

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

April 2023

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

| CATEGORY | April 2023 | April 2022 | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|------------|------------|------|------|
| Logged incidents: | | | | |
| DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| CGS (Columbia Generating Station) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Fixed Nuclear Facility Incidents | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| FIRE | 34 | 44 | 88 | 92 |
| HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT) | 199 | 198 | 877 | 925 |
| OTHER | 85 | 66 | 334 | 286 |
| 911 SERVICE OUTAGES | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR) | 61 | 64 | 229 | 213 |
| TERRORISM | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS | 2 | 2 | 14 | 8 |
| Total number of logged Incidents: | 381 | 377 | 1542 | 1531 |

| Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above | | | | |
|---|----|----|-----|-----|
| Additional Weather Alerts | 35 | 54 | 275 | 305 |
| Evidence Search Mission | 7 | 1 | 22 | 12 |

| 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

- 23-0867
- This mission, initiated on March 10, involved a search in Thurston County for a 54-year-old male walkaway in Olympia.
 - On April 2, Thurston County closed the mission. The subject was not located.
- 23-0874
- This mission, initiated on March 17, involved a search in Whatcom County for a missing 66-year-old-male from Kendall.
 - On April 3, Whatcom County closed the mission. The subject was recovered deceased.
- 23-1063
- This mission, initiated on March 24, involved a search in Clallam County for a missing elderly male in the Sequim area.
 - On April 29, Clallam County requested Human Remains Dogs (HRD) to be used on May 6, which was coordinated Whatcom, Snohomish, Cowlitz, and Kitsap Counties.
 - **This mission remained open as of the end of April 2023.**
- 23-1128
- This Weather Incident was initiated on March 29 and continued into April 2023.
 - On April 1, the National Weather Service (NWS) extended the Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Lewis Counties to be in effect until 1700 on April 2.
 - On April 1, the NWS extended the Winter Storm Warnings for the Willapa Hills, South Washington Cascades Foothills, and the South Washington Cascades affecting Pacific, Wahkiakum, Skamania, Cowlitz, and Clark Counties to be in effect until 0500 on April 3.
 - On April 1, the NWS cancelled the Winter Storm Warning for the Northeast Blue Mountains affecting Asotin and Garfield Counties.
 - On April 2, the NWS let expire the Winter Storm Warnings for the Cascade Mountains of Snohomish, King, Pierce, Lewis, Whatcom and Skagit Counties as scheduled.
 - On April 3, the Winter Storm Warnings for the Willapa Hills, South Washington Cascades and Cascades Foothills affecting Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties expired as scheduled, ending this Weather Incident.
- 23-1169
- On April 1, Whatcom County initiated a rescue of an injured snowmobiler in the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest area and requested a helicopter with hoist, which was coordinated with the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC). The mission was closed later that day after the subject was successfully extracted and airlifted to a local hospital for treatment.
- 23-1171
- On April 2, Jefferson County initiated a search for a 77-year-old female with Alzheimer's missing in Port Angeles and requested Ground Searchers (GSAR), Air Scent Dogs, and Article Scent Dogs to assist, which were coordinated with Clallam, Kitsap, and Mason Counties. The request was cancelled a short time later and the mission closed when the subject was located in good condition.

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- 23-1209
- On April 5, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 1200 on April 6 to 0200 on April 7. The Warning expired as scheduled.
 - On April 6, the NWS has issued a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River at Potlatch affecting Mason County in effect from late that night to the evening of April 7. On April 7, the Warning was extended to be in effect until early morning of April 8, at which time it was cancelled.
 - On April 7, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 0800 to 1400 on April 8. The Warning expired as scheduled.
 - On April 8, the NWS issued a Flood Watch for Mason County from the morning of April 9 through the afternoon of April 11. The Flood Watch was cancelled on April 8 and replaced with a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River in effect from April 9 until further notice. The Warning was cancelled on April 11.
 - On April 8, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Admiralty Inlet and the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect until 1700 on April 9. The Warning expired as scheduled.
 - On April 9, the NWS issued a Flood Watch for Ferry, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens Counties in effect from the afternoon of April 10 through the evening of April 11. On April 9, the NWS cancelled the flood watch for Okanogan County and extended the Flood Watch for Stevens, Ferry, and Pend Oreille Counties to be in effect until April 11 at 2200. The remaining Watch was cancelled on April 11.
 - On April 11, flooding in Stevens County resulted in an Emergency Declaration.
 - On April 13, the Colville Tribe informed that the Owhi Dam was close to reaching a Level 1 Emergency.
 - **This Weather Incident remained open as of the end of April 2023** for monitoring of flooding impacts to Stevens County and the Colville Tribe.
- 23-1254
- On April 8, Clallam County initiated a search mission for possible human remains recovery and requested HRD and GSAR to assist on April 16.
 - On April 10, the request and planned search for April 16 were cancelled, and the mission closed when the remains were determined to not be human.
- 23-1262
- On April 9, Pierce County initiated a search for a missing snowshoer in the Ashford area and requested GSAR, which were coordinated with Thurston, Lewis, and King Counties.
 - On April 10, the mission was closed when the subject was located in good condition.
- 23-1286
- On April 10, a landslide closed all I-5 Northbound lanes in Cowlitz County. The Washington State Department of Transportation removed the debris and the lanes reopened later the same day after the hillside was determined safe.

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- 23-1287
 - On April 10, the Colville Tribal Police Department initiated a search for a 29-year-old male missing since March 15 in the Omak area of Okanogan and requested HRD to assist on April 16, which was coordinated with Ferry and Spokane Counties.
 - On April 16, the mission was closed with nothing found in the search area.
- 23-1304
 - On April 12, the Washington State Department of Transportation discovered potential issues with the Lewis and Clark Bridge structure in Cowlitz County and closed the bridge. Emergency repairs were undertaken, and the bridge reopened on April 13.
- 23-1310
 - On April 13, Clallam County initiated a search for an elderly female with Alzheimer's along the coast and off the coast in the Port Williams area and requested air assets, drones, and air scent dogs, which were coordinated with King, Snohomish, and Kitsap Counties and the AFRCC. The mission was closed late that day without finding the subject.
- 23-1325
 - On April 14, the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to Level II in support of relocation efforts for families impacted by a large apartment fire in Tacoma. The City of Tacoma EOC also activated to support this effort.
- 23-1337
 - On April 15, North Cascades National Park initiated a rescue of a skier with a broken leg near Ruby Mountain and requested a helicopter with hoist and mountain rescue, which were coordinated with Snohomish, King, Whatcom, and Skagit Counties as well as the AFRCC. The mission was closed later that day when the subject was successfully airlifted to the hospital in Bellingham.
- 23-1340
 - On April 15, Skagit County initiated a search for a 12-year-old female with autism missing in Mount Vernon and requested GSAR, K-9, and a Drone to assist, which were coordinated with Snohomish County. The request was later cancelled, and the mission closed, when the subject was located in good condition.
- 23-1349
 - On April 16, the NWS issued Freeze Warnings for the Kittitas and Yakima Valleys affecting Kittitas and Yakima Counties in effect from 0200 to 0900 on April 17, April 18, and April 19. On April 18, the Warning was extended to include 0200 to 0900 on April 20. The Warnings expired as scheduled.
 - On April 18, The NWS issued a Freeze Warning for portions of Asotin and Garfield Counties from 2200 that evening to 0900 on April 19.
 - On April 18, the NWS issued a Freeze Warning for portions of Kittitas and Yakima Counties until 0900 that morning, and then from 0200 until 0900 on both April 19 and April 20. The Warning was extended on April 19 to be in effect from 2200 that evening to 0900 on April 20, at which time it expired.
 - On April 20, the NWS issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands in effect from 1100 that day to 0100 on April 21. The Gale Warning expired as scheduled, ending this weather incident.
- 23-1394
 - On April 19, the Mercer Island Emergency Operations Center activated to Level 2 to coordinate operations related to a water outage that started late on April 18. Monitoring continued on this incident until confirmation of resolution on April 26.

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- 23-1427 • On April 22, Skagit County initiated a search for a 26-year-old female in Concrete and requested a dog team to assist, which was coordinated with Snohomish County. Nothing was found at that time.
- 23-1463 • On April 30, this mission was closed without a result.
- 23-1476 • On April 25, Pierce County initiated a search for a 3-year-old female in Ellensburg and requested a helicopter with FLIR, which was coordinated with the Yakima Training Center (YTC) and King County. The request was cancelled a short time later and the mission closed when the subject was located with a drone and returned home safely.
- 23-1482 • On April 26, Grays Harbor County initiated a search mission for an elderly male subject who had walked away from his residence and requested air scent K-9 teams, GSAR, and 4X4 teams, which were coordinated through Mason, Pierce, and Kitsap Counties. The mission was suspended late that day, then closed the next morning when the subject was located safe in his own home.
- 23-1507 • On April 26, Lewis County initiated a search for a 48-year-old male missing for two weeks near Silver Creek and requested GSAR and dogs to assist, which were coordinated with Pierce, Kitsap, King, Cowlitz, Clark, Mason, and Thurston Counties.
- 23-1522 • On April 30, the mission was closed without locating the subject.
- 23-1522 • On April 28, the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN) reported a 3.4 magnitude earthquake occurred 5.4 miles deep, 36.4 miles NNE of Diablo in Whatcom County.
- 23-1522 • On April 29, Skagit County initiated a rescue for a hiker/climber that fell approximately 30 feet and had a potential spinal injury at Mt Erie and requested a helicopter with hoist, which was coordinated with King and Snohomish Counties and the AFRCC. The mission was closed later that day when the subject was airlifted out to St Joseph's Hospital.

SEOO Activity for the current month

| | |
|-----|--|
| 45 | Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies. |
| 29 | Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies. |
| 696 | Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies. |
| 31 | Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations. |

Participated in 9 drills/exercises of which 7 were spill drills.

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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 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| NAWAS - STATE | Twice daily | 60 | 1830 | 1215 | 66% |
| STAEN | At least twice per month | 2 | 26 | 1 | 4% |
| CEMNET | At least 3 per week | 12 | 256 | 140 | 55% |

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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 | 3 | AHAB Siren test | At least 1 per month | 1 |
| Dedicated phone line test for CGS | At least 1 per week | 4 | King County 800 MHz Radio System tests | At least 1 per week | 2 |
| 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 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.