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Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

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SEOC Update: 2025 October West Coast Storm – Situation Update

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF RICHARDSON, Alaska — The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activation level remains at level 4 – Major Incident Response, Alaska SEOC's highest level. The SEOC's top priority has shifted from life safety to life sustainment and shelter operations.

Alaska State Troopers are requesting that anyone who knows of additional people who are unaccounted for, please contact the Alaska State Troopers at 907-451-5100. The Troopers will continue to coordinate with the local community to continue recovery efforts for the two missing individuals.

The SEOC, in cooperation with Alaska National Guard and multiple state, local, and volunteer agencies, initiated the first airlift evacuations of 282 residents sheltering in Bethel on Wednesday, October 15 to an Anchorage shelter. Today, two additional air evacuation transports from Bethel to Anchorage were conducted. Evacuation from each community is an individual survivor decision and SEOC coordinates with each local community's leadership and regional tribal organizations in any evacuation. The goal is to move people who cannot return home to a place that is safe and warm with basic human needs.

The American Red Cross is coordinating the sheltering and food service response. Additional support is being provided by the Municipality of Anchorage, Department of Health, University of Alaska, Alaska Division of Forestry and Fire Protection, Salvation Army, and other volunteer and private-sector organizations. Many Alaskans, people from the lower-48 states, and companies have donated services to help Alaskan disaster survivors.

The American Red Cross has additional staff in Anchorage and Bethel assisting with sheltering, wrap around support, and other mass care needs. The World Central Kitchen has arrived and is coordinating feeding of the survivors in shelters. The Salvation Army is supporting mass care and working to coordinate donation management and sheltering needs.

For those wishing to make donations, cash donations are preferred and are being accepted through the Alaska Community Foundation's Western Alaska Disaster Relief Fund. Additional information can be found at: <https://alaskacf.org>.

The SEOC is currently staffed with more than 70 representatives from across all state agencies, non-governmental and community organizations, tribal organizations, and federal partners coordinating the response and recovery efforts for the 2025 West Coast Storms. There are 103 Alaska National Guard servicemembers activated on State Active Duty with an additional 20 servicemembers expected today for disaster response missions.

The SEOC is requesting calls for non-critical evacuations be made to the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. For life-threatening emergency rescues, please contact the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center at 907-551-7230.

The State of Alaska is receiving support from multiple states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). Currently engaged in the response are personnel from Colorado, Virginia, South Carolina, Virginia, Arkansas, and Texas. More EMAC resources are enroute to Alaska.

As of this morning, DHS&EM has received 306 applications for Individual Assistance.

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>.

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.

The SEOC understands that one of the most heartbreaking decisions people had to make during this disaster was leaving their pets behind. For many, animals are beloved members of the family, and being forced to evacuate without them adds another layer of stress and grief to an already overwhelming situation. Safety and survival often require impossible choices in moments like these, and we want every pet owner to know that their love and concern for their animals has not gone unnoticed. At this time evacuation of people is the priority.

The state's Mass Care Task Force and our partner agencies, including the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation State Veterinarian's Office, are actively working to coordinate rescue efforts for stranded and displaced animals. Every effort is being made to reunite families with their animals safely and as quickly as possible.

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Damage assessments for the communities are continuing to be coordinated with Department of Transportation and Public Facilities DOT&PF, Alaska Association of Village Council Presidents, and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium.

Bethel – Yesterday, SEOC has a Response Branch in place coordinating state disaster response with personnel from the SEOC and Division of Forestry and Fire Protection. 264 people were airlifted from Bethel to Anchorage yesterday. 492 people evacuated from Kwigillingok and Kipnuk. At the time of this report, two additional airlifts of survivors were underway to move survivors to shelters in Anchorage.

Kipnuk – AEA reports 75% or more of the distribution is heavily damaged and will take longer to repair.

Kwigillingok – Staff are completing evacuation operations in Kwig and beginning evacuations in neighboring villages today. Alaska Energy Authority reports partial power restored in community.

Quinhagak – A Department of Environmental Conservation Remote Maintenance Worker is on site working to make repairs to the water infrastructure and assess further damage. Water supplies are impacted.

Nightmute – The power is on with multiple homes with damage.

Norton Sound/Nome

Impacts to the Norton Sound and Nome area were not severe from the storm or Typhoon Halong. Power was restored to east side of Elim on October 15th and GCI communication are restored.

Northwest Arctic Borough/Kotzebue

The SEOC has a Branch Director in Kotzebue to assist the Northwest Arctic Borough (NWAB), Kivalina, and the City of Kotzebue with disaster response and recovery.

Kotzebue – The local Alaska Commercial grocery store received a shipment of perishable goods. 17 Alaska Organized Militia servicemembers and 9 NWAB/VPSO personnel remain deployed. 150 homes and buildings have initial damage assessments complete.

Kivalina – No one in shelters overnight.

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