unaccounted-for people and any reports fo the missing should go to (907) 451-5100

Search and rescue operations were carried out over the weekend by the Alaska National Guard, Alaska State Troopers, and the U.S. Coast Guard. A total of 51 people were rescued from Kipnuk and Kwigillingok.

The Alaska Rescue Coordination Center has reported receiving an overwhelming number of calls for non-critical evacuations. The SEOC is requesting all calls for non-critical evacuations from communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to contact the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. For life-threatening emergency rescue please contact the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center at 907-551-7230.

After and the storm passed and communities were contacted for damage reports, SEOC demobilized the SEOC emergency managers in Nome and will redeploy them to other damaged areas.

The SEOC emergency managers deployed to Kotzebue (2) and Bethel (2) are coordinating state disaster response in regional the regional hubs with the Borough and tribal agencies. SEOC emergency manager in Bethel flew to Kipnuk last night by helicopter to survey damage and deliver disaster supplies, equipment, and response personnel. Today, Bethel SEOC staff and Alaska State Troopers are traveling to impacted communities in the region to deliver disaster supplies and responders using Alaska National Guard and Trooper aircraft and will have a dedicated fixed-wing for disaster response starting tomorrow.

Governor Dunleavy has expanded the October 9th disaster declaration to include all areas impacted by Typhoon Halong. Currently, 49 communities are reporting impacts, with multiple residents in 12 community level shelters overnight.

Communities and individuals in these areas are now eligible for State Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, and Temporary Housing programs.

The Alaska National Guard deployed 25 guard members to Bethel and Kotzebue yesterday. An additional 7 guard members are deploying today, with more on order. This is in addition to their multiple tactical aircraft missions.

For those wishing to make donations, cash is the most effective way to donate. Cash donations are being accepted through the Alaska Community Foundation's Western Alaska Disaster Relief Fund. Additional information can be found at: https://alaskacf.org. The American Red Cross of Alaska, and the Salvation Army Alaska Division are responding to disaster response and are also open for donation support.

SEOC held a press conference call today with participation from the Alaska National Guard, Alaska State Troopers, U.S. Coast Guard, National Weather Service and AK VOAD. The press conference was attended by local and national media outlets.

As of this morning, DHS&EM has received 137 applications for Individual Assistance.

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Several communities are reporting significant damage from high winds and coastal sea surge. Damage has been reported to power and communications systems, roads and boardwalks, flooded homes, one runway, and other infrastructure.

ANTHC is deploying a civil engineer to Eek, Tuntutuliak, Kongiganak, Quinhagak, and Nightmute to perform damage assessments related to community boardwalks and water/sewer infrastructure where access is possible. ANTHC has also sent healthcare providers and nurses to Kipnuk, Kwigillingok, and two other communities.

State DOT&PF has deployed five Unmanned Aerial System teams to assist with mapping, data collection, and damage assessments. DEC is deploying Remote Maintenance Workers to evaluate and repair water infrastructure as needed.

YKHC has sent Meals Ready to Eat, water, and healthcare providers and nurses to the sheltering communities for patient evaluations.

The Red Cross is deploying 3 staff members to Bethel today and an additional 4 tomorrow to support sheltering needs. These resources include Disaster Health Services and Disaster Mental Health Services to support residents sheltering in Bethel.

Bethel – 49 people were sheltered in Bethel overnight at the Alaska National Guard Armory. Other communities in the region are sheltering individuals in smaller numbers.

Kipnuk – 600 people were sheltered overnight within the community at the school. Last night, Alaska State Troopers and Alaska National Guard delivered shelter supplies, satellite internet and a generator to the community by helicopter. There is a community-wide power outage, and the school is operating on a backup generator. Late tonight, DOT&PF advised the runway was reopened.

Kwigillingok – 400 people sheltered overnight. YKHC assessed the water quality today.

Norton Sound/Nome

Serious storm impacts were not reported in the Norton Sound/Nome area. SEOC has 3 Alaska Organized Militia servicemembers continuing on State Active Duty to provide response and information in that region.

Northwest Arctic Borough/Kotzebue

The SEOC has two emergency management specialists in Kotzebue coordinating the state disaster response with the Northwest Arctic Borough and the City of Kotzebue. No one was sheltered overnight in the Borough,

State of Alaska Individual Assistance Disaster survivors in the designated disaster area can register for the state's Individual Assistance program by visiting the DHS&EM registration webpage at [https://ready.alaska.gov/ia] (https://ready.alaska.gov/ia). Telephone registration is available at 1-844-445-7131. The State's Individual Assistance (IA) program is designed to provide financial assistance to individuals or families for damage to a primary residence, primary mode of transportation, essential personal property, and medical/funeral/dental needs created as a direct result of a declared disaster.

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