

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

March 2020

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

| CATEGORY | March 2020 | March 2019 | 2020 | 2019 |
|--|------------|------------|------|------|
| Logged incidents: | | | | |
| DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FIRE | 8 | 38 | 37 | 51 |
| HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT) | 169 | 175 | 626 | 573 |
| OTHER | 47 | 73 | 196 | 222 |
| 911 SERVICE OUTAGES | 0 | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR) | 55 | 79 | 174 | 202 |
| TERRORIST | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS | 2 | 3 | 7 | 12 |
| CGS (Columbia Generating Station) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total number of logged incidents: | 281 | 369 | 1046 | 1062 |

| Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above | | | | |
|---|----|----|-----|-----|
| Additional Weather Alerts | 20 | 15 | 508 | 322 |
| Evidence Search Mission | 6 | 6 | 19 | 19 |

| 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

- 20-0265
 - This mission in response to the Corona Virus (COVID-19) outbreak was initiated on January 21 and continued into March with the State EOC activated at Level 1 (Full).
 - On March 3, the State EOC added ESF 20 to the current activation in connection with the COVID-19 virus.
 - On March 6, the State EOC added ESFs 1, 6, 12, and 13 to the current activation in connection with the COVID-19 virus.
 - On March 11, the State EOC added ESF 7 to the current activation in connection with the COVID-19 virus.
 - On March 18, the State EOC added ESFs 4 and 14 to the current activation in connection with the COVID-19 virus. The activation now included ESFs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 20.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of March.**
- 20-0403
 - This mission, initiated on February 1 by Pierce County, was a search for a missing 29-year-old male with Autism. No additional requests for resources were made during the month of March, however, **this mission remained open as of the end of March.**
- 20-0721
 - This mission, initiated on February 26 by Spokane County, was a search for a possibly suicidal female in the Spokane Valley area. The mission was closed by local authorities on March 2 although the subject was not located.
- 20-0764
 - This mission, initiated on February 29 by Skagit County, was a search for a missing person with dementia in the Anacortes area. The mission was closed by local authorities on March 1 when the subject was successfully located.
- 20-0778
 - On March 1, Mount Rainier National Park initiated a search for a 34-year-old female hiker overdue in the Camp Muir area. Cell forensics were requested and coordinated with the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC). Mountain Rescue Technicians and Support Staff were later requested and coordinated through King, Pierce and Kitsap Counties.
 - On March 2, the search was closed when the subject was located in good condition.
- 20-0829
 - On March 6, Jefferson County conducted a search for a missing 69-year-old male near Forks. Cell phone forensics was requested from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center to assist. The resource was requested and coordinated again on March 7.
 - On March 12, the search was closed without locating the subject.
- 20-0841
 - On March 8, Mason County initiated a search for a missing 18-year-old All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) rider near Tahuya. The County requested ATVs and a helicopter with Forward Looking InfraRed (FLIR) to assist and Pierce, King, Thurston and Snohomish Counties were contacted. The mission was closed later that day, before the assets deployed, when the missing man was found alive and well.
- 20-0879
 - On March 11, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued a Winter Storm Watch for Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, and Spokane Counties effective March 13-14. The Watch was later upgraded to a

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Winter Storm Warning in effect from 1700 on March 13 to 1100 hours on March 14.

- On March 12, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for Kittitas, Yakima, Klickitat, Benton, Franklin, and a portion of Walla Walla Counties effective March 13-14. The Watch was later changed to an Advisory.
- On March 12, the NWS issued a High Wind Watch for San Juan, West Whatcom and West Skagit Counties effective the afternoon of March 13 through the morning of March 14.
- On March 13, the NWS downgraded the Winter Storm Warning for Okanogan County to a Winter Storm Advisory.
- On March 13, The NWS has issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 1700 hours on March 13 through 1400 hours on March 14.
- On March 13, the NWS issued a High Wind Warning for Whatcom County in effect from 1800 hours on March 13 to 1200 hours on March 14. The Warning was cancelled on March 14.
- On March 13, The NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for Adams, Lincoln, and Spokane Counties in effect until 1100 hours on March 14.
- On March 14, the Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters and San Juan islands was extended until 0800 hrs on March 15. The Warning expired as scheduled, ending this weather event.

20-0931

- On March 17, Chelan County opened a human remains search. The County requested a human remains dog specifically from Mason County to assist and the request was coordinated with Mason County. The mission was closed the next day, but results were withheld due to confidentiality.

20-0933

- On March 17, Kittitas County initiated a search for a missing 91-year-old female near Ellensburg. Ground searchers, search dogs, and drone operators were coordinated from Grant and Yakima Counties. The subject was found deceased on March 18 and the mission closed.

20-0962

- On March 19, Cowlitz County initiated a search for a missing male dementia patient in the Kalama area. On March 20, the County requested Ground Searchers to assist and the request was coordinated with Clark, Lewis, Thurston, and Pierce Counties. The mission was closed later that day when the subject was found in good condition.

20-0976

- On March 21, the Skamania County Sheriff's Office opened a rescue of a female stuck behind a waterfall. The on-scene Deputy requested a helicopter with a hoist. The request was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, then the AFRCC.
- On March 22, Skamania County closed out the mission in the early morning. The subject was rescued and transported to the hospital.

20-1026

- On March 29, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Olympic Mountains, the Western Cascades and Eastern Cascades mountains in effect from 0200 on March 30 through 1100 on March 31. The Watch was later upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascade mountains and valleys

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of Whatcom and Skagit Counties for the same timeframe. For all other areas, the Watch became an Advisory.

- On March 29, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 2300 that evening to 0800 on March 30.
- On March 30, The National Weather Service issued a Severe Thunderstorm Warning for North Eastern Spokane County and South Eastern Pend Oreille County until 1230 hours that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On March 31, the Winter Storm Warning expired ending this weather event.

SEOO Activity for the current month

| | |
|-----|--|
| 56 | Warning issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies. |
| 44 | Warning issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies. |
| 449 | Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies. |
| 13 | Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations. |

Participated in 4 exercises of which 3 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 | 61 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| NAWAS - STATE | Twice daily | 62 | 1890 | 1807 | 96% |
| STAEN | At least twice per month | 2 | 26 | 3 | 12% |
| CEMENT | At least 3 per week | 13 | 298 | 165 | 55% |

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| <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>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test</i> | <i>Frequency of test</i> | <i>Number of tests completed this month</i> |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| 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 | 3 | King County 800 MHz Radio System tests | At least 1 per week | 1 |
| AHAB Daily Function status | 1 per day | 30 | | | |

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.
- 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.
- King County 800 MHz System connects the Alert and Warning Center with King County key emergency management and response organizations.