

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

October 2020

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

CATEGORY	October 2020	October 2019	2020	2019
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	0	1	5	4
FIRE	38	43	180	302
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	249	189	2061	1980
OTHER	61	79	613	698
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	1	0	11	5
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	79	70	931	849
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	4	6	37	50
CGS (Columbia Generating Station)	0	0	0	0
Total number of logged Incidents:	432	388	3838	3888

Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above				
Additional Weather Alerts	33	54	790	586
Evidence Search Mission	3	4	54	71

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 August with the State EOC activated at Level 1 (Full).
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of October.**
- 20-1611
- On May 30, the State EOC extended the Level 1 activation already in progress for incident 20-0265 (COVID-19 Virus Response) to cover protests and civil unrest which continued into August.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of October.**
- 20-3383
- This mission regarding a search for an overdue male hiker near Gem Lake was initiated by King County on September 29 and continued into October
 - On October 1, King County requested mountain rescue resources for this search on October 2. The resources were coordinated with Chelan, Pierce, Snohomish, Yakima, Clark, Kitsap, Whatcom and Skagit Counties.
 - On October 2, King County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator, Ed Christian requested mountain rescue personnel, ground searchers, air scent and cadaver K-9s, 4x4 vehicles. Coordinated the request with Chelan, Yakima, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, and Thurston Counties.
 - On October 5, King County suspended the search. The subject was not located.
 - On October 23, King County reopened this search and requested Mountain Rescue staff to assist. The resources were coordinated through Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish Counties.
 - On October 28, King County requested Mountain Rescue personnel to assist in this search on October 31. The request was coordinated with Kitsap, Snohomish and Pierce Counties.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of October.**
- 20-3444
- On October 3, Snohomish County initiated a rescue of an injured climber on Vesper Peak. A helicopter with hoist request was coordinated with the AFRCC. Due to weather restrictions, no helicopter was available, however, Snohomish County was able to utilize local resources to meet the hiker and walk her out, closing the mission.
- 20-3445
- On October 3, the Cascades National Park initiated a search for a missing male hiker with a child and requested assistance with obtaining cell phone forensics. The request was coordinated with the AFRCC. The request was later cancelled and the mission closed when the subjects were successfully located.
- 20-3454
- On October 3, Yakima County Sheriff's Office initiated a rescue for two stranded hikers stuck against a cliff face on Mt. Adams. The County requested a helicopter with hoist, which was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, and then the AFRCC. The mission was closed early the next day when the subjects were successfully extracted and transported to the hospital.

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- 20-3472
- On October 5, San Juan County requested a helicopter to transport a patient from Lopez Island to a hospital with advanced care capabilities. The request was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, and then the AFRCC. The request was later cancelled and the mission closed when the patient was transported via watercraft.
- 20-3523
- On October 9, Skagit County initiated a rescue of a sick female hiker near the Hidden Lake Lookout. A helicopter with hoist was requested to assist and coordinated with Snohomish and King Counties, but then cancelled when it was determined that ground support was possible. The mission was closed the next day when the subject was escorted out.
- 20-3531
- On October 10, the NWS issued a Special Marine Warning for the Coastal Waters from Point Grenville to Cape Shoalwater, 10 to 60 Nautical Miles, and Grays Harbor Bar in effect until 0400.
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 - On October 10, the NWS issued a Special Marine Warning for the Coastal Waters from James Island to Point Grenville out 10 nautical miles, Point Grenville to Cape Shoalwater out 10 nautical miles in effect until 0415. All Special Marine Warnings expired as scheduled.
 - On October 10, the NWS issued a Tornado Warning for North central Grays Harbor County and Northwestern Mason County in effect until 0500. The Warning was cancelled at 0415, ending this weather incident.
- 20-3557
- On October 12, the National Weather Service issued a High Wind Watch for Garfield, Asotin, Whitman, Lincoln, Adams, Douglas, Chelan, Okanogan and Grant Counties effective October 13.
 - On October 12, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 0900 to 2300 on October 13.
 - On October 13, the NWS issued a Gale Warnings for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands, Puget Sound and Hood Canal areas in effect until 0200 on October 14; and the Admiralty Inlet and Puget Sound and Hood Canal in effect until 2300 that night.
 - On October 13, the NWS issued a High Wind Warning for Adams, Asotin, Chelan, Douglas, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, and Whitman Counties in effect from 1400-2300 that day.
 - On October 13, the NWS issued a High Wind Warning for Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla, and and Yakima Counties in effect from 1400-2300 that day.
 - On October 13, the NWS issued a Dust Storm Warning for Adams, Grant, and Lincoln Counties in effect until 1745 hours that evening.
 - On October 13, the NWS issued a Storm Warning for the East Entrance and Central Strait of Juan De Fuca in effect until 2300 hours that night.
 - On October 13, the NWS cancelled all Watches and Warnings, ending this weather event.

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- 20-3559
- On October 12, King County initiated a search for an overdue trail runner on the Pacific Crest Trail. Cell phone forensics were requested and coordinated with the AFRCC. Mountain Rescue resources were later requested and coordinated with Snohomish County. Resources were cancelled and the mission closed late that afternoon when the subject was located at the trailhead, having exited on his own.
- 20-3561
- On October 12, Mount Rainier National Park initiated a search for a missing camper in the Carbon River Camp area. Resources requested to assist in this search included aviation overflight, mountain rescue, and a search and rescue planning team. Coordinated resources with King, Snohomish, Pierce, and Kitsap Counties.
 - On October 13, Mount Rainier National Park requested dogs, a drone and mountain rescue staff to assist that day and October 14. The requests were coordinated with Snohomish, King, Pierce, Kitsap, Chelan, Yakima, and Skamania Counties.
 - On October 14, Mount Rainier National Park requested 30 mountain rescue, 5 Mountain K-9 and 10 GSAR (who can provide their own shuttle transportation). King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Chelan, Yakima and Mason Counties contacted to support this request.
 - On October 15, Mount Rainier National Park requested 20 Mountain Rescue and 2 HRD dog teams. Clark, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, and Yakima Counties were contacted to support this request.
 - On October 16, Mount Rainier National Park requested 1-2 GSSD teams, 13 GSAR, 8 Technical GSAR, and 3 drone teams. Chelan, Clark, Cowlitz, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston, and Yakima Counties were contacted to support these requests.
 - On October 17, Mount Rainier National Park requested 22 GSAR, 18 of which need to be Mountain Rescue. King, Kitsap, Pierce, Skamania, Snohomish, and Yakima Counties were contacted to support this request.
 - On October 19, Mount Rainier National Park requested 10 mountain rescue personnel and 1 mountain rescue supervisor. Coordinated resources with Snohomish, Pierce, Kitsap, and King Counties to support this request.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of October.**
- 20-3571
- On October 13, Whatcom County initiated a search for a missing male last seen near Colonial Creek Campground. Cadaver dogs were requested to assist on October 15 and were coordinated with Snohomish and King Counties.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of October.**
- 20-3596
- On October 14, Grays Harbor County initiated a search for a 68-year-old male mushroom picker missing north of Montesano. The county requested GSAR to assist at 0700 on October 15 and the request was coordinated with Mason, Thurston, Pierce, Kitsap and Jefferson Counties.
 - On October 15, the mission was closed when the subject was found safe.

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- 20-3613
- On October 15, Skamania County initiated the rescue of a subject down a 300 ft embankment near the Carson Hot Springs and requested a helicopter with hoist capabilities to assist. The request was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, and then the AFRCC. The request was later cancelled and the mission closed when ground assets were able to hoist the subject out and transport them to the hospital.
- 20-3617
- On October 15, Thurston County initiated a search of a missing 73-year-old dementia walk away. The County requested air scent dogs and trailing dogs, which were coordinated with King, Kitsap, Lewis and Pierce Counties.
 - On October 16, Thurston County requested ground searchers and air scent dogs, which were coordinated with Pierce, King, Kitsap, Lewis and Cowlitz Counties. The resources were later cancelled when the subject was found in good condition and transported to the hospital for evaluation.
- 20-3635
- On October 17, Lewis County requested a helicopter to pick up horseback rider who broke his leg falling off his horse and down an embankment. The request was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, then the AFRCC. The subject was airlifted and transported for further care.
 - On October 18, the mission was closed after animal rescue retrieved the subject's horse out of the ravine.
- 20-3651
- On October 18, San Juan County initiated a medical evacuation of a 65-year-old female with acute abdominal pain and requested a helicopter from Whidbey Island to assist. The request was coordinated with the AFRCC. The mission was closed later that day after the subject was delivered to a hospital.
- 20-3655
- On October 18, Jefferson County initiated a search for a male subject last seen camping near Dosewallips Campground. A helicopter with FLIR was requested and coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, then the AFRCC. The search was closed late that night when the subject was located in good condition.
- 20-3671
- On October 19, a 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck at 1355 hours 55 miles SE of Sand Point, AK. A Tsunami Warning was issued for South Alaska and the Alaskan Peninsula. The Warning for Alaska transitioned to an Advisory at 1506 hours. The Washington Coast was under evaluation until 1541 hours when it was determined to have no Tsunami danger.
- 20-3683
- On October 19, Kittitas County opened a search for a missing 21-year-old male hiker in the Jungle Creek Area. Cell phone forensics was requested and coordinated with the AFRCC.
 - On October 20, the request for cell phone forensics was cancelled and the mission closed when County SAR staff established contact with the subject and found him uninjured.

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- On October 20, Clallam County initiated a search for search for a missing woman near Forks and requested a helicopter with FLIR. The request was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties.
- On October 21, Clallam County requested another helicopter with FLIR to assist with the continuing search. The request was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties, and then the AFRCC. Later that day, the county requested bloodhounds to assist, which was coordinated with Pierce County.
- On October 22, the mission was closed when the subject was located and transported for further care via ambulance.

20-3693

- On October 21, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning for the Eastern Columbia River Gorge, Kittitas Valley, Yakima Valley, Lower Columbia Basin, Foothills of the Blue Mountains and the Simcoe Highlands in effect from 0100 to 0900 on October 22.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for Klickitat, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties from the morning through late night on October 23.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, and Stevens Counties from the morning through late night on October 23.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for King, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties from the morning through late night on October 23.
- On October 21, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Washington Palouse affecting Whitman and Spokane Counties in effect from the afternoon through late night on October 23.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning for Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla, and Yakima counties starting at midnight that night until 0900 on October 23.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for portions of Lincoln and Spokane Counties effective from 1300 on October 23 through 0500 on October 24.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for Whitman County effective from 1700 on October 23 through 0500 on October 24.
- On October 22, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for portions of Chelan and Okanogan Counties effective from 0800 on October 23 through 0100 on October 24.
- On October 23, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning for portions of Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom in effect from late night on October 24 through the morning of October 25.
- On October 23 the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters and Admiralty Inlet areas impacting Jefferson, Island, Snohomish, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties in effect from 2100 on October 23 until 1300 on October 24. The Warning expired as scheduled, ending this weather incident.

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- 20-3748
- On October 25, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning affecting Pacific, Wahkiakum Cowlitz and Clark Counties in effect from 0100 to 1000 on October 26.
 - On October 26, the Warning expired as scheduled.
- 20-3754
- On October 25, Whatcom County Sheriff's Office initiated a search for a rescue for a 28-year-old male with a dislocated shoulder on Mount Baker. Resource was requested to assist, and coordinated with King and Snohomish counties, and AFRCC. The mission was accepted by AFRCC, NAS Whidbey Island did the rescue and the subject was successfully extracted and delivered to the hospital.
- 20-3799
- On October 28, Mason County initiated a search for a missing 75-year-old mushroom picker. Ground searchers, 4x4s, dogs, and a helicopter were requested. The requests were coordinated with Pierce, Thurston, Jefferson, King and Snohomish Counties. The helicopter was coordinated through the AFRCC. A command vehicle was later requested and coordinated through Kitsap County.
 - On October 29, Mason County requested ground searcher to assist that day, and the request was coordinated with Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, Grays Harbor and Lewis Counties.
 - On October 29, Mason County requested Mountain Rescue and/or technically qualified ground searchers for the next morning. The request was coordinated with Pierce, King and Kitsap Counties.
 - On October 29, Mason County reported the injured man was located and requested a helicopter with hoist. King and Snohomish turned the mission down and the request was coordinated with the AFRCC. The helicopter mission was later cancelled when the subject was determined to be deceased.
 - On October 30, Mason County reported the body of the missing mushroom picker was extracted from the bottom of the canyon by SAR staff from Cowlitz and Kitsap Counties and the mission was closed.
- 20-3810
- On October 29, Snohomish County initiated a rescue for an injured hiker at Rat Trap Pass and requested Mountain Rescue assistance. The request was coordinated with Skagit, Whatcom, King and Pierce counties.
 - On October 30, Snohomish County requested ground searchers to assist and the request was coordinated with Skagit and King Counties. The mission was closed later that day when the subject was airlifted and transported to a hospital in Everett.
- 20-3813
- On October 30, Yakima County was advised of an InReach device activation on Mt. Adams due to 3 people trapped by a snowstorm. A helicopter for the rescue crew was coordinated through the AFRCC. The subjects later contacted responders and informed they were down and safe, cancelling the mission.

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SEOO Activity for the current month

122	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
51	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
749	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.
70	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.

Participated in 17 exercises of which 11 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 - FEDERAL	Twice daily	50	0	0	0%
NAWAS - STATE	Twice daily	58	1890	1620	86%
STAEN	At least twice per month	2	26	3	12%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	13	256	142	55%

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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	2
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.
- 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.