

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

February 2023

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

CATEGORY	February 2023	February 2022	2023	2022
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	0	1	0	1
FIRE	12	17	28	23
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	209	209	444	490
OTHER	68	65	141	153
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	0	1	0	2
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	49	46	116	106
TERRORISM	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	4	3	7	5
Other Fixed Nuclear Facility Incidents	0	0	0	0
Total number of logged Incidents:	342	342	736	780

Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above				
Additional Weather Alerts	133	73	185	317
Evidence Search Mission	5	2	10	4

LEGEND	
WEATHER	Weather incidents such as Flooding, High Winds, and Snow
FIRE	Includes all DNR fire line calls as well as State Fire Mobilization requests and non-DNR 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

- 22-1085
- This mission in response to the European Green Crab, an aquatic invasive species impacting areas of the coast was initiated on March 25, 2022, as part of the ongoing State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activation.
 - On February 16, the SEOC reduced its activation to Level 3, Monitoring, ending active response on this mission and deactivating all Emergency Support Functions (ESFs).
- 22-4796
- On December 8, the SEOC added Flu and Respiratory Virus Season to the current Level 2 – Partial Activation. with ESFs 5 - Emergency Management, 7 – Resource Support, and 8 – Public Health, Healthcare, and Mortuary Services activated.
 - On February 16, the SEOC reduced its activation to Level 3, Monitoring, ending active response on this mission and deactivating all ESFs.
- 22-4846
- On December 16, the SEOC added Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Response to the current Level 2 – Partial Activation to support commercial operations statewide, with ESF 11 - Agriculture activated.
 - On February 16, the SEOC reduced its activation to Level 3, Monitoring, ending active response on this mission and deactivating all ESFs.
- 23-0402
- On February 1, The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 0600 On February 3 until 0100 on February 4. The Warning was later extended to include the Admiralty Inlet and the Puget Sound and Hood Canal regions, in effect from 0700 to 2200 on February 3. The Warning was again extended on February 3 as follows: Puget Sound and Hood Canal is in effect until 2200 that night; Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands and the Admiralty Inlet in effect from 1300 that afternoon to 0100 on February 4. The Warning for the Puget Sound and Hood Canal expired as scheduled.
 - On February 2, the NWS issued High Wind Warnings for San Juan and Western Whatcom Counties in effect from 1000 to 1900 on February 3 and Western Clallam and Jefferson Counties in effect from 0400 to 1900 on February 3. The Warnings expired as scheduled.
 - On February 4, the Gale Warnings for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands and the Admiralty Inlet expired as scheduled, ending this Weather Incident.
- 23-0437
- On February 3, Yakima County initiated a rescue of a 62-year-old male with breathing difficulties near Tampico and requested a helicopter with hoist. The request was coordinated with the Yakima Training Center (YTC). The request was declined, and the mission closed later that day when the subject was located deceased.
- 23-0446
- On February 4, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Northwest Blue Mountains affecting Columbia and Walla Walla Counties in effect from 0400 on February 5 to 0400 on February 6. The Warning expired as scheduled.

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- On February 5, the NWS issued a Flood Watch for the Skokomish River in Mason County in effect from the morning of February 7 through the morning of February 8. The Watch was upgraded to a Flood Warning on February 7 in effect until further notice.
- On February 5, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascade Mountains of Whatcom and Skagit Counties above 3000 feet in effect from the evening of February 6 through late night of February 7. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning on February 6 in effect from 0400 on February 7 to 1000 on February 8, at which time the Warning expired.
- On February 6, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters Including the San Juan Islands and the Admiralty Inlet from 1900 that evening to 1300 on February 7. The Warning was extended on February 7 to be in effect until 1000 that morning, at which time the Warning expired.
- On February 6, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of King, Lewis, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties from late that night through the morning of February 8. The Watch expired as scheduled.
- On February 6, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the East Slopes of the Washington Cascades affecting Kittitas, Klickitat, and Yakima Counties from late that night through the morning of February 8. The Watch expired as scheduled.
- On February 6, The NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the South Washington Cascades affecting Cowlitz and Skamania Counties from late that night through the morning of February 8. The Watch was expired as scheduled.
- On February 6, The NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for Western Chelan County from late that night through the morning of February 8. The Watch expired as scheduled.
- On February 8, the NWS cancelled the Flood Warning for the Skokomish River, ending this weather incident.

23-0513

- On February 9, the City of Snohomish reported a boil water advisory for 70 houses due to a broken water main in the city. The advisory was lifted by month's end.

23-0532

- On February 10, Yakima County initiated a search for an overdue male hiker near Naches and requested Civil Air Patrol (CAP) assistance, which was coordinated with the Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation Division. The request was later delayed when the subject was able to contact authorities with location information. The mission was closed on February 11 when the subject was successfully located in good condition.

23-0535

- On February 11, the NWS issued Winter Storm Watches for western Chelan County, the Cascades of King, Snohomish, and the East Slopes of the Cascades in Kittitas, Yakima, and Klickitat Counties effective from February 12 to February 13. The Watches were later replaced with two Winter Storm Warnings and a Winter Weather Advisory.

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- On February 12, The NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Snohomish and King Counties from 2300 that evening to 2300 on February 13. The Warning was extended on February 13 to be in effect until 0200 on February 14. The Warning expired as scheduled.
 - On February 12, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for Western Chelan County from 2200 that evening to 2200 on February 13. The Warning expired as scheduled.
 - On February 12, The NWS issued a High Surf Advisory for the South Washington Coast affecting Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties from 1200 on February 13 through 0400 on February 14. The Advisory was extended on February 13 to be in effect until 2200 on February 14.
 - On February 12, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Admiralty Inlet in effect from 1000 to 2400 on February 13. The Warning was extended on February 13 to be in effect from 0215 to 2400 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
 - On February 12, the NWS issued a High Surf Advisory for the North and Central Coast affecting Clallam, Jefferson, and Grays Harbor Counties from 1200 on February 13 to 0400 on February 14. The Advisory expired as scheduled.
 - On February 12, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Northwest Blue Mountains affecting Columbia and Walla Walla Counties in effect from 0400 on February 13 to 0400 on February 14. On February 14, the Warning was extended to be in effect until 1000 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled, ending this weather incident.
- 23-0544
- On February 12, Snohomish County initiated a search for an elderly male hiker in the Rat Trap Pass area near Darrington.
 - On February 13, the County requested Mountain Rescue to support this search, which was coordinated with King, Pierce, and Skagit Counties. Later that day, the County requested Mountain Rescue and Ground Searchers (GSAR) to report on February 14 which were coordinated with King, Kitsap, Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties.
 - On February 14, the County requested cadaver dogs for February 15, which were coordinated from Skagit, King, and Pierce Counties.
 - On February 15, the County requested GSAR and Air Scent or Cadaver Dogs for February 16, which were coordinated with Pierce, King, Kitsap, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties.
 - Although additional resources were not requested, **this mission remained open as of the end of February 2023.**
- 23-0585
- On February 18, the NWS issued a High Wind Watch for the Lower Columbia Basin, Foothills of the Blue Mountains, and the Simcoe Highlands affecting Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Klickitat, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima Counties in effect from 1800 on February 20 until 1000 on February 21. The Watch was replaced with a High Wind Warning on February 19 in effect from 1800 on February 20 until 1000 on February 21. The Warning expired as scheduled.

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- On February 18, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the east slopes of the Washington Cascades affecting Kittitas, Klickitat, and Yakima Counties in effect from the evening of February 19 through early morning on February 22. The Watch was replaced with a Winter Storm Warning on February 19 in effect from 0400 on February 20 until 0400 on February 22. The Warning was cancelled on February 21.
- On February 18, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascade Mountains of Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Lewis Counties in effect from the afternoon of February 19 through late night of February 21. The Watch was replaced with a Winter Storm Warning on February 19 in effect from 1600 that afternoon until 1600 on February 21. The Warning for Chelan was cancelled on February 21. The remaining Cascade Warnings expired as scheduled.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for Stevens Pass affecting Chelan County in effect from 1600 that afternoon until 0400 on February 21. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the South Washington Cascades affecting Cowlitz and Skamania Counties in effect from 1800 on February 20 until 0400 on February 22. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning later that day in effect from 1800 on February 20 to 0400 on February 22. The Warning was extended on February 22 to be in effect until 0100 on February 23. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a Storm Watch for Central U. S. Waters Strait of Juan De Fuca and East Entrance U. S. Waters Strait of Juan De Fuca in effect from the evening of February 20 through the morning of February 21.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the South Washington Cascades Foothills affecting Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania Counties in effect late night of February 20 through the night of February 21. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning later that day in effect from 0400 on February 21 to 0400 on February 22. The Warning was extended on February 22 to be in effect until 0100 on February 23. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a High Wind Watch for the Admiralty Inlet Area affecting Jefferson and Island Counties from the evening of February 20 to the morning of February 21.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a Storm Watch for East Entrance U.S. Waters Strait Of Juan De Fuca in effect from the evening of February 20 to the morning of February 21.
- On February 19, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Northwest Blue Mountains affecting Columbia and Walla Walla Counties from the evening of February 20 to the morning of February 22. The Watch was later upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning in effect from 2200 on February 20 through 1000 on February 22. The Warning was cancelled on February 21.
- On February 19, the NWS issued an Avalanche Warning for the Cascades and passes of Chelan, King, Kittitas, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties in effect until 1800 on February 20. The Warning expired as scheduled.

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- On February 20, the NWS issued High Wind Warnings for the Kittitas Valley affecting Kittitas and Yakima Counties, and the Washington Palouse affecting Spokane and Whitman Counties, both in effect from 1800 that night to 1000 on February 21. The Warning for the Palouse was cancelled early on February 21 and the Warning for the Kittitas Valley expired as scheduled.
- On February 20, the NWS issued High Surf Advisories for the North, Central, and South Washington Coasts effective the morning of February 21 through the morning of February 22. The Advisories for the North and Central Coast to were extended on February 22 be in effect until 1800 that evening. The remaining Advisory expired as scheduled.
- On February 20, the NWS issued Gale Warnings for The Northern Inland Waters Including the San Juan Islands in effect from 1900 that day to 1000 on February 21 and the Admiralty Inlet in effect from 1900 that day to 1200 on February 21. The Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands was extended on February 21 to be in effect until 0400 on February 24. The Warnings expired as scheduled.
- On February 20, the NWS issued a Storm Warning for the Central and East Entrance US Waters Strait of Juan De Fuca in effect from 1900 that day to 0700 on February 21. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 20, the NWS issued a High Wind Warning for the Admiralty Inlet area affecting Jefferson and Island Counties in effect from 1900 that day to 0700 on February 21. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 20, the NWS Service issued a Gale Warning for Puget Sound and Hood Canal in effect until 0700 on February 21. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 20, the NWS issued a Coastal Flood Advisory for the North and Central coast in effect from 0400 to 1000 on February 21. The Advisory expired as scheduled.
- On February 21, the NWS issued a Snow Squall Warning for Southeastern Pend Oreille County until 1415 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 21, the NWS issued a Snow Squall Warning for Southeastern Pend Oreille, Southeastern Stevens, and Northeastern Spokane Counties until 1630 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 21, the NWS issued a Snow Squall Warning for Southeastern Stevens and Northeastern Spokane Counties until 1730 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 21, the NWS issued a Snow Squall Warning for Central Stevens County until 1800 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 21, the NWS issued a Snow Squall Warning for Central Spokane County until 1830 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 22, the NWS issued a Winter Weather Advisory for Snohomish, King, and Skagit Counties in effect until 1100 that day. The Advisory expired as scheduled.
- On February 22, the NWS extended the Winter Storm Warning for Pacific, Wahkiakum, and Cowlitz Counties in effect until 0100 on February 23.

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- On February 24, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Central Columbia River Gorge, Western Columbia River Gorge, and the South Washington Cascade Foothills, the South Washington Cascades, and the Willapa Hills affecting Clark, Wahkiakum, Skamania, and Cowlitz Counties in effect from the evening of February 25 until the morning of February 26.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Willapa Hills affecting Cowlitz, Pacific, and Wahkiakum County in effect from 2000 that day to 1200 on February 26. The Warning was extended on February 26 to be in effect until 1200 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Central Columbia River Gorge affecting Skamania County. In effect from 2400 that night to 1300 on February 26. The Warning was extended on February 26 to be in effect until 1100 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 25 the, NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Western Columbia River Gorge affecting Skamania and Clark Counties in effect from 2200 that day to 1300 on February 26. The Warning was extended on February 26 to be in effect until 1100 that day. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the South Washington Cascades affecting Skamania and Cowlitz Counties in effect from 2400 that night to 1900 on February 26.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for Western Chelan County in effect from 2200 that day to 2200 on February 26. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascade mountains and valleys of Whatcom and Skagit Counties in effect from 2200 that day to 2200 on February 26. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the South Washington Cascade Foothills effecting Skamania, Clark, and Cowlitz Counties in effect from 2200 that day until 1300 on February 26. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Weather Advisory for Jefferson, Island, King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties to include the cities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Bellevue and the surrounding areas in effect from 1800 that evening until 1000 on February 26. The Advisory was cancelled early on February 26.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Gale Warnings for Admiralty Inlet, and the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 1600 today until 1000 on January 26. The Warnings expired as scheduled.
- On February 25, the NWS issued a Winter Storm Warning for the East Slopes of the Washington Cascades affecting Kittitas, Klickitat, and Yakima Counties in effect from 2200 that day to 2200 on February 26. The Warning expired as scheduled.
- On February 26, the NWS issued a Gale Warnings for Admiralty Inlet and the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect until 1300 that afternoon. The Warnings expired as scheduled.

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- On February 27, the NWS issued Winter Storm Warnings for the South Washington Coast, South Washington Cascade Foothills, Willapa Hills, Western Columbia River Gorge, Lower Columbia, and I-5 Corridor in Cowlitz and Clark Counties affecting Skamania, Pacific, Clark, Wahkiakum & Cowlitz Counties in effect until 1000 on February 28. The Warnings for the South Washington Coast, Lower Columbia, and I-5 Corridor were cancelled later that day. The Warning for the Willapa Hills was downgraded to a Winter Weather Advisory on February 28. The remaining Warnings were extended on February 28 to be in effect until 1800 that evening but then were cancelled early that day.
 - On February 27, the NWS issued a Winter Weather Advisory for the Puget Sound and Hood Canal areas including the greater Everett, Seattle and Tacoma vicinities effective February 27-28. On February 28, the Advisory for Seattle and Tacoma was cancelled early.
 - On February 28, the NWS cancelled the Winter Weather Advisory affecting the Everett area. With no Watches, Advisories or Warnings remaining in effect, this weather Incident was closed.
- 23-0614
- On February 18, Kittitas County initiated the rescue of a skier with a fractured leg near Kendall Peak and requested a helicopter with hoist, which was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties and then the YTC. The County later added Seattle Mountain Rescue and the King County Ski Patrol Rescue Team (SPART) to the request, which were coordinated with King County. The helicopter was not able to fly due to weather, so the County requested additional Mountain Rescue which was coordinated with Snohomish, Pierce, Kitsap, and Yakima Counties. The resources were later cancelled, and the mission was closed early on February 19 when the subject made it to his vehicle and drove to a medical facility for treatment.
- 23-0618
- On February 18, Kittitas County initiated a search for a despondent 24-year-old male last seen near Ronald and requested Cell Phone Forensics, which was coordinated with the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC).
 - On February 20, the subject was located deceased, and the mission was closed when the subject was recovered on February 21.
- 23-0637
- On February 20, Chelan County initiated a rescue of multiple climbers injured during an avalanche and requested Mountain Rescue, which was coordinated with King, Kitsap, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish and Yakima Counties. Three subjects were rescued and three were presumed deceased before the search was suspended due to weather and additional avalanche danger.
 - On February 21, the County requested a helicopter with a beacon sensor RECCO system installed to locate the remaining victims, which was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties.
 - On February 23, one of the remaining subjects was located and recovered.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of February 2023.**
- 23-0671
- On February 23, Clallam County initiated a search for three overdue hikers in the area of Palo Alto Road and requested aviation assets with Forward Looking Infrared capabilities, which were coordinated with King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties. The request was later cancelled, and the mission closed when the subjects were located in good condition by ground teams.

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- 23-0686
 - On February 24, Whatcom County initiated a rescue for a 57-year-old snowmobile rider with a broken back and requested a helicopter with hoist, which was coordinated with the AFRCC. The mission was closed later that day when the subject was successfully airlifted to St Joseph Hospital.
- 23-0691
 - On February 24, Pierce County initiated a search for two motor vehicles with occupants stuck near Cold Play Lake and requested 4x4 vehicles to assist, which were coordinated with King and Thurston Counties. The mission was closed on February 25 when the subjects were successfully extracted.

SEOO Activity for the current month

272	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
176	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
891	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.
20	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.

Participated in 3 drills/exercises of which 3 were spill drills.

Conducted the following tests:

Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)	Frequency of test	Number of tests completed this month	Total number of stations tested this month	Number of stations responding during tests initiated by the Alert Warning Center	Contact Success rate for those tests initiated by the Alert Warning Center
NAWAS - FEDERAL	Twice daily	56	0	0	0%
NAWAS - STATE	Twice daily	56	1710	1423	83%
STAEN	At least twice per month	1	13	1	8%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	12	256	100	39%

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Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test	Frequency of test	Number of tests completed this month	Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test	Frequency of test	Number of tests completed this month
Dedicated phone line test for DOE	At least 1 per week	2	AHAB Siren test	At least 1 per month	1
Dedicated phone line test for CGS	At least 1 per week	2	King County 800 MHz Radio System tests	At least 1 per week	3
AHAB Daily Function status	1 per day	28			

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 agencies 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.