



**For Immediate Release**  
**Contact: Jeremy Zidek, (907)428-7125**

**22 May 2009**

### [Spring Flooding Fact Sheet](#)

5-22

- Governor Sarah Palin has officially requested a preliminary damage assessment (PDA) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Two Joint State/Federal teams will begin assessing damages along the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers on Saturday. PDAs are a necessary step in the request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration.
- A River Watch team is based in Saint Mary's to conduct aerial observations from Holy Cross to the mouth of the Yukon River. The River Watch Team flew over Russian Mission, Marshall and Pilot Station today. Severe Ice Jam flooding is still a concern for stretches of the lower Yukon.
- The flood water covering the runway in Russian Mission has receded, but minor erosion and debris prevent the runway use. Local responders are waiting until the runway is dry before they begin repairs.
- Flooding has been reported in Marshall. The Marshall airport is open but the road to the runway has been flooded. Locals have established connection to the runway with boats.
- A Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) Incident Manager is in Stevens and is working with the community to restore the essential services that will allow all residents to return.
- DHS&EM personnel are in Fairbanks and are working with the Tanana Chiefs Conference to coordinate sheltering and emergency needs of evacuees from Tanana and Stevens. Currently 91 evacuees are in Fairbanks.
- The DHS&EM established an Immediate Housing Needs Hotline. Alaskans who cannot return to their homes because of recent flooding can call 1-800-921-3682 for immediate housing assistance.
- Tanana and Stevens Village is allowing able body residents to return and assist with the recovery effort.
- Alaska Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (AKVOAD) is worked with the Alaska Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Civil Air Patrol, Holland America, and private individuals to coordinate the delivery of several tons of dog food to the communities of Eagle, Circle and Tanana.
- Cash donations can be made at any Wells Fargo Bank or Alaska USA Federal Credit Union by making a deposit in the 2009 Alaska Flood Victim donation accounts. Cash donations go to the Red Cross to help with immediate response cost and the Alaska Volunteer Organization Active in Disasters ([AKVOAD](#)) for long term recovery programs.
- The Sacred Heart Church in Fairbanks is working with the Civil Air Patrol to deliver a plane load of food to Stevens Village.
- The DHS&EM Incident Management Team (IMT) in Eagle reports that the situation has stabilized. The city is working with the IMT to address debris and waster management issues. A Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) Nurse Practitioner is in Eagle.

-more-

- Department of Public Safety Commissioner Joe Masters, Alaska State Troopers Director Col. Audie Holloway and Director of Fire and Life Safety Dave Tyler flew to Eagle to address safety issues and to offer assistance to the city and Native village as they grapple with clean up efforts.
- The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is constructing a temporary access road to provide emergency vehicle access to New Eagle Village. The detour will be about 4,500-feet long from the Eagle airport, bypass the ice jam, and connect with Mission Road.
- Flooding photos and information is available at [ready.alaska.gov](http://ready.alaska.gov).
- A flood relief fundraiser will be held in Fairbanks on May 29 at the Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall from 5pm to Midnight. Dinner, Raffles, Theme Baskets and entertainment will be available. Call Peter Captain Jr. at 907-799-2860.

###