

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

October 2019

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

CATEGORY	October 2019	October 2018	2019	2018
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	1	1	4	9
FIRE	43	39	302	315
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	189	206	1980	2128
OTHER	79	70	698	760
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	0	2	5	22
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	70	90	849	867
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	6	7	50	43
CGS (Columbia Generating Station)	0	0	0	0
Total number of logged Incidents:	388	415	3888	4144

Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above				
Additional Weather Alerts	54	13	586	438
Evidence Search Mission	4	5	71	43

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

- 19-3359
- This mission regarding a Klickitat County search for a missing female since July continued from September.
 - On October 3, Klickitat County called to request GSAR, HRD, Mountain Rescue, and Swift Water Rescue teams to assist with a large-scale search to occur on October 19 and 20. The request was coordinated with Clark, Yakima, Kittitas, Chelan, Benton, Cowlitz, and Skamania Counties as well as specific assets from Oregon. The request was later expanded to include King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
 - On October 21, this mission was closed. Subject was not found.
- 19-3507
- On October 1, the National Weather Service (NWS) at Pendleton issued a Freeze Warning for areas of Yakima and Klickitat Counties in effect from 2300 hours that day to 0900 hours on October 2.
 - On October 2, the Freeze Warning ended as scheduled, ending this incident.
- 19-3514
- On October 1, Pierce County initiated a rescue of an injured hiker near Mowich Lake and requested a helicopter with hoist to extract the subject. The request was later cancelled when responders were able to successfully extract the individual on the ground.
- 19-3521
- On October 2, Skamania County Sheriff's Office initiated a rescue of an injured hiker with a broken ankle on the Trapper Creek Trailhead. Ground searchers (GSAR) were requested and coordinated from Clark County to help assist her to safety.
 - On October 3, the subject was successfully rescued and taken to the hospital.
- 19-3550
- On October 5, King County initiated a rescue of a female hiker with a fractured ankle in the Tuscohatchie Lake area. GSAR were requested to assist with carrying the subject out. The resources were coordinated with Kittitas and Snohomish County.
 - On October 6, the subject was successfully extracted and transported to a hospital.
- 19-3581
- On October 9, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning affecting Pacific, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark and Skamania Counties in effect from midnight that night to 0800 on October 10.
 - On October 9, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning affecting Grays Harbor, Mason, Thurston, and Lewis Counties, in effect from 0200-0800 hours on October 10.
 - The Warnings were cancelled on October 10, ending this incident.
- 19-3584
- On October 9, Kittitas County opened a rescue of 2 hikers stuck on the Pacific Crest Trail. A helicopter with hoist was requested from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) to assist and coordination was initiated. The request was later cancelled when it was determined that King County was available and agreed to assist. The hikers were extracted successfully and flown to safety.

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- 19-3620
- On October 12, Skamania County initiated a search for a 68-year-old female mushroom picker. On October 13, they requested a fixed wing aircraft to assist. WSP was not able to provide one, but Cowlitz County was able to support with a drone.
 - On October 13, Skamania County requested air scent and cadaver dogs to assist with the search on October 14. Coordinated for the resources with Cowlitz, Lewis, and Clark Counties.
 - On October 14, the 304th Para Rescue Team out of Oregon was coordinated for assistance.
 - On October 15 the subject was located and transported to the hospital for treatment.
- 19-3625
- On October 13, Island County opened a cadaver search on Whidbey Island near Greenbank and requested German Shepherd Search Dogs to assist. The resource was coordinated through Snohomish and Pierce Counties. The search was successfully concluded later that day.
- 19-3633
- On October 13, Shoshone County, Idaho, requested the Rescue 3 helicopter from Spokane County to assist with extracting a female hiker with a fractured leg on Elk Peak, near Avery. Spokane County declined the mission request for Rescue 3 helicopter assistance and the mission was closed for Washington State.
- 19-3641
- On October 14, Skamania County opened a search for an overdue male hiker in the vicinity of Willard. On October 15, they requested dogs to assist on October 16. The request was coordinated with Pierce, Clark, King, Yakima, Cowlitz, and Grays Harbor Counties. **The mission was suspended on October 16, pending additional activities in November.**
- 19-3655
- On October 15, the Hanford Dept of Energy issued an Abnormal Event due to high chlorine alarm at the Patrol Operation Center (283W water treatment facility). As a result, the 200 west area of Hanford was placed in a "take cover" situation. The fire department investigated and determined this was a false alarm and no chlorine leak had been detected. The "take cover" was then lifted and the event was terminated.
- 19-3656
- On October 15 the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters and San Juan Islands from midnight on October 15 until 1700 hours on October 16.
 - On October 16, the NWS issued a High Surf Advisory for the North, Central and South Washington Coast affecting Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties in effect from 0900-2300 hours on October 17.
 - On October 17, the NWS issued issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of Pierce, Lewis, Whatcom and Skagit Counties in effect from the afternoon of October 18 to the afternoon of October 19.
 - On October 17, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the South Cascades including Cowlitz, Lewis, Pierce and Skamania counties in effect from the afternoon of October 18 through the afternoon of October 19.
 - On October 17, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Blue Mountains affecting Columbia, Asotin, and Garfield Counties in effect from late night

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October 18 to late night October 19. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning on October 18, in effect from noon that day to 0400 on October 20.

- On October 18, the Winter Storm Watch for Pierce and Lewis Counties was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning in effect from noon that day to 1800 hours on October 19.
- On October 20, the NWS let expire the last currently active weather watch or warning ending this incident.

19-3724

- On October 19, King County initiated a search for a missing hunter. They requested a 4x4 team from Pierce County respond and was coordinated with the Pierce County Duty Officer. The request was later expanded to Snohomish, Kittitas, Thurston, Lewis and Mason Counties after the subject's vehicle was found near Enumclaw.
- On October 21, King County closed the mission after the subject was located in good condition.

19-3741

- On October 19, Skamania County opened a search for a missing mushroom picker.
- On October 24, Skamania County requested GSAR and Human Remains Dogs (HRD) to support the search. Clark and Klickitat Counties were notified.
- On 26 October, Skamania County suspended the search then later stated they will resume operations at 0800 hours on October 27.
- On October 30, the subject was located deceased. The mission was closed later that day when recovery was completed.

19-3744

- On October 19, the National Park Service initiated a search for a missing female hiker in the Marblemount area, Skagit County.
- On October 24, Skagit County requested Mountain Rescue personnel and Tracking dogs for this search. Resource request was sent to King, Pierce, Snohomish and Whatcom Counties.
- On October 26, Skagit County requested the assistance of the State SAR Planning Unit. King County was advised and will provide staff to assist. Olympic Mountain Rescue also advised they are providing staff to assist.
- On October 27, Skagit County suspended the search and will notify when search resumes.
- On October 30, Skagit County requested mountain rescue & GSAR resources for the weekend. Snohomish, King, Pierce & Kitsap Counties contacted to support this request. **This mission continued into November.**

19-3757

- On October 20, the NWS issued a Flood Watch affecting Clallam, Jefferson, Mason, King and Snohomish counties, in effect from that evening through late night on October 22.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Tolt River Near Carnation affecting King County in effect from that evening to the afternoon of October 22.

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- On October 21, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juans, Admiralty Inlet, and Puget Sound and the Hood Canal in effect from 2300 hours that day until 0900 on October 22.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Flood Watch affecting Whatcom County in effect from that evening through late night on October 22. On October 22, the Flood Watch was cancelled.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Bogachiel River near La Push affecting Clallam County in effect from late that night to the afternoon of October 22. On October 22, the Flood Warning was cancelled.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Snoqualmie River at the Falls in effect from late that night to the evening of October 22. On October 22, the Warning was cancelled.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Snoqualmie River near Carnation affecting King County in effect from late that night to the morning of October 23.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Skykomish River near Gold Bar affecting Snohomish County in effect from late that night to the morning of October 23.
- On October 22, The NWS Seattle issued a Flood Warning for the Stillaguamish River at Arlington affecting Snohomish County in effect until later that evening. The Flood Warning was cancelled that evening.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River near Potlatch in effect that day. The Warning was cancelled later that day.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Flood Warning for the Snohomish River near Monroe in effect from that day to October 23. On October 23, the Warning was cancelled.
- On October 23, all remaining Warnings and Watches were cancelled, ending this incident.

19-3824

- On October 25, the NWS issued a High Wind Warning for Kittitas County, in effect until 2200 that evening.
- On October 25, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the areas of the Northern Inland Waterways and Admiralty Inlet, in effect immediately through 0100 hours on October 26.
- On October 26, the Gale Warning expired, ending this incident.

19-3861

- On October 28, Whatcom County opened a search for the remains of a female adult who went missing in March 1999. Ground Searchers were requested to assist. The request was coordinated with Snohomish, Skagit, King, and Kitsap Counties.
- On October 30, Human Remains Dogs were coordinated from Snohomish and Kitsap County to assist. **The mission remained open into November.**

19-3869

- On October 29, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the northern inland waters including the San Juan Islands in effect immediately through 0500 hours that morning, The Warning expired as scheduled, ending this incident.

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- 19-3878
- On Oct 30, Thurston County initiated a search for a missing 53-year-old male with schizophrenia at 6924 15 Avenue SE Lacey WA. Thurston County requested a blood hound. Pierce County was contacted for request. The subject was located the same day and returned to his care giver.

SEOO Activity for the current month

76	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
49	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
952	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.
47	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.

Participated in 13 exercises of which 6 were spill drills.

Conducted the following test:

<i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test</i>	<i>Frequency of test</i>	<i>Number of tests completed this month</i>	<i>Total number of stations tested this month</i>	<i>Number of stations responding during tests initiated by the Alert Warning Center</i>	<i>Contact Success rate for those tests initiated by the Alert Warning Center</i>
NAWAS - FEDRAL	Twice daily	62	0	0	0%
NAWAS - STATE	Twice daily	62	1890	1781	94%
STAEN	At least twice per month	2	26	9	35%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	14	266	161	61%

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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	5	King County 800 MHz Radio System tests	At least 1 per week	5
AHAB Daily Function status	1 per day	31			

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.