



**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION**  
*"A disaster ready and resilient Washington State"*

# State Auditor's Office Report



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# SAO Performance Audit

- Audit Report
  - <https://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch/Home/ViewReportFile?arn=1023742&isFinding=false&sp=false>
- Seven recommendations for potential improvement
  - Define roles and responsibilities of the EMD liaison
  - Assist IMTs by coordinating regional training sessions
  - Work w/local jurisdictions to identify and resolve WebEOC software issues
  - Identify opportunities to use WebEOC more frequently
  - Develop and operate a statewide credentialing program
  - Develop ways to make EMD's meetings more effective opportunities
  - Establish a regional coordinators program or other mechanism to maintain relationships



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# EMAG Small Workgroup Outbrief

From 7 February 2019



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# EMAG Workgroup

- **Purpose:**
  - Identify opportunities for improving emergency management service delivery state-wide
  - Identify resource needs and requirements to meet service delivery goals
- **Tasks:**
  - Develop common language and terminology for use state-wide to ensure “one-voice” communication
  - Identify strategic options for improving statewide emergency management service delivery
- **Timeline**
  - 7 FEB: Brief EMAG on workgroup activities
  - 8 FEB – 8 MAR: Open comment period to include COA recommendation
  - 9 MAR – 8 APR: Refine strategy
  - 17/18 APR: Present outputs to the EM community during Partners in Preparedness week
  - 22 APR – 28 JUN: Identify workgroup team members
  - JUL 2019 – APR 2020: Execute project work plans
  - APR 2020: Present outputs during Partners in Preparedness week
  - APR – SEP 2020:
    - Develop legislation and decision packages for submission
    - Execute RCW/WAC updates (as necessary)
    - Develop implementation plan for actions not requiring RCW/WC revision, legislation, and/or decision packages



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# Courses of Action (COA)

COA 1: Action Items – All must and should implement activities

COA 2: Action Items – All must Implement and B

COA 3: Action Items – 2, 3, B

### Must Implement

1. Centers of Excellence
2. Standardize and Align Pre-disaster processes with Post-disaster processes
3. Review/update RCW 38.52 and WACs
4. Regionalized Service Delivery

### Should Implement

- A. Resiliency Office reporting to the Governor's Office
- B. Funding methods coupled with roles and responsibilities



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# Feedback rec'd

- **EM Consortiums (as reported by Scott Johnson):**
  - Support COA 3
- **HLS Region 7 (as reported by Sandi Duffey):**
  - 3 counties support COA 1
  - 1 county supports COA 2
  - 1 county – no response
- **HLS Region 8 (as reported by Deanna Davis):**
  - Center of Excellence (COE) and Regionalized Service Delivery viewed as “not favorable”
  - Expressed multiple concerns on the concepts of COE and regionalization and perhaps these concepts would favor larger west-side counties
  - View regionalization as a path similar to PHEPR in DOH, which is viewed as hurting more than helping
- **HLS Region 9 (as reported by Chandra Fox):**
  - Support COA 3
  - Recommend a less “academic” definition regarding Emergency Management



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# Open Discussion

- **Issues:**

1. As a result of this process, **no COA stood out – there is no clear #1**
2. No clear definition(s) stood out

Bottom line: no consensus

- **How important is it to local EMs that we have an agreed upon definition for:**

- What is Emergency Management?
- What does an Emergency Manager do?
- What risk do we accept for not having definition consensus?

- **What are County/City EM expectations for the strategic direction we take as a group and how long it should take to develop a plan?**

- As our association, should WSEMA take lead and EMD supports?
- Should EMD take lead with WSEMA in support?
- Should EMD take lead with City/Counties in support (but not necessarily as part of WSEMA)?
- How do we align strategic activities to achieve a common strategic direction between EMD, WSEMA and EMs?
- With finite resources – staff, time and money – how selective should we be about the initiatives we take on and what we pour our collective and collaborative energy into.

- **What are the most important concerns/issues, that have not already been addressed, that we should be looking at or working together to identify possibly solutions?**