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Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

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West Coast Storm Operations Transitions from Response to Recovery

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF RICHARDSON, Alaska — The 2025 October West Coast Storms response effort is entering a transition to recovery. The Alaska Organized Militia (AKOM), the Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Prevention, and Team Rubicon drawing down of emergency repair operations in the villages have begun. This drawdown is anticipated to be completed between Nov. 22 – 26. Alaska Army National Guard aircraft and aircrew will remain in Bethel to provide continued support to recovery efforts at the request of the State Emergency Operations Center.

Repair operations will continue in the impacted areas, with an emphasis on restoring critical infrastructure and services. While some organizations are transitioning out of the area, coordination between federal, state, local and tribal partners is continuing to address community needs and provide critical support.

“Some aspects of the recovery operation might look different, but the support for impacted individuals and communities will continue,” said Director Bryan Fisher of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. “The work to get emergency repair personnel, supplies, and equipment to communities and repair homes has been nothing short of amazing. The Alaska Organized Militia, Division of Forestry and Fire Protection, and Team Rubicon have accomplished so much in a short time. I want to thank them for their dedications and compassion they brought to this mission”

Following the transition date of Nov. 22, the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), the Association of Village Council Presidents Regional Housing Authority (AVCP RHA), Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and community organizations may continue to work in the villages as weather allows.

“As winter conditions become more challenging, progress to repair critical infrastructure may continue,” said Fisher. “The focus for survivors is to return those who can return home back to their community, providing temporary housing for those who cannot return, and developing plans for a spring rebuilding effort.”

As financial assistance begins to flow to State and FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) applicants it is essential that benefits are not duplicated. Neither state or FEMA IA allows for financial assistance for home repairs to be paid when emergency repair response workers are making the same repairs or providing the same materials. When benefits are duplicated state and FEMA IA programs must seek repayment from applicants or disqualify them from future eligibility. Minimizing the duplication of benefits will enable survivors to take full advantage of long-term recovery options being developed now and throughout the winter.

Survivors from the impacted areas can continue to register for disaster assistance through the state's Individual Assistance program, FEMA's Individual Assistance, and the Small Business Administration. [Registration info.](#)

Disaster survivors are encouraged to visit the State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security website at www.Ready.Alaska.Gov for disaster response updates, individual assistance registrations, and other 2025 West Coast Storm Recovery information. The 2025 West Coast Storm Recovery Facebook Group is also a source of information for survivors.

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