



Advisory against travel in Dickson Fjord west of Ella Island and the consideration of the National Park in North and East Greenland as a dangerous area

Naalakkersuisut, the Government of Greenland, advises against travel in Dickson Fjord west of Ella Island. This advisory follows a recommendation from the Emergency Preparedness Commission. Naalakkersuisut considers the entire National Park in North and East Greenland to be a dangerous area where extra caution should be exercised when traveling.

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Act-id: 25787182
P. O. Box 1614
3900 Nuuk
Tel. (+299) 34 50 00
Fax (+299) 34 54 10
E-mail: pan@nanoq.gl
www.naalakkersuisut.gl



On September 16, 2023, a landslide occurred in Dickson Fjord within the National Park in North and East Greenland. The landslide triggered a tsunami that caused violent wave activity in the area for nine days. Fortunately, no injuries were reported – only material damage. The run-up height near the landslide was reportedly 200 meters, and up to 80 meters several kilometers west of the site. The Joint Arctic Command estimates that wave heights near Ella Island reached approximately 5 meters.

The incident prompted the Emergency Preparedness Commission to assess the safety of activities in Dickson Fjord. There is currently uncertainty regarding the stability of the rear wall of the mountain section that collapsed in 2023. As a result, the Commission has recommended that Naalakkersuisut advise against travel in Dickson Fjord west of Ella Island.

Based on the Commission's recommendation, Naalakkersuisut now considers the entire National Park in North and East Greenland to be a dangerous area. Therefore, anyone traveling in the park—whether by land or sea—should exercise extra caution. Access to the National Park in North and East Greenland can, however, still be granted permission.

Naalakkersuisut's advisory and call for increased caution are based on a professional emergency preparedness assessment from the Emergency Preparedness Commission. In its evaluation, the Commission emphasizes the particularly increased risk associated with travel in uncharted waters. The National Park in North and East Greenland is also characterized by the risk of sudden weather changes, which increases the danger of travel and complicates rescue operations. Finally, the area is remote, and the vast geographical distances result in long response times for rescue authorities.

For further information regarding Naalakkersuisut's travel advisory in the area, please contact the Ministry for Nature and Environment via email: pan@nanoq.gl.

Press release, Greenlandic:

https://naalakkersuisut.gl/Nyheder/2025/09/2409_dickson_fjord?sc_lang=kl-GL

Press release, Danish:

https://naalakkersuisut.gl/Nyheder/2025/09/2409_dickson_fjord?sc_lang=da