

State Emergency Operations Center

# 2022 September Winter Storm Incident Situation Report

Date: September 21, 2022 Time: 1600 hrs.

SEOC Preparedness Level 3



## **Contact**

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## State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 3

## **Incident Overview**

## **Timeline of Significant Events:**

17 September 2022, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a disaster declaration for the 2022 September storm currently impacting the west coast of Alaska. On 21 September 2022, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration from President Biden.

## **Significant Operations**

SEOC is actively engaged with multiple state, federal, non-profit, volunteer, faith-based, private-sector, regional tribal, and native corporations in support of local community incident commands responding to the Typhoon Merbok storm impacts.

Below is a table of the current residential building impacts reported to the State Emergency Operations Center. Additional non-residential buildings have been reported.

	Residential Buildings
Branch I	44
Branch II	45
Branch III	0

## **Overall Response Operations:**

Operational details for each Branch are listed below under the colored Lifelines

Over 120 personnel from the National Guard, Alaska State Defense Force, and Alaska Naval Militia Alaska are on orders for disaster response and are deploying by military aircraft to Branch I (Bethel) and Branch II (Nome) and then to local communities to assist with materials for immediate emergency temporary residential repair and storm debris cleanup.

A SEOC Field Operations Specialist is flying to impacted communities over the last 72 hours, conducting disaster emergency response surveys. He has visited Bethel,

Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Nome, Newtok, Golovin, Koyuk, Elim, to meet with local Incident Command and provide information for response operations.

SEOC deployed Branch Directors with dedicated response aircraft, along with Red Cross Strike Teams, to Branch I and II to coordinate on-the-ground with local community Incident Commands and deliver immediate emergency supplies.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is working on reports of local contaminant spills and water/waste water issues in Branch I and II. DEC is evaluating community water systems in the storm impact area and is publishing boil water notices as appropriate.

United States Coast Guard (USCG) continues to survey environmental impacts in the storm area and have a ready response for Search and Rescue. USCG reports that storm impacts have not impacted west coast communities from receiving bulk fuel deliveries with over-the-shore "soft hose" delivery available when a coastal fuel header is inoperable.

Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys is in the storm impact area collecting high-water marks to record and calibrate the storms historical impact.

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has reopened all airports in the storm impact area and is actively working to repair roads and state facilities. Crews checked the Safety Sound bridge on the Nome-Council road and determined the bridge is intact, though parts of the road are washed out.

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have checked the Port in Nome and there are no issues. USACE Engineers are evaluating the Nome Seawall and Shismaref Bank Protection project. USACE checked the Nome Harbor Causeway Bridge and determined it be safe for passenger traffic, but some damage was observed to the rock breakwaters and the entrance channel is shoaled on the west side. Kivalina's revetment wall was evaluated and sustained damage to the south end. USACE has 3 personnel deployed to Shishmaref via Nome, 1 to Dutch Harbor, 1 to Deering, and 1 to Utqiagvik starting tomorrow. USACE GIS has contracted a survey team to visit St. Paul Harbor on Monday. Personnel will conduct surveys of Deering Bank Stabilization, Utqiagvik Coastal Erosion Project, and Nome/Solomon Dredging project.

## **Branch I:**

SEOC deployed a Branch Director to Branch I based out of Bethel. Branch Director has a dedicated disaster response aircraft and is accompanied by a Red Cross Strike Team. Branch I landed in Scammon Bay overnight (9/20), and Hooper Bay and Chevak today (9/21) to assess on-going needs and coordinate with local Incident Commands.

## **Branch II:**

SEOC deployed a Branch Director to Branch II based out of Nome. Branch Director has a dedicated disaster response aircraft and is accompanied by a Red Cross Strike Team. Today (9/21) Branch II landed in:

- Golovin, met with local Incident Command, coordinated Alaska State Defense Force actions, conducted Red Cross assessments and local shelter support, and delivered 700 lbs. bottled water.
- Elim, met with local Incident Command, delivered 500 pounds of bottled water.

## **Southcentral Division:**

SEOC is monitoring high water concerns in Cordova and has been in contact with Cordova emergency management. The SEOC has activated the Southcentral Division and staffed a Division Supervisor as a contingency.

## **Weekly Community Call-in Information:**

SEOC Divisions and National Weather Service Reports

## **SEOC Operations Brief**

Dial in with your phone: 1-800-315-6338, access code 71000#

Please email the 2022 September West Coast Storm conference at <a href="mailto:storm@ready.alaska.gov">storm@ready.alaska.gov</a>

## **Lifeline Status**

















**Alaska Overall** 

**Impacted Area** 

















## Food, Water, and Shelter



## Branch I:

• Hooper Bay: World Kitchen delivered 500lbs of food.

## **Branch II:**

• Golovin: World Kitchen delivered 500lbs of food.

## **Branch III:**

• No reported food concerns.

	Branch I:
Water	<ul> <li>DEC has issued Boil Water Notices for the following communities:         <ul> <li>Chevak, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Nunam Iqua, Platinum, Saint George, Scammon Bay</li> </ul> </li> <li>Chevak: Northern Air Cargo has delivered 2 pallets of bottled water to the community through Ryan Air.</li> <li>Bethel: Northern Air Cargo has delivered 4 pallets of bottled water to the community through Ryan Air.</li> <li>Branch II:         <ul> <li>DEC has issued Boil Water Notices for the following communities:</li></ul></li></ul>
	No reported water concerns.
Shelter	A number of individuals have been reported displaced due to damages across Branch 1 and 2. These populations may not be represented in shelter numbers.  Branch I:  • Hooper Bay: 20 individuals  Branch II:  • Golovin: 8 individuals  • Nome: 8 individuals  • Stebbins: 8 individuals  Branch III:  • Currently, no shelters reported in operation.



## **Energy (Power, Fuel)**



#### **Power**

## Branch I:

- Hooper Bay: Power restored to airport.
- Chevak: Power restored.

#### Branch II:

• Golovin: Power plant restored except for downtown. Linemen on scene.

#### **Branch III:**

• No reported power disruptions.



## **Transportation**



**Aviation** 

## Branch I:

All airfields operating, although damage is present.

#### **Branch II:**

• Shaktoolik: Airport lighting operational. NOTAM in effect due to additional storm damage.

## **Branch III:**

• No reported impacts.

# Branch I: • No significant roadway disruptions reported. Branch II: Nome: DOT&PF surveyed Safety Sound bridge, bridge intact. Team evaluating barrier island breach. Additional crew enroute to repair. Elim: Major damage to front street and road to Moses Point is washed out. **Roadways Branch III:** No reported impacts Hazmat Branch I: Scammon Bay: Bulk fuel facility berm damaged. Tank farm secondary containment flooded and erosion of the containment dike has breached the dike wall. Tank farm manger reported no damage to the tanks and no spills. Dewatering efforts were ongoing as of Tuesday (9/20). Newtok: Several tanks in river, mostly empty. Some damage to remaining tanks. DEC received a SEOC submitted National Response Center report on Tuesday (9/20) that "several storage tanks" **Facilities** with capacities ranging from 500 to 10,000 gallons entered a river around Newtok. The tanks are believed to be largely empty. Storm damage affected their tanks, meter, and electrical systems. Operator has confirmed contamination within the containment berm. DEC is following up with facility.

- Teller: DEC reports USCG assessment team onsite on Sunday (9/18) and stated were no issues at the tank farm facility and no sheen or fuel on water within the tank farm secondary containment.
  - Chevak: DEC received a report of heavy diesel fuel odor from the Ninglikfak River and, with a USCG team, is assessing to determine spill response need.

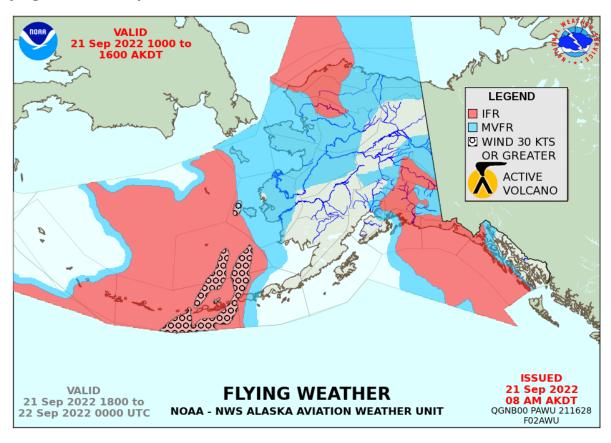
#### Branch II:

 Golovin: DEC reports spill response equipment from the Nome pre-positioned conex provided to Golovin for immediate spill response by Kawerak's Emergency Preparedness Specialist, with dewatering completed in Golovin yesterday (9/20).

#### **Branch III:**

• No reported issues.

## **Flying Weather Report:**



## **Helpful Links**

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) <a href="http://ready.alaska.gov/">http://ready.alaska.gov/</a>

National Weather Service: Alaska Forecast Center

https://www.weather.gov/alaska/

Alaska DEC Boil Water Notice website

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