EOC Single Resource Credentialing
AGENDA

• Purpose and Background on EMAG Subcommittee
• What is credentialing?
• Survey Results
• Benefits of State-Wide Credentialing
• Other State’s Best Practices
• Potential Cost Involved
• Recommendation
EMAG Subcommittee Background

- March 2016, EMAG formed a small committee to look into potential methods of providing properly-trained mutual aid personnel to EOCs.

- Fall 2016, conducted a workshop in Ellensburg (~40 participants) and created three sub-committees: Pre-Deployment, Deployment, and Credentialing.

- The Credentialing Sub-Committee explored establishing minimum levels of training and proficiency for mutual aid personnel resources assigned to various EOC positions.
What is Credentialing

- Credentialing is the essential final step in the process for qualifying, certifying, and credentialing personnel for incident-related positions.
  - *NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System*
What is Credentialing

- Not a badge
- PTBs and Skill Sets
- Documentation which serves as proof the resource is trained, experienced, vetted, and endorsed by a board.
Survey Results

- Demographics: 19 total respondents from local, city, county, and tribe.
- 63% of the respondents have a dedicated EOC/ECC operational as necessary.
- 63% would be more confident with a statewide credentialing system.
- 79% have received mutual aid to support their EOC/ECC.
- 84% do not have a certification system in place.
Benefits of State-Wide Credentialing

- Better defines WAMAS/EMAC process.
- Qualified personnel arrive to conduct activities for which they are trained for.
- Jurisdictions needing support/resources receive exactly what they ask for.
- EOC/ECC/Agency staff receive formal training which increases their skills and abilities
Other States

- California
- Georgia
- Colorado
Alternatives

• **Use state-level IMTs**
  • Pro: Structured teams familiar with each other
  • Con: No two teams alike (Wildland Fire vs All Hazards)

• **Keep the status quo**
  • Pro: No impact/drain on current staff/plans/processes
  • Con: Inconsistent process/resource

• **Adopt a statewide credentialing system**
  • Pro: Creates a baseline standard
  • Con: Dedicated staff / requires change
Recommendations

• A Washington State EMD-sponsored credentialing program

• Opt in/out

• Include a pathway to make credentialing a WAMAS standard (3-5 years)

• Utilization of the National Qualification System and One Responder

• Establish a Qualification Review Board
Costs

- No Cost for One Responder
- State of Washington POC
  - Training Program Supervisor
    - Already staffed at EMD
  - State EOC Staff Training and Exercise Program Manager
    - Already staffed at EMD
- Jurisdiction’s Staff Time
  - Approximately 2-3 hours/week or 5-7 hours/month (scalable)
  - Includes assumption that dedicated staff will participate in plan development, conference calls, meetings, management of their EOC/ECC qualifications and certifications
- Qualification Review Board Membership
Questions and Discussion