

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

March 2019

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

CATEGORY	March 2019	March 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	0	0	0	1
FIRE	38	24	51	41
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	175	212	573	651
OTHER	73	89	222	229
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	1	0	2	7
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	79	81	202	191
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	3	2	12	15
CGS (Columbia Generating Station)	0	0	0	0
Total number of Logged incidents	369	408	1062	1135

Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above

<i>Evidence Search Mission</i>	6	6	19	14
<i>Additional Weather Alerts (all subsequent alerts that are considered to be part of the initiating weather event)</i>	15	9	322	193

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

- 19-0696 • On March 1, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued a Gale Watch for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands. The watch was upgraded to a Gale Warning on March 3rd and cancelled later that day.
- 19-0772 • On March 7 and 19, Thurston County Sheriff's Office conducted a search for the remains of a missing person near Tenino. Cadaver dog teams were coordinated from Pierce and Lewis Counties to assist in the search. The subject was not located.
- 19-0779 • On March 8, Clallam County Sheriff's Office requested a helicopter to search for a report of a downed helicopter in the county. The request was relayed to the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and a helicopter was coordinated out of the USCG Air Station Port Angeles. The helicopter was located crashed near Beaver and the pilot was found deceased.
- 19-0797 • On March 9, Kittitas County initiated a search for a male separated from his group on Mount Margaret. Ski patrol assistance was requested and coordinated from King County. The subject was located and safely extracted before the ski patrol deployed.
- 19-0807 • On March 10, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Spokane area and the Northeast Mountains impacting Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane and Stevens Counties. The watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning on March 11th.
 - On March 10, The NWS issued a Gal Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands.
 - On March 11, the NWS has issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Snohomish, King, Pierce and Lewis Counties.
 - On March 11, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Upper Columbia Basin and Okanogan Highlands impacting Okanogan, Grant, Lincoln, Adams, Douglas and Ferry Counties. It remained in effect through March 12th when the weather event closed.
- 19-0857 • On March 14, Yakima County conducted a rescue of an injured snowmobiler on Mount Adams. A helicopter with hoist was coordinated from the Yakima Training Center through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. The subject was safely extracted by the helicopter and flown to a local hospital for treatment.
- 19-0859 • On March 14, Mason County conducted a search for two missing girls near Pioneer Elementary School. Ground searchers and search dogs were coordinated and assisted from Grays Harbor, Pierce, Jefferson and Kitsap Counties. The children were located later that day in good condition.
- 19-0910 • On March 19, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for snow melt impacting central Yakima County. The warning expired on March 23rd.

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- 19-0931 • On March 20, The Washington State Patrol issued an AMBER Alert on behalf of the Nampa, Idaho Police Department for a missing and possibly endangered 10-year old girl from Nampa and believed to be heading to Portland, Oregon with her mother. The child was safely located later that day in Cheney, Washington and her mother taken into custody.
- 19-0940 • On March 20, a state mobilization was approved for the North Maple Fire near Kelso in Cowlitz County. The Washington State EOC activation level increased to Level 2, partial activation, in support of the mobilization. Cowlitz County issued an emergency declaration on March 21st. The mobilization ended on March 22nd and the Washington State EOC resumed Level 3, monitoring.
- 19-1003 • On March 28, Grays Harbor County conducted a search for a missing elderly female. Ground searchers and search dogs were coordinated and responded from Clark, Cowlitz, Kitsap, Pierce, Jefferson and Thurston Counties on March 28th and 29th. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center provided cell phone forensics and coordinated a helicopter with hoist to assist in the search. The subject was found deceased on March 29th.
- 19-1016 • On March 29, Mason County conducted a search for a missing male who walked away from his residence in Belfair. Ground searchers, search dogs, and 4x4s were requested and coordinated from King, Kitsap, Thurston, Lewis, Jefferson, Pierce, Cowlitz and Clark Counties. On March 30th, a dive team was requested and coordinated from Kitsap County to search a lake behind the residence. A drone team from Kitsap County was coordinated and provided by the Sherriff's Office under a mutual aid agreement. The subject was located deceased on March 30th.
- 19-1023 • On March 29, Lewis County conducted a rescue of an injured hang glider who crashed near Riffe Lake. A helicopter with hoist was coordinated through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. The subject was successfully rescued by a U.S. Army helicopter.

SEOO Activity for the current month:

34	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
27	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
618	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.

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39	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.
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- Participated in 13 exercises of which 4 were vessel spill drills.

Conducted the following tests:

Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)	Frequency of tests	Number of tests completed this month	Total number of stations tested this month	Number of stations responding during tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center	Contact Success rate for those tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center
NAWAS - FEDERAL	Twice daily	62			
NAWAS - STATE	Twice daily	62	1,952	1,888	96.88%
STAEN	At least twice per month	2	26	7	26.92%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	12	280	162	57.86%

Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)	Frequency of tests	Number of tests completed this month	Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)	Frequency of tests	Number of tests completed this month
Dedicated phone line test for DOE	At least 1 per week	4	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

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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.