

# Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

## December 2018

Past monthly reports are available via the web at <http://mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division/alert-warning-center-monthly-report>

CATEGORY	December 2018	December 2017	YTD 2018	YTD 2017
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	0	1	9	11
FIRE	26	22	402	353
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	214	206	2523	2582
OTHER	66	62	883	948
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	2	2	24	27
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	43	44	966	999
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	3	4	49	62
CGS (Columbia Generating Station)	0	0	0	0
<b>Total number of Logged incidents</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>4856</b>	<b>4982</b>

### Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above

<i>Evidence Search Mission</i>	0	3	48	59
<i>Additional Weather Alerts (all subsequent alerts that are considered to be part of the initiating weather event)</i>	129	77	626	977

### LEGEND

WEATHER	Weather incidents such as Flooding, High Winds, and Snow
FIRE	Wildland Fire incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, including but not limited to Tsunami events, Earthquakes, and Critical Incident Stress Debriefings.

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## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 18-4508 • On December 1, Grays Harbor opened a search for two stranded individuals in the Lake Wynoochee area. The use of Four wheel-drive vehicles were coordinated from Mason County to assist. The subjects were later located in good condition.
- 18-4488 • On December 2, Skagit County continued a search for a missing 2-year-old child near Conway. Additional divers and search dogs were employed from Snohomish County to assist. The body of the missing 2-year-old was found by some duck hunters on December 20 which closed the SAR mission.
- 18-4560 • On December 7, Skamania County Sheriff's Office opened a search for an overdue male hiker at the summit of the Mount Saint Helens' winter route. The use of ground searchers were coordinated from Clark, Cowlitz, and Lewis counties, along with a helicopter was through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) to assist. The hiker later returned on his own in good condition.
- 18-4576 • On December 8, Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office opened a search for a 65-year-old female near Pacific Beach off SR-109. A request for a drone with FLIR was made to Mason, Thurston, and Kitsap Counties. The individual was later located and taken to the hospital.
- 18-4596 • On December 9, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters and the San Juan Islands. This incident ended at 1300 hours the same day with no significant effects.
- 18-4615 Beginning on December 10, the NWS issued the following weather products:
- On December 10, a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce & Lewis Counties; the East slopes of the Washington Cascades was issued for Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas and Yakima Counties; and the NE Mountains affecting Pend Oreille, Stevens and Spokane Counties from late evening on December 10 through late evening on December 12. The Watch was cancelled at 1245 hours on December 10 for Kittitas and Yakima Counties.
  - On December 10, a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters and the San Juan Islands for 0100-1300 hours, December 11.
  - On December 10, a Flood Watch for Mason County effective for December 11. The Watch was upgraded to a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River near Potlatch on December 11. The Warning was in effect through the evening of December 12. The Warning was cancelled at 1353 hours on December 12.
  - On December 10, a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascade Mountains above 2500 ft elevation which involved the following counties: Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Lewis from 0400 hours on December 11 until 0400 hours on December 12. The warning was extended to December 13 and was later cancelled.

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- On December 10, a Winter Storm Warning for the East Slopes of the Cascades affecting Okanogan and Chelan Counties and for the NE Mountains affecting Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties from 0400 hours on December 11 until 0400 hours on December 12. The Winter Storm Warning expired on December 19.
- On December 11, a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of Whatcom and Skagit Counties above 3,000 ft elevation from the afternoon of the December 12 through the morning of the December 13.
- On December 12, a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascade Region of King, Lewis, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom Counties.
- On December 12, a High Surf Advisory for Pacific County starting at 1600 hours on December 12 to 1000 hours on December 13.
- On December 12, a Flood Watch for Grays Harbor, Clallam and Jefferson Counties, in effect until the afternoon of December 13.
- On December 12, a Gale Warning for the Puget Sound and Hood Canal until 1000 hours on December 13.
- On December 12, a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River until late night of December 14. On December 13, the NWS extended the Flood Warning until the afternoon of December 15. The Warning was cancelled on December 15.
- On December 13, a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters and the San Juan Islands, affecting Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom was issued until 1600 hours on December 14. The Warning was later extended to 2200 hours on December 14.
- On December 13, a High Surf Advisory for the Central and Northern Washington Coast, was issued for Grays Harbor, Jefferson and Clallam Counties from 1000-2200 hours on December 14.
- On December 13, a High Wind Watch was issued for the South, Central and Northern Washington Coast affecting Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson and Pacific Counties. The Watch was upgraded to a High Wind Warning later that day from 0400-1600 hours on December 14.
- On December 13, a High Wind Watch for Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston and Whatcom Counties was in effect from the morning to evening of December 14.
- On December 13, a Gale Warning for the Puget Sound and Hood Canal effective from 0900-2200 hours on December 14.
- On December 14, a High Wind Warning for Island, Jefferson, San Juan and Whatcom Counties was in effect from 1300 to 1900 hours. The High Wind Watches previously issued in these areas were cancelled. The Warning was later extended until 2200 hours.
- On December 14, a High Wind Warning for Walla Walla and Columbia Counties was in effect until 1600 that afternoon.
- On December 14, the High Wind Warning expired for Columbia and Walla Walla Counties.
- On December 14, the High Wind Warning for the South Washington Coast affecting Pacific County expired.

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- On December 15, a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands was issued from 2200 hours until 1600 hours on December 16.
- On December 15, a Flood Watch for Mason County was issued through the morning of December 19. The Watch was cancelled on December 16.
- On December 15, a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Skagit and Whatcom Counties was in effect from 1800 hours that night until 1600 hours on December 16.
- On December 15, a High Surf Warning for the south Washington Coast affecting Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties was in effect from 1500 hours on December 16 through 0600 hours on December 17.
- On December 15, a High Wind Watch for Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties was in effect from the afternoon of December 17 through late that night. The Watch was later expanded to add portions of inland Pacific, Wahkiakum and Cowlitz Counties for the same timeframe. The Watch was upgraded to a High Wind Warning on December 16.
- On December 15, a High Surf Advisory for the North and Central Coast affecting Clallam, Jefferson, and Grays Harbor Counties in effect from 1600 on December 16 to 1000 on December 17.
- On December 16, a Flood Warning was issued for the Skokomish River in Mason County until further notice. The Warning was extended on December 21 to be in effect until the afternoon of December 24. The warning was cancelled on December 23.
- On December 16, the Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Whatcom and Skagit Counties were cancelled, and a Winter Storm Watch was issued for the same areas from the evening of December 17 until the afternoon of December 18.
- On December 16, a Flood Watch for Pacific, Wahkiakum, Clark, Skamania and Cowlitz Counties from late on December 17 through the afternoon of the December 18.
- On December 16, the Gale Warning was cancelled for the Northern Inland Waters, including the San Juan Islands and re-issued for the same areas from 1300 hours on December 17 until 0100 hours on December 18.
- On December 16, the High Surf Warning for the south coast was extended until 1600 hours on December 17. The Warning was downgraded to a High Surf Advisory on December 18.
- On December 16, a Winter Storm Watch for Chelan, Ferry, Okanogan, Pend Oreille and Stevens Counties from the evening of December 17 until the night of December 18. The watch was later upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning on December 17.
- On December 17, a Winter Storm Warning for the mountain regions of Skagit and Whatcom Counties. The warning expired on December 18.
- On December 17, a High Wind Warning for Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Island, San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom Counties.
- On December 17, Flood Watches for Lewis and Whitman Counties. The Watches were cancelled on December 18.

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- On December 18, a Flood Warning for the Grays River at Rosburg. The Warning was cancelled later the same day.
- On December 18, a High Wind Watch for the entire coast, affecting Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, San Juan County, and western Whatcom and Skagit Counties through December 20. The Watch was upgraded to a High Wind Warning for the North and Central Coast affecting Clallam, Jefferson and Grays Harbor Counties from 0100 hours to 1300 hours on December 20.
- On December 18, a High Surf Advisory for the entire Washington coast was in effect on December 19 from 0700 hours to 1600.hours.
- On December 18, a reported EF-2 tornado hit Port Orchard in Kitsap County. The Washington State EOC activated to Level 2, Partial Activation, in support of the tornado incident. Search dog teams were requested to look for possible victims and the request was relayed to Pierce and King Counties. Five dog teams responded from King County and one dog team from Pierce County.
- On December 19, a Coastal Flood Watch for the North and Central Washington Coast affecting Clallam, Grays Harbor and Jefferson Counties in effect from the morning to evening on December 20. The Watch was upgraded to a Coastal Flood Warning later that day, in effect from 0700-1900 hours on December 20.
- On December 19, a High Wind Watch for Snohomish, Mason, Pierce, King, Jefferson and Kitsap Counties in effect from the morning to evening of December 20. The Watch was upgraded to a High Wind Warning later this day from 0700-1900 on December 20 and expired at the forecast time.
- On December 19, a Gale Warning for Puget Sound and Hood Canal was issued from 0400 to 2200 hours on December 20. The Warning was cancelled on December 20.
- On December 19, a Coastal Flood Advisory was issued for the South Washington Coast affecting Pacific County in effect from 0600 to 1300 hours.
- On December 19, a High Wind Advisory was issued for Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties from 2200 to 1500 hours on December 20.
- On December 20, a High Wind Warning was issued for Clallam County due to the intensity of the storm moving through the state.
- On December 21, a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands was in effect from midnight that night through midnight on December 22.
- On December 21, Coastal Flood Advisories for South Washington Coast were in effect from 0700 to 1400 hours on December 23; Strait of Juan De Fuca and both North and Central Coast were in effect from 0800 hours on December 22 to 1600 hours on December 23; Coastlines in San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit. Snohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason, Jefferson, Island, and Kitsap Counties were in effect from 0200 hours to 1000 hours on December 23.
- On December 21, the SEOC lowered it's activation level to Level 3 - Monitoring

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- On December 22, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the western Cascades and the Olympic Mountains through December 24. Two to three feet of snow fell in elevations above 2000 feet. The warning was downgraded to a Winter Storm Advisory on December 23.
- On December 22, the NWS extended the Coastal Flood Advisory through 1600 hours on December 24 for the South Washington Coast in Pacific County. Overflow flooding occurred at high tide in low lying areas.
- On December 22, the NWS extended the Gale Warning through 0400 hours on December 24 for the Northern Inland/Admiralty/Puget Sound waters including San Juan Islands. Southeast winds 25 to 40 knots was experienced throughout the region. The warning was cancelled on December 23.
- On December 23, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Whatcom and Skagit Counties until December 24. The Winter Storm Warning expired on December 24.
- On December 23, the NWS issued a High Surf Advisory for Pacific County and the Shoalwater Bay Tribe until 1600 on December 23.
- On December 23, the NWS cancelled the Coastal Flood Advisory at 0911 hours for the Coastlines in San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason, Jefferson, Island, and Kitsap Counties.
- On December 23, the NWS dropped the advisory for the Straits of Juan De Fuca and revised the Coastal Flood Advisory for the North & Central coast from 1100 hours to 1500 hours on December 24.
- On December 23, the NWS issued a Coastal Flood Advisory for the Northern Inland waters, Admiralty Inlet, Puget Sound and Hood Canal from 0500 hours to 0900 hours on December 24.
- On December 24, the NWS issued a Coastal Flood Advisory for the SW Interior, Admiralty Inlet, Puget Sound & Hood Canal from 0500-0900 on December 25.
- On December 25, the NWS cancelled the Coastal Flood Advisory for the SW Interior, Admiralty Inlet, Puget Sound & Hood Canal at 0750 hours ending all weather-related products for this incident.

18-4791 On December 25, Grant County opened a rescue mission for an individual that was ejected from a motor vehicle accident. A helicopter from AFRCC was requested, however a Life Flight Helicopter was used for transport.

18-4813 On December 27, Century Link reported that they were experiencing nation-wide phone outages affecting various phone lines & services such as "...inter-tandem trunks, back lines..." in addition to 911 service. All service was restored the following morning.

18-4818 On December 27, Whatcom County initiated a search for two missing snowmobilers south of Mount Baker. Cell phone forensics was requested through the AFRCC. The subjects were safely located by local authorities after being stuck in white-out conditions.

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- 18-4820
- On December 28, a Weather Incident was opened due to a call from Tacoma Power notifying of a water release at the Cushman Dam in advance of incoming rain. The release was expected to last from 1800 hours that night to 1700 hours on January 1.
  - On December 28, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Puget Sound and Hood Canal from 1000 hours until 1600 hours on December 29. The Warning was cancelled at 1400 hours on December 29.
  - On December 29, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Admiralty Inlet and Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 1000 to 1600 hours that day. The Warning was cancelled at 1400 hours on December 29.
  - On December 29, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River near Potlach in effect from 2200 hours that day to approximately noon on December 30.
  - On December 29, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Snoqualmie River near the Falls in effect until the afternoon of December 30. Minor flooding was forecasted. The Warning ended early on December 30 when the river crested below flood stage.
  - On December 30, The Flood Warning for the Skokomish River near Potlach ended.
  - This ended all weather-related products for this incident.
- 18-4827 On December 28, Seattle Police Department issued an AMBER Alert concerning two children taken by their father in Seattle. The alert was cancelled on December 29 after the suspect was contacted and the children safely accounted for.
- 18-4838 On December 29, Lewis County requested assistance with obtaining a dive team for the search of a dredge operator in a pond in Centralia. A dive team from Thurston County retrieved the body the following day.

## *SEOO Activity for the current month:*

265	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
268	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
2301	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.
10	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.

- Participated in 10 exercises of which 4 were vessel spill drills.

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*Conducted the following tests:*

<b><i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i></b>	<b><i>Frequency of tests</i></b>	<b><i>Number of tests completed this month</i></b>	<b><i>Total number of stations tested this month</i></b>	<b><i>Number of stations responding during tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center</i></b>	<b><i>Contact Success rate for those tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center</i></b>
NAWAS - FEDERAL	Twice daily	62			
NAWAS - STATE	Twice daily	60	1952	1773	91%
STAEN	At least twice per month	2	26	10	91%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	12	280	139	38%

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Dedicated phone line test for DOE	At least 1 per week	5	AHAB Siren test	At least 1 per month	1
Dedicated phone line test for CGS	At least 1 per week	4	OPSCAN test	1 per day	31
AHAB Daily Function status	1 per day	31	King County 800 MHz Radio System tests	At least 1 per week	4

*Test information/definitions:*

- NAWAS: National Warning System Tests (NAWAS) over the State and Federal circuits. NAWAS connects over 1,800 State and Federal jurisdictions and agencies on the Federal circuit and all counties, some agencies and some tribes on the State circuit. There are four tests a day, two state and two federal, testing 66 drops on two circuits. The number above reflects the four tests a day. Previously the number included the total number of stations contacted during those tests.
- DOE tests: Department of Energy Hanford Site has a dedicated phone and fax line into the EOC and they are tested at least weekly. Only the voice phone line numbers are reported here
- CGS tests: Columbia Generating Station has a dedicated phone and fax line into the EOC and they are tested at least weekly. Only the voice phone line numbers are reported here.
- AHAB: All Hazards Alert Broadcast System is tested daily through the daily function tests, which tests the functional capability of all coastal and Puget Sound siren systems. The voice and tone sirens are tested monthly. The AHAB Siren activates the coastal and Puget Sound voice and tone sirens during tsunami and other hazardous incidents.
- OPSCAN: Olympic Peninsula Public Safety Alliance Network (OPSCAN) connects public safety organizations throughout the Olympic Peninsula.
- STAEN: The State Agency Emergency Network (STAEN) connects state agency via an 800 MHz radio system.
- CEMNET: Comprehensive Emergency Management Network radio connecting all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console.
- King County 800 MHz System connects the Alert and Warning Center with King County key emergency management and response organizations.