

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2025

Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Media Contact: Public Information Officer Jeremy Zidek 907-441-2337, Jeremy.Zidek@Alaska.gov

SEOC Update: 2025 October West Coast Storm – Disaster Update

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF RICHARDSON, Alaska — The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains at Level 4 – Major Incident Response. The SEOC is coordinating a state led, federally supported, and locally executed effort in the response and recovery to the 2025 West Coast Storms.

The Request for Assistance that was submitted by Governor Dunleavy to President Trump, has been approved and a Major Disaster Declaration has been made. This declaration grants access to the federal Individual Assistance (IA) and Public Assistance (PA) programs for the following areas:

Lower Kuskokwim Regional Educational Attendance Area Lower Yukon Regional Educational Attendance Area Northwest Arctic Borough.

The SEOC continues transitioning from response to recovery activity. Coordination with other federal, state, local, and tribal agencies is ongoing; delivering critical supplies and addressing other needs as presented. This includes performing detailed damage assessments to homes and repairs to critical infrastructure such as water, power, and communications in the impacted area as winterization becomes a concern.

Statewide operations focus on stabilization, recovery, and winterization across the Y-K Delta and other impacted regions. Department of Transportation is prioritizing residential damage assessments in coordination with multiple agencies. They are implementing a standardized digital assessment process to reduce duplication and improve situational awareness. Damage assessments and contractor mobilization continuing across multiple communities. Department of Environmental Conservation delivered a second shipment of cold-weather Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and safety gear to Bethel. They continue conducting environmental and spill-response operations in coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard.

As of this afternoon, 1,066 applications for state Individual Assistance (IA) have been received. Survivors in designated disaster areas may register for the State of Alaska's Individual Assistance program:

Online: https://ready.alaska.gov/ia

By phone: 1-844-445-7131

The state IA program provides financial assistance for damages to primary residences, vehicles, essential personal property, and medical, funeral, or dental needs directly resulting from the declared disaster. Individuals who are impacted by the disaster and are not staying at either shelter in Anchorage are encouraged to register for the state's IA program to begin registration for long-term housing assistance.

Congregate shelters remain open in Anchorage and Bethel. Additional survivors may be sheltering with neighbors, family, or friends in multiple communities. Last night, a total of 329 individuals were reported sheltering: Egan Center – 182 and Alaska Airlines Center – 147.

The State of Alaska Disaster Housing Task Force continues to meet daily to identify the next steps toward longer term non-congregate housing. The intent is to transition those impacted by the disaster into non-congregate housing as soon as reasonably possible. It is crucial that those who are impacted by the recent storms register for both state Individual Assistance and federal Individual Assistance as well as begin the process of registration for housing.

Pets continue to go to shelters in Anchorage and Mat-Su. Reunification with their owners is the primary goal. Evacuees can contact the shelters below to find out if their dog is there.

Mat-Su Animal Shelter: 907-746-5500 or 907-761-7501 Anchorage Shelter: 907-343-8138

If you have a dog that did not evacuate with you, text a picture to the Bethel Friends of Canines at 907-707-7010, and the staff will contact you.

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium is continuing to accept donations of traditional foods at the Alaska Native Medical Center and is providing subsistence-based meals for shelter residents along with medical support.

There are 24 active missions under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) with participation from 13 states providing emergency management, public assistance, individual assistance and logistics personnel.

A list of resources related to the disaster is available at <u>ready.alaska.gov</u>, under Top News.

Interagency Partner Operations

Alaska Organized Militia (AKOM): AKOM has 113 members activated on State Active Duty with additional authorization as needed for disaster response. In cooperation with Alaska Division of Forestry and Fire Prevention, crews are continuing to perform muck outs and home repairs. Three task forces remain active, conducting land, air, and sea missions across the Y–K Delta. Three missions have been completed in last 24 hours.

American Red Cross: Overnight, the Red Cross sheltered 182 individuals at the Egan Center and 147 at the Alaska Airlines Center. To date they have supported 3,090 shelter overnight stays and provided 13,897 meals.

Anchorage School District (ASD): As of October 23, 2025 ASD reports approximately 140 students have enrolled in the ASD system and school bus service is being provided from the shelters to schools with Yup'ik immersion programs. ASD is continuing to provide bus services between shelters, neighborhood recreation centers, and schools.

Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP): AVCP is continuing to work with Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation to conduct detailed community assessments, support home repairs, coordinate debris removal, and assist with collection of IA applications efforts in affected YK Delta communities. Staff from AVCP are available at the Anchorage shelters for assistance with Tribal ID cards. AVCP plans to hire 50 local workers for home repairs, including 10 crew bosses and a mix of laborers and carpenters. Priority hiring focuses on in-community applicants, with additional emergency hires from Kipnuk.

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC): YKHC crews are actively working in Kwigillingok and Kongiganak. Kipnuk clinic teams will remain through October 27th. YKHC completed water-system repairs in Kipnuk and redeployed to Bethel. Recovery teams are restoring water service, testing for contamination, and repairing fuel lines, wells, and damaged access roads.

###

Media Contact: Public Information Officer Jeremy Zidek 907-441-2337, <u>Jeremy.Zidek@Alaska.gov</u>