



State Emergency Operations Center
2013 River Watch, AK DHSEM 13-Z-003
Date: May 15, 2013 Time: 1500 hrs
SEOC Preparedness Level 2



Yukon River near Canadian Border

Contact

State Emergency Operations Center 907-428-7100

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Incident Overview

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activated to Level 2

The SEOC is activated to level 2, heightened awareness, for 2013 River Watch operations.

The River Watch program is a joint, inter-agency effort, combining personnel from DHS&EM and the National Weather Service (NWS) Alaska Pacific River Forecast Center (APRFC) to monitor river conditions during Alaska's spring break up season through over flight river surveillance. The program includes local community visits to provide current conditions and emergency preparedness information.

Currently there is one team conducting river observations in the Upper Yukon River based out of Eagle, Alaska.

Yukon River

Canadian Situation Report indicated an Incident Management Team has been activated due to minor flooding in Rock Creek, Yukon Territory, Canada. Rock Creek is approximately 80 air miles upriver from Eagle, AK.

The Klondike River and the Fortymile River have started to break up; both are tributaries to the Yukon. The ice is still solid from Eagle, AK to Circle AK.

Kuskokwim River:

The Kuskokwim River is reported to be solid with some water reported on the banks. Currently the Upper Kuskokwim interagency team is scheduled to deploy on Thursday (16 May, 2013).

Statewide:

The SEOC continues to monitor other flood prone river systems and potential at-risk communities as well as the State's elevated volcano status as well as wildland fire hazard.

Event Needs and Status:

		Confirmed	Estimated			Confirmed	Estimated
Mass Casualty					Evacuation		
Dead		0	0		Communities	0	0
Injured		0	0		# Evacuated	0	0
Missing		0	0		Still Required	0	0
Mass Care					Search & Rescue		
Shelters Open		0	0		Areas	0	0
Pop. Capacity		0	0		Assets	0	0
Pop. Remaining		0	0		Results	0	0
Sheltered		0	0		Quantity	0	0
Transportation					Wildland Activity		
Bridge Closures		0	0		Active Fires	6	0
Airport Closures		0	0		Staffed Fires	3 (contained)	0
Port Closures		0	0		Total Acres Burned	31	
Medical							
Facility-Status		0	0				
Capacity		0	0				
Blood		0	0				

Public Information Talking Points:

- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) has been activated to monitor potential flooding during this spring river break-up season. The SEOC preparedness level is currently at level 2, this indicates a heightened sense of awareness.
- Each spring the River Watch program, a partnership between Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) and the National Weather Service Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center (APRFC), conducts aerial observations of ice jam prone rivers, provides flood warnings and alerts, and assists communities with emergency management and/or evacuations. River Watch Teams employ one APRFC Hydrologist, one DHS&EM Emergency Manager, and one local pilot.
- A River Watch team is in Eagle to monitor ice conditions on the Upper Yukon. A second River Watch Team is planning on launching tomorrow to monitor river conditions on the Kuskokwim River. The Kuskokwim team will be based in Aniak.
- Forecast cold temperatures will continue to slow the break-up process.
- There are no flood warnings or watches in effect for any Alaskan communities as of 12:01pm.
- Current information and photos can be found at www.ready.alaska.gov/updates

Public Information Officer Contact (907) 428-7125. Cell (907) 441-2337

The next SITREP for this incident will be Thursday May 16, 2013