

The Arctic took his board: De la Rosa safe and awaiting rescue

A storm with winds approaching 100 km/h broke up the landfast ice and carried away his craft · The explorer is unharmed in a cabin at Cape Crauford

Nunavut (Canada) · 1 August 2026 · Day 15 of the expedition

Press contact: Germán Briceño · lider@germanrbc.pro

Press accreditation and resources: germanrbc.pro/acreditacion/

WhatsApp broadcast channel: whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb96ROu3QxS0nDoZiQ1p

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Spanish explorer Antonio de la Rosa is unharmed and sheltering in a hunters' cabin at Cape Crauford, in the territory of Nunavut (Canada), after losing his craft during last night's storm. The maritime rescue protocol has been activated and his extraction is expected within a maximum of 48 hours, most likely by an icebreaker whose route coincides with his current position.

The night the ice broke

In the early hours of Saturday, winds approaching 100 kilometres per hour and heavy seas broke up the landfast ice — the band of sea ice frozen to the shoreline — on which the explorer had left his paddleboard and most of his equipment. The break-up carried the craft out to sea. Antonio was spending the night in the cabin, some 500 metres from the shore, a circumstance decisive for his safety.

The loss came on the very day the explorer was due to set out for Arctic Bay (Ikpiarjuk), an Inuit settlement some 105 kilometres to the south, to repair damage to his keel and drysuit identified during the weather hold of previous days.

What remains in his possession

Antonio had previously moved clothing, part of his food supply and his safety equipment — including satellite communications — to the cabin. That material remains with him and provides an estimated autonomy of three to four days of water and food. The bulk of his provisions, which guaranteed a far longer autonomy, was lost with the craft.

"After a few days at Cape Crauford checking and testing my equipment, I've realised there are some things I need to repair in order to continue this expedition safely."

Antonio de la Rosa · voice dispatch of 31 July, the eve of the storm

Diplomatic mediation and rescue operation

The intervention of the Spanish Ambassador to Canada has proved decisive in accelerating the response. Contact established with the diplomatic mission at the outset of the expedition allowed coordination channels to be activated immediately, a critical factor in a region where response times are ordinarily measured in days.

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An icebreaker on the right course

The extraction is expected to be carried out by an icebreaker whose course coincides with the explorer's current position. This coincidence has substantially reduced the anticipated timeframe in one of the most remote and inaccessible areas of the Canadian Arctic, where no permanent rescue assets are stationed and the nearest inhabited community, Arctic Bay, lies some 105 kilometres away by sea.

Communications restricted by battery autonomy

Weather conditions prevent Antonio from recharging his electronic devices. He has advised that he will reduce the frequency of his voice dispatches in order to preserve battery life until the rescue. Communications coordination stresses that any reduction in the rhythm of dispatches reflects this precaution and not a change in his condition.

Fifteen days and 367.7 kilometres

The expedition, launched on 18 July solo and unsupported, had covered 367.7 kilometres (198.5 nautical miles) over fifteen days at sea in the Canadian Arctic. Along the way, De la Rosa crossed the mouth of Admiralty Inlet navigating by compass alone through twelve hours of dense fog, survived two capsizes in water at two degrees Celsius and reached Cape Crauford, where the storm kept him sheltered over the past few days.

Next steps

The absolute priority is the safe extraction of the explorer. Communications coordination will keep the media informed of any relevant developments, with the caution imposed by the restricted communications regime. No decision has yet been taken regarding the future of the expedition.

Key data

Date	1 August 2026 · Day 15 of the expedition
Current position	73.744°N · 84.832°W
Location	Hunters' cabin · Cape Crauford headland, Nunavut (Canada)
Total distance	367.7 km (198.5 nm) over 15 days at sea
Incident	Break-up of the landfast ice · loss of the craft and most of the equipment
Recorded conditions	Winds approaching 100 km/h · heavy seas

Equipment retained	Clothing, part of the food supply, safety equipment and satellite communications	2 / 2
Current autonomy	3 to 4 days of water and food	