

De la Rosa awaits weather window in the Canadian Arctic

Sheltering from 40 km/h winds and -10°C wind chill

Nunavut (Canada) · July 20, 2026

Spanish explorer Antonio de la Rosa remains sheltered in the Canadian Arctic awaiting improved weather conditions, following the first days of his solo crossing of the Northwest Passage. Reports received via satellite indicate the pause will extend until this Wednesday, when the forecast anticipates the first favourable window to resume progress.

From his current shelter point, De la Rosa reports sustained winds close to **40 km/h**, temperatures around **+1°C** with **wind chill between -9°C and -10°C**, rain, and rough terrain with no effective shelter points. The explorer has pitched his tent on a mountain pass —the only partially protected zone in the immediate surroundings— although the wind wraps around the mountain relief and strikes the camp with intermittent force.

A first Arctic trial

Weather-related stops are an expected part of expeditions of this nature: on solo polar traverses, pauses for weather windows are constant, and reading conditions and waiting is as important as moving forward. However, the severity of the current episode —with effective temperatures near ten degrees below zero due to wind chill— exceeds initial forecasts for this early phase of the crossing.

Logistical implication: the food supply clock

De la Rosa departed Pond Inlet with **35 days of food on board**, planning to resupply at **Cambridge Bay**, roughly at the midpoint of the crossing. Daily caloric consumption continues whether he is moving or paused: exposure to cold, humidity and body heat maintenance require constant intake. Each day of unforeseen waiting consumes reserves originally projected for later stretches of the journey, which will require a fine adjustment of pace up to the resupply point.

Explorer’s condition

De la Rosa communicates regularly via Garmin inReach Mini and remains in solid spirits despite the discomfort. In his latest dispatch, he summarised the situation with the characteristic composure of an experienced explorer:

“Conditions look set to improve on Wednesday, so I’ll hold on until Wednesday.”

Rescue coordination active

The emergency protocol remains operational: the satellite SOS device is linked to the rescue service coordinated from Alberta, with four helicopters available along the Northwest Passage corridor. Communication with Pond Inlet and Canadian authorities is daily. At this time, there is no emergency indication: this is a controlled wait due to adverse weather conditions, well within the parameters expected for a solo polar traverse.

Current status	Sheltered · Awaiting weather window
Expected resumption	Wednesday, July 22, 2026 (per forecast)
Sustained wind	Close to 40 km/h
Air temperature	+1°C with rain
Wind chill	Between -9°C and -10°C
Shelter	Tent pitched on a mountain pass · rough terrain with no effective cover
Reserve consumption	Ongoing · logistical adjustment planned toward Cambridge Bay
Communication	Garmin inReach Mini · daily satellite dispatches
Rescue protocol	Active · 4 helicopters available · coordinated from Alberta
Institutional coordination	Parks Canada · RCMP · Embassy of Spain in Canada
Situation	No emergency · controlled wait within expected parameters

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