

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
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## 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.

Statewide operations focus on stabilization, recovery, and winterization across the Y-K Delta and other impacted regions. Field teams are conducting power restoration, debris removal, and emergency home repairs across the delta, while a major push is underway to move congregate sheltered individuals into non-congregate housing. Interagency partners continue to support survivors despite challenging weather conditions impacting air operations and supply chains in and around the remote communities.

The SEOC continues to transition from response to recovery, though the immediate focus remains on life sustainment and winter readiness. Coordination remains ongoing with federal, state, local, and tribal partners to deliver critical supplies and address emerging community needs. Efforts are focused on conducting detailed damage assessments to homes and restoring essential infrastructure — including water, power, and communications systems — as winterization becomes an increasing priority across the impacted areas.

As of this afternoon, 1,124 applications for state Individual Assistance (IA) have been received. 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.

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.

<u>State of Alaska Individual Assistance (IA)</u> – Deadline is December 9, 2025 To register for <u>State of Alaska</u> Individual Assistance: Call 1-844-445-7131, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Or apply online https://ready.alaska.gov/Recovery/IA

**FEMA Individual Assistance (IA)** – Deadline is December 22, 2025 To register for <u>FEMA</u> Individual Assistance: Call 1-866-342-1699, Monday – Sunday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Or apply online at <a href="https://disasterassistance.gov">https://disasterassistance.gov</a>

## **Red Cross Assistance**

To Register for assistance through the American Red Cross: Call 1-800-RED-CROSS

To begin the process of registration for housing in the Non-Congregate Shelter Program, call the Assistance Line at 907-759-6927, Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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 250 individuals were reported sheltering: Egan Center – 101 and Alaska Airlines Center – 74. Yesterday, 20 households, consisting of 93 people have moved into Non-Congregate Sheltering (NCS) from Congregate shelters.

In coordination with the Calista Corporation, a Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) will be open through Friday Oct. 31 from 10am – 5pm. It is located at 5015 Business Park Blvd., Suite 1300, Anchorage, AK 99503. The DAC will offer Individual Assistance Services from both FEMA and the state.

Alaska 211 can connect you with available local resources that best fit your needs. Call 2-1-1 or 1-800-478-2221. Email: alaska211@ak.org or visit www.Alaska211.org. Native Alaskan language interpretation services are available.

Pet evacuations and reunifications are continuing. 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. A website has been put together to assist with reunifications as well <a href="https://alaskatyphoondogs.org/found-dogs">https://alaskatyphoondogs.org/found-dogs</a>.

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 31 active missions under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) with participation from 12 states providing emergency management, public assistance, individual assistance and logistics personnel.

Team Rubicon is coordinating the collection of new items only for donations. After evaluation and sorting, they are bringing them to both shelters in Anchorage for distribution. *Donation of used items will be denied*. More information can be found at <a href="https://teamrubiconusa.org">https://teamrubiconusa.org</a>. To donate new items, bring them to Team Rubicon at the Chugach Electric Warehouse located at 1120 East 1st Avenue, Anchorage, AK, daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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 107 members activated on State Active Duty with additional authorization as needed for disaster response. They continue assisting the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection with winterization and debris removal.

**American Red Cross:** Overnight, the Red Cross sheltered 101 individuals at the Egan Center and 74 at the Alaska Airlines Center. They continue to assist with the noncongregate housing mission.

**Anchorage School District (ASD):** School bus service continues to be provided from the shelters to schools. Yup'ik immersion programs continue. ASD is actively working with families participating in the Non-Congregate Shelter Program. Students will be picked up from the shelter and dropped off at their new hotel as needed.

**Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP):** AVCP passed off donations to the State and Team Rubicon to restore capacity for Family Services programming.

**Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC):** Recovery teams are restoring water service, testing for contamination, and repairing fuel lines, wells, and damaged access roads. The Social Security Administration (SSA) is on-site at shelters using medical records as ID in coordination with YKHC as needed. Two maintenance workers are heading to inspect school water/wastewater systems today in Nightmute.

**U.S. Postal Service (USPS):** The USPS remains committed to ensuring uninterrupted mail service for customers impacted by the recent flooding in Kipnuk and Kwigillingok. For residents currently displaced and staying at the Egan Civic Center shelter in Anchorage, mail is being directed to the Egan Center Mail Unit (2nd floor, 555 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage). Mail is available for pickup daily between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., and Temporary Change of Address (COA) forms are available on site. As the sheltering operation transitions and individuals move into non-congregate housing or other temporary residences, it is essential that customers complete a Change of Address request to ensure their mail continues to reach them without interruption:

- **In Person:** Customers may visit any Post Office to complete a Temporary Change of Address form using the mailing address of their new temporary residence.
- Online: Customers can also submit a Change of Address request quickly and securely at <a href="https://www.usps.com">https://www.usps.com</a> by navigating to the "Change of Address" section.

This step is critical once residents leave the shelter, as it allows USPS to redirect mail directly to their new location. If customers have questions or need additional assistance, they may contact Alaska Customer Relations at 907-564-2828.

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